



# A Liturgy of the Second Sunday of Advent

Date : 6 December 2020



Ven. Moses Thabethe

Rev. Allie Joseph

Rev. Matthew Wright

Rev. Margaret Place

Rev. Alison Thabethe

The full service or the sermon can be viewed on the website.

## Processional Hymn

Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding:  
'Christ is nigh,' it seems to say;  
'Cast away the dreams of darkness,  
O ye children of the day!'

Wakened by the solemn warning,  
let us all from sleep arise;  
Christ, our sun, all ill dispelling,  
shines upon the morning skies.

Lo! the Lamb, so long expected,  
comes with pardon down from heaven  
let us haste, with tears of sorrow,  
one and all to be forgiven.

When our Saviour comes in glory,  
though the world be wraped in fear,  
with his mercy he will shield us,  
and with words of love draw near.

Honour, glory, might and blessing  
to the Father and the Son,  
with the everlasting Spirit  
while eternal ages run.

Translator: Edward Caswall (1814-1878)

## Call to Worship

Let us prepare our hearts  
as we await the coming of our Lord.

**Come Lord Jesus**

Let us watch for the one who heard our cries  
and shouldered the suffering of our world,

**Come Lord Jesus**



Let us wait in expectation for the day  
when God's glory is revealed in all its fullness.

**Come Let us await our Saviour**

**Blessing of the Advent Wreath and Lighting of the First Candle**



**Second Sunday of Advent: The Candle of Peace**

We gather around the Advent wreath today knowing that we are not perfect— that we all make mistakes and do bad things. But Christ Jesus helps us to live as God wants us to live. He gives us peace.

*Isaiah 9:6-7 says:*

*For a child has been born for us, an heir given to us. Authority rests upon the shoulders of the One who is named Wonderful - Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace, whose authority shall grow continually; and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and for David's kingdom, established and upheld with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore.*



We light this candle to proclaim the coming of the light of God into the world. With the coming of this light there is peace, for Christ is called the "Prince of Peace."

The presence of Christ with us gives us peace day by day. The colour of this candle is purple— symbolizing the majesty of Christ, whose throne will endure forever

*Let us pray:*

Eternal God, we thank you that through all the years you have given peace to your people. Help us to have your peace in our lives. We pray that, in this Advent season, we may, by what we do, show your presence to the sick, to the hungry, and to the lonely, so that they too may have peace. Amen!



The Lord be with you

**And also with you**

Praise the Lord:

**Praise God, you servants of the Lord.**



Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

**Blessed be God's Name, now and forever.**

*Collect for Purity*

*Let us pray.*

**Almighty God,  
to whom all hearts are open,  
all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hid:  
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love you,  
and worthily magnify your holy name;  
through Christ our Lord.**

*The Kyrie*

**Nkosi yiba nenceba, Nkosi yiba nenceba  
Nkosi yiba nenceba  
Krestu yiba nenceba, Krestu yiba nenceba,  
Krestu yiba nenceba  
Nkosi yiba nenceba, Nkosi yiba nenceba  
Nkosi yiba nenceba**



*By Ven Moses Thabethe*

*The Penitence*

*Let us ask forgiveness from the Lord*

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father  
in penitence we confess that we have sinned against you  
through our own fault  
in thought, word, and deed,  
and in what we have left undone.  
For the sake of your Son, Christ our Lord  
forgive us all that is past  
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life  
to the glory of your Name.**

*Absolution*

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy on you:  
pardon your sins and set you free from them; confirm and strengthen  
you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ  
our Lord. **Amen.**



*The Collect*

God of timeless Grace,  
 You fill us with expectation:  
 Make us ready for the message that  
 Prepares the way  
 So that with uprightness of heart and Holy joy  
 We may eagerly await the kingdom of  
 Your Son, Jesus Christ;  
 Who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
 one God, now and forever. Amen

*The Word of God*

Isaiah 40:1-11

**THE PSALM** (*Sung by Rev Allie Josseph, Sam Hermanus & Ven Moses Thabethe*)

**Psalm 85:1-2,8-13**

- 1 O Lord you were gracious to your lands:  
You restored the fortunes of Jacob.
- 2 You forgave the iniquity of your people:  
And covered all their sin.
- 8 I will hear what the Lord God will speak:  
For he will speak peace to his people\*  
To his faithful ones whose hearts are turned to him.
- 9 Truly his salvation is near to those that fear him:  
And his glory shall dwell in our land.
- 10 Mercy and truth are met together:  
Righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
- 11 Truth shall flourish out of the earth:  
And righteousness shall look down from heaven.
- 12 The Lord will also give us all that is good:  
And our land shall yield its plenty
- 13 For righteousness shall go before him:  
And tread the path before his feet.



*Glory to the Father and to the Son:  
 And to the Holy Spirit  
 As it was in the beginning:  
 Is now and ever shall be.*

*Sung by Sam Hermanus, Rev. Allie Josseph & Ven Moses Thabethe*

**2 Peter 3:8-15a**



*Gospel Acclamation*

**Alleluia, Alleluia, Allel---uia!**

**Alleluia, Alleluia, Allel---uia!**

Open our hearts O Lord

To listen to the words of your Son

**Alleluia, Alleluia, Allel---uia!**

**Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Allel---ia!**

By Ven Moses Thabethe

*Gospel Reading*

Mark 1:1-8

*Sermon*

by Rev. Alison Thabethe

*Affirmation of Faith*

*Let us declare our faith in God.*

**We believe in God the Father,  
from whom every family  
in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,  
who lives in our hearts through faith,  
and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,  
who strengthens us  
with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God;  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen**

*Prayers of Intercession*

God of love, source of all that is pure and good in all of us, we who await the coming of your Son the prince of peace, bring before you these our prayers and petitions:

We pray for your church here on earth, we who are called to watch and pray for the coming of your son on high, we pray that you renew within us the zeal for your kingdom to come wherever we find ourselves. We continue to pray for church leaders everywhere. Lord bless our leaders and keep them always in your love and peace.

Lord, in your mercy **Hear our prayer.**





We pray for world leaders and those who are charged with ensuring the wellbeing of your people. May they be guided by sound principles of Justice and peace. May they learn from your Son, the prince of peace that it is not populism but a genuine heart and servant leadership that finds favour with you.

Lord, in your mercy **Hear our prayer.**

For the life and peace of the members of our parish, may your angels watch over the life and ministry of St Michael's parish. That people may find a welcome home here where they can practice hope, peace, joy, and love. May we keep watch together and share in our common concerns and our common mission the establish your kingdom here and everywhere you send us.

Lord, in your mercy **Hear our prayer.**

We pray together as the people called by your name, for an end to injustice and violence and a new dispensation of charity and peace among people. May the goodwill with which you bless us be evident to those around us. Bless those who are struggling and in pain, light the path for those in despair and give each one of us a share in the peace your son brought us.

Lord, in your mercy **Hear our prayer.**

We continue to pray for children and young people and young adults. May your Son lead our young people into a personal encounter with him, may we see the light of faith shine bright in and through those who will lead us into a new future. Bless their parents and those who are charged with their instruction.

Lord, in your mercy **Hear our prayer.**

We give you thanks for the lives of our brothers and sisters who passed on from this world. Grant unto them eternal rest and peace in your kingdom. We pray especially for the repose of the soul of Sisanda Msimango, whose funeral will be this week and all those whose year's mind it is. Be a source of peace and consolation to the bereaved. Bring us all to the peace that sit by your throne Lord.

Lord, in your mercy **Hear our prayer.**

Merciful father, accept these our prayers for the sake of your son, our Lord Jesus Christ, the prince of peace **Amen**

*Prayer for Offerings* 

Generous God,  
you have created all that is,  
and you provide for us in every season.  
Bless all that we offer,  
that through these gifts the world will receive your blessing.  
In the name of Jesus, Emmanuel, we pray.  
**Amen.**

*The Lord's Prayer* 

*As Christ has commanded and taught us, we are bold to sing:*

**Our Father who art in heaven,  
Hallowed be thy Name,  
Thy Kingdom come,  
Thy will be done,**



**On earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
As we forgive them that trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory,  
For ever and ever. Amen.**

### *Prayer of Thanksgiving*



We bless you, our Lord God, that you send your Son here,  
To redeem us, your people.

Thank you, Lord, raising up for us a strong saviour  
from the family of your servant David,  
as you promised through your prophets long ago.

You rescue us from the grip of our enemy;  
enable us to serve you without fear,  
in holiness and righteousness before you all our days.

We thank Lord for giving to us, your people,  
the knowledge of salvation  
through the forgiveness of our sins.

We Thank you Lord that by your tender mercy  
the Son has risen once again  
to shine on all who live in darkness  
and in the shadow of death,  
guiding our feet into the way of peace. Amen.



### *Final Blessing*



In this moment of worship  
we embrace Your presence again, O God.

**And we offer You our love.**

In this moment of prayer  
we proclaim again Your purpose for the world, O Saviour.

**And we offer You our resources.**

In this moment of giving  
we hear Your call again, O Lord.

**And we offer You ourselves.**

Use us – all that we have and all that we are  
to touch the world with the message of peace.

May blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,  
be with you and remain with you always. Amen.

**Amen.**



*Dismissal*

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

*Recessional Hymn*

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry  
announces that the Lord is nigh.  
Awake and harken, for he brings  
glad tidings of the King of kings!

Then cleansed be every life from sin:  
make straight the way for God within,  
and let us all our hearts prepare  
for Christ to come and enter there.

We hail you as our Saviour, Lord,  
our refuge and our great reward.  
Without your grace we waste away  
like flowers that wither and decay.

Stretch forth your hand, our health restore,  
and make us rise to fall no more.  
O let your face upon us shine  
and fill the world with love divine.

All praise to you, eternal Son,  
whose advent has our freedom won,  
whom with the Father we adore,  
and Holy Spirit, evermore.

*Author: Charles Coffin; Translator: John Chandler*

*Giving*

Thank you for your continued financial contribution to the church at this time so as to enable St Michael's to meet its obligations in mission and ministry.

**E.F.T**

**St Michael's Church Bank**  
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