

# The First Sunday of Advent

**Prelude**

*Sleepers, Wake*

J. S. Bach

**Opening Hymn 616** “Hail to the Lord’s Anointed”

## The Word of God

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

*People*

And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

*The Celebrant may say*

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you 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. *Amen.*

**Holy God: Trisagion** (*Sing 3 times.*)

Ho - ly God, — Ho - ly and Might - y,

The image shows the first line of musical notation for the Trisagion hymn. It consists of a treble and a bass clef staff. The treble staff contains a melody with notes and rests, and the bass staff contains a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics "Ho - ly God, — Ho - ly and Might - y," are written below the treble staff.

Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, have mer - cy up - on us.

The image shows the second line of musical notation for the Trisagion hymn. It consists of a treble and a bass clef staff. The treble staff contains a melody with notes and rests, and the bass staff contains a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics "Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, have mer - cy up - on us." are written below the treble staff.

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* And also with you.

## The Collect of the Day

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

**A Reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah 33:14-16**

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

*Reader*            Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.  
*People*             Thanks be to God.

**Psalm 25:1-9**

- 1 To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul;  
my God, I put my trust in you; \*  
let me not be humiliated,  
nor let my enemies triumph over me.
- 2 Let none who look to you be put to shame; \*  
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.
- 3 Show me your ways, O LORD, \*  
and teach me your paths.
- 4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, \*  
for you are the God of my salvation;  
in you have I trusted all the day long.
- 5 Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, \*  
for they are from everlasting.
- 6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; \*  
remember me according to your love  
and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.
- 7 Gracious and upright is the LORD; \*  
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.
- 8 He guides the humble in doing right \*  
and teaches his way to the lowly.
- 9 All the paths of the LORD are love and faithfulness \*  
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

**A Reading from Paul's first letter to the Thessalonians 3:9-13**

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

*Reader*            Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.  
*People*             Thanks be to God.

**Gradual Music 64** “O heavenly Word, eternal Light”

**The Gospel: Luke 21:25-36**

*Deacon or Priest*      The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.  
*People*                      Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

"Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

*Deacon/Priest*      The Gospel of the Lord.  
*People*                      Praise to you, Lord Christ.

**Sermon**

**The Nicene Creed**

We believe in one God,  
    the Father, the Almighty,  
    maker of heaven and earth,  
    of all that is, seen and unseen.  
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
    the only Son of God,  
    eternally begotten of the Father,  
    God from God, Light from Light,  
    true God from true God,  
    begotten, not made,  
    of one Being with the Father;  
    through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
    he came down from heaven,  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
    he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary  
    and was made man  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
    he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again

in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the Prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

### **Prayers of the People, Form III**

*The Leader and People pray responsively*

Father, we pray for your holy catholic church;  
*That we all may be one.*

Grant that every member of the church may truly and humbly serve you;  
*That your Name may be glorified by all people.*

We pray for our Presiding Bishop, Michael, for our provisional bishop, Wayne, our assistant  
bishop, Kenneth, for our Rector, Jason, and for all bishops, priests and deacons;  
*That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacrament.*

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;  
*That there may be justice and peace on the earth*

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;  
*That our works may find favor in your sight.*

Have compassion *on...* and all those who suffer from any grief or trouble;  
*That they may be delivered from their distress.*

Give to the departed eternal rest, especially...;  
*Let light perpetual shine upon them.*

We praise you for Patrick and all your saints who have entered into joy;  
*May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.*

We give thanks for the lives of others whom you have shared with us; especially those  
celebrating their birthdays this week, ..., and... who celebrate their wedding anniversaries this  
week.  
*Let us be a blessing for them as they have been your blessing in our lives.*

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

*Silence (during the silence the people may add their own petitions aloud or privately)*

And we give thanks for the benefits we and those around us have received.

*Silence (during the silence the people may add their own petitions aloud or privately)*

*The Celebrant adds a concluding collect.*

### **Confession of Sin**

*The Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins to God.

*Minister and People*

God of all mercy,

we confess that we have sinned against you,  
opposing your will in our lives.

We have denied your goodness in each other,  
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.

We repent of the evil that enslaves us,  
the evil we have done,

and the evil done on our behalf.

Forgive, restore, and strengthen us  
through our Savior Jesus Christ,  
that we may abide in your love  
and serve only your will. Amen.

### **Absolution**

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ,  
strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.  
*Amen.*

### **Peace**

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* And also with you.

### **Announcements**

#### **Offertory Music**

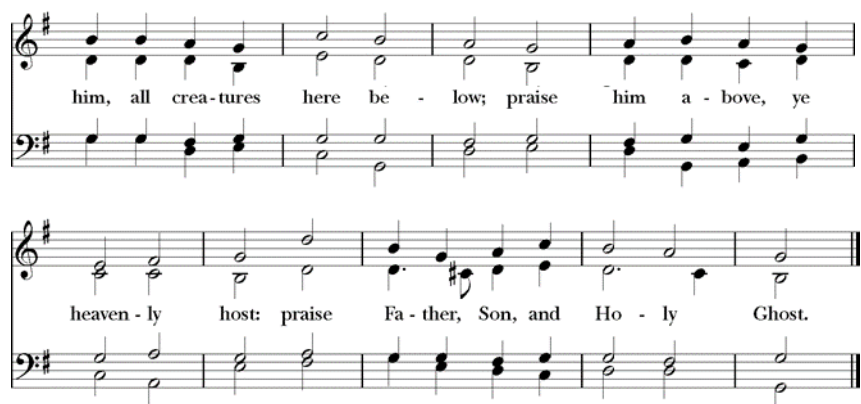
*Chimings of Great Joy*

Dan R. Edwards  
The Bells of St. Patrick's

*The people's gifts of bread and wine, along with the collection, are brought to the Altar. (Please stand.)*

### **Doxology**

\*3 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise



him, all crea-tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye  
 heaven - ly host: praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

**Eucharistic Prayer B**

*The people remain standing. The Celebrant faces then and says*

The Lord be with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

*People* We lift them to the Lord.

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* It is right to give him thanks and praise.

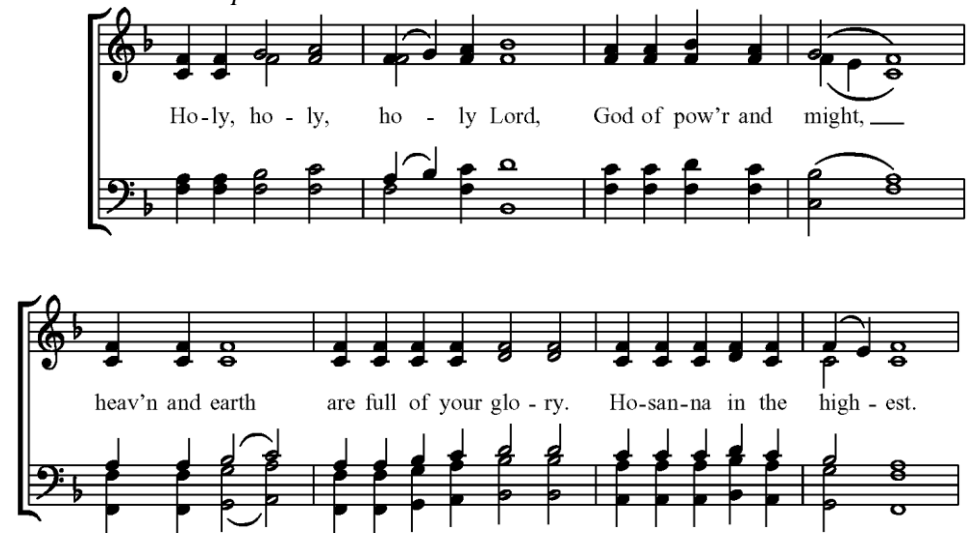
*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

*Here a proper preface is said.*

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

*Celebrant and People*



Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might, —  
 heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

Bless-ed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Ho-san - na in the high - est, ho-san-na in the high - est.

*The people stand or kneel. Then the celebrant continues*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

*At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.*

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper, he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

*Celebrant and people*

We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming glory;

*The Celebrant continues*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly

country where, with Patrick and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *AMEN.*

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

*Celebrant and People*

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 those  
who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.

**The Breaking of the Bread**

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.*

**Fraction Hymn**

Lamb \_\_\_\_ of God, you take \_\_\_\_ a - way the

sins of the world, have \_\_\_\_ mer - cy on us.

The image shows two systems of musical notation for a hymn. Each system consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature is three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The first system of notation includes the lyrics 'Lamb \_\_\_\_ of God, you take \_\_\_\_ a - way the'. The second system includes the lyrics 'sins of the world, have \_\_\_\_ mer - cy on us.' The music is written in a simple, hymn-like style with block chords and moving lines.



Lamb of God, you take away the  
sins of the world, grant us peace.

**The Invitation**

*Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation*  
The Gifts of God for the People of God.

**Communion Hymn** *LEVAS II* 103 “Steal away”

**Post Communion Prayer**

*Celebrant and People*

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Blessing**

Life is short, and we do not have long to gladden the hearts of those who make this earthly pilgrimage with us. So, be swift to love, make haste to do kindness, shower abundant hospitality on friend and stranger, and walk in mercy that you might find the path of justice. And may the blessings of Almighty God, the creator, redeemer, and sustainer, be with you and the ones you love now and forever. Amen.

**Closing Hymn** 497 (vs. 1, 2) “How bright appears the Morning Star”

**Dismissal**

**Postlude**

*O Heavenly Word, Eternal Light*

Helmut Walcha