**A Service of the Word for  
The Third Sunday in Advent**

**2015**

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Daily Prayer 2009 (comprising Additional Orders of Service entitled Morning and Evening Prayer 2009), material from which is included in this service is copyright © Church in Wales Publications 2009

The Introduction

**Minister**: Welcome to our service on the third Sunday in Advent. As we approach Christmas we are thinking today about Peace. We begin with Hymn 537 – “Peace, perfect peace”.

Hymn 537

O God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now,  
and shall be for ever. Amen.

Bless the Lord, O my soul,

and all that is within me bless his holy name.

2 The Ministry of the Word

Each psalm is followed by the doxology

Glory to the Father, and to the Son,

and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning, is now,

and shall be for ever. Amen.

After the psalmody, one of the readings provided for the day in the

Almanac, or one of the following short readings, is read. See also

Appendix vii.

Sunday Genesis 1:1–5

2 Corinthians 5:17–19a

John 5:15–18

Revelation 21:1–4

Monday Isaiah 49:1b–4

Proverbs 3:7–12

Mark 4:26–29

Matthew 25:19–21

Tuesday Deuteronomy 28:1–4

Isaiah 35:3–6

John 9:1–5

Revelation 22:1–2

Wednesday Isaiah 61:1–3a

Micah 4:1–4a

Matthew 9:35–end

John 18:33,36–38

Thursday Deuteronomy 15:7–11

Isaiah 43:5–7

1 Peter 2:9–10

John 17:18–23

Friday 2 Chronicles 7:13–14

Isaiah 57:15–19

Ephesians 2:13–18

Luke 9:22–25

Saturday Isaiah 11:6–9

Ephesians 3:14–19

John 11:17–26a

Revelation 5:8–10

One of the following versicles and responses may be said after the

reading.

Let the word of Christ dwell with you in all its richness.

[Alleluia.]

Teach and instruct each other in all wisdom. [Alleluia.]

Teach me to observe your law. [Alleluia.]

I will keep it with my whole heart. [Alleluia.]

Lead me in the way of your truth and teach me, O Lord.

[Alleluia.]

You are the God who saves me. [Alleluia.]

Teach me goodness and discernment and knowledge. [Alleluia.]

I trust in your commands. [Alleluia.]

My soul trusts in the word of the Lord. [Alleluia.]

My soul is longing for him. [Alleluia.]

Lord, to whom shall we go? [Alleluia.]

You have the words of eternal life. [Alleluia.]

The unfolding of your word gives light. [Alleluia.]

It gives understanding to the simple. [Alleluia.]

You will show me the path of life. [Alleluia.]

In your presence is the fullness of joy. [Alleluia.]

This is my comfort in my trouble. [Alleluia.]

Your promise gives me life. [Alleluia.]

3 The Prayers

**The collect for today**

Lord Jesus Christ, who at thy first coming didst send thy messenger to prepare thy way before thee; grant that the ministers and stewards of thy mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready thy way, by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at thy second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in thy sight, who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end.

Give ear, Lord, to our prayers, and by thy gracious visitation lighten the darkness of our minds; through Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, now and ever.

Intercessions may be included at this point.

The Lord’s Prayer is said.

The collect of the day should always be used on the Sundays and Holy Days listed in Groups i and ii in The New Calendar (2003). On other occasions, one of the following may be used.

God of power and love,

look kindly on the tasks we have begun,

and renew your grace within us;

make good our defects

and bring our work to that fulfilment

which is in accordance with your will,

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Lord and master of the vineyard,

you allot us our tasks

and determine the just rewards of our labours.

Help us to bear the burden of the day

and accept your will in all things without complaint,

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Eternal light, shine into our hearts,

eternal goodness, deliver us from evil,

eternal power, be our support,

eternal wisdom, scatter the darkness of our ignorance,

eternal pity, have mercy upon us;

that with all our heart and mind and soul and strength

we may seek your face

and be brought by your infinite mercy to your holy presence;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Eternal God,

the light of the minds that know you,

the joy of the hearts that love you,

and the strength of the wills that serve you;

make us so to know you

that we may truly love you,

so to love you that we may truly serve you,

whose service is perfect freedom,

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O Lord our God,

give us grace to desire you with our whole heart;

that so desiring, we may seek and find you;

and so finding, may love you;

and so loving, may hate those sins

from which you have delivered us;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O gracious and holy Father,

give us wisdom to perceive you,

diligence to seek you,

patience to wait for you,

eyes to behold you,

a heart to meditate upon you,

and a life to proclaim you,

through the power of the Spirit

of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Lord Jesus Christ, we thank you

for all the benefits that you have won for us,

for all the pains and insults that you have borne for us.

Most merciful Redeemer,

friend and brother,

may we know you more clearly,

love you more dearly,

and follow you more nearly,

day by day. Amen.

The Conclusion

One of the following is said.

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

May the gracious favour of the Lord be upon us. [Alleluia.]

Prosper our handiwork;

O prosper the work of our hands. [Alleluia.]

The love of Christ works in us. [Alleluia.]

May he guide us and guard us today and always.

[Alleluia.]

May the light of Christ shine in our hearts. [Alleluia.]

Amen. [Alleluia.]

If we live by the Spirit, [Alleluia,]

let us also walk by the Spirit. [Alleluia.]