

12 DECEMBER 2021
HOME SERVICE GUIDE
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

A very warm welcome to everyone who has joined us for our worship service this morning.



Welcome & Greeting

The Angelus prayer from Archbishop Thabo

**God bless the world,
Give it wisdom at this time,
Grant us relief and release,
Be with those who are ill,
And bless the carers fighting this pandemic,
For Jesus Christ's sake. Amen**

Today, on this third Sunday of Advent, we light the third candle in our Advent wreath, which is pink and represents the **shepherds** and symbolises **joy/rejoicing**. It was to the humble, unimportant shepherds that the heavenly chorus lit up the sky as they brought "tidings of great joy" that the Saviour of the world was born. (**Shepherd's / Joy Candle**)

Lighting the Advent Candle:

Lord Jesus we light this candle as we await your coming with joy. Shine your joy into our hearts that we may praise you even when we are upset or grieving. May all who seek the joy found in you, truly find it. Amen

INTRODUCTION

The Lord be with you
And also with you

Praise the Lord

Praise him you servants of the Lord

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit
Blessed be his name, now and for ever

Collect for Purity (APB p105)

**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**

Penitence (APB p106)

Jesus said, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it. 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments depend all the law and the prophets.

Let us confess our sins (firmly resolved to keep God's commandments and to live in love and peace with all creation).

(Silence may be kept)

**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

Collect

God of hope and joy, you sent John the Baptist to announce the coming of your Son: inspire all who serve in your Church to prepare for his coming again through the same Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Our Parish Prayer

Lord our God, thank you for calling St Augustine's to be your church in our city. Help us to welcome you in all people, to praise you in prayer and worship, to love you, through serving this parish and the community, to travel and grow in faith together, to be a community of love and service in our world through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

First Reading: Zephaniah 3:14-20

Psalm: Isaiah 12:2-6 (replaces the psalm)

Second Reading: Philippians 4: 4-7

Hymn/Song: SOF 482 Rejoice the Lord is King!

Rejoice, the Lord is King!
Your Lord and King adore!
Mortals, give thanks and sing
And triumph evermore:

*Lift up your heart! Lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!*

Jesus, the Saviour, reigns,
The God of truth and love.
When he had purged our stains,
He took his seat above:

*Lift up your heart! Lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!*

His kingdom cannot fail;
He rules o'er earth and heav'n.
The keys of death and hell
Are to our Jesus given:

*Lift up your heart! Lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!*

He sits at God's right hand

Till all his foes submit,
And bow to his command,
And fall beneath his feet:

*Lift up your heart, lift up your voice;
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!*

Rejoice in glorious hope!
Jesus the judge shall come
And take His servants up
To their eternal home:

*We soon shall hear the archangel's voice;
The trump of God shall sound: rejoice!*

Gospel: Luke 3: 7-18

Sermon

The Nicene Creed (APB p108)

**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
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and 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
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified
who 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 Church - Form C (APB p 113)

The Peace (APB p 115)

May God's peace which surpasses all understanding guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4: 7)

May the peace and joy of the Lord be always with you.

Peace be with you.

The Presentation of Gifts (Your Home-Made Collection Boxes.)

Our Father and Eternal God, bless us as we bring these tithes and offerings to you and use them for your plans and redemptive purposes in the world. We pray this in Jesus name, to him, with you and the Holy Spirit, one blessed God. **Amen**

The Lord's Prayer (Kumba Ya) Said

Father God in Heaven, Lord most high
Hear Your children's prayer, Lord most high
Hallowed be Your name, Lord most high
O Lord, hear our prayer

May Your kingdom come, Here on earth
May Your will be done, Here on earth
As it is in heaven, So on earth
O Lord, hear our prayer

Lead us in Your way, Make us strong
When temptations come, Make us strong
Save us from all sin, Keep us strong
O Lord, hear our prayer

All things come from You, All are Yours
Kingdom, glory, power, All are Yours
Take our lives and gifts, All are Yours
O Lord, hear our prayer
O Lord, hear our prayer

Give us daily bread, Day by day
And forgive our sins, Day by day
As we too forgive, Day by day
O Lord, hear our prayer

Prayer of preparation:

Almighty and everlasting God

***we approach the sacrament of your only begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ;
as sick, we come to the physician of life;
as unclean, to the fountain of mercy;
as blind, to the light of eternal splendour;
as needy, to the Lord of heaven and earth;
as naked, to the King of glory. Amen***

Spiritual Communion prayer (APB p 516)

One who is unable to receive the Sacrament physically may make a spiritual communion, and be certain that Christ comes to them in this way as surely as he does in the Sacrament.

Soul of Christ, sanctify me.

Body of Christ, save me.

Blood of Christ, refresh me.

Water from the side of Christ, wash me.

Passion of Christ, strengthen me.

O good Jesus, hear me;

Within your wounds hide me.

Let me never be separated from you.

From the malicious enemy, defend me.

In the hour of my death, call me, and bid me come to you

that with your saints I may praise you forever and ever. Amen.

Conclusion (APB p 129)

Give thanks to God for God is gracious

God's mercy endures for ever.

Father almighty

we offer ourselves to you

as a living sacrifice

in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Send us out into the world

in the power of the Holy Spirit

to live and work

to your praise and glory.

Prayer for Africa

God, bless Africa

protect our children

transform our leaders

heal our communities

restore our dignity

and give us peace;

for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen

Blessing

May God who is within us flood our hearts with joy this Advent season as we share the good news of the Coming of our Saviour; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be with you, and all whom you love and pray for today and always.
Amen

Dismissal (APB 129)

To a troubled world
come, Lord Jesus

To a searching world
come, Lord Jesus

To a waiting world
come, Lord Jesus

Go therefore in peace and joy to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

(Word and Worship)