Sunday 27 November 2022 First Sunday of Advent

COLLECT

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

FIRST READING Isaiah 2:1-5

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!

PSALM Psalm 122

R *How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts.*

I was glad when they said to me,
"Let us go to the house of the
Lord."
And now our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem; **R**

Jerusalem, built as a city
that is at unity in itself.
Thither the tribes go up, the tribes
of the Lord,
as is decreed for Israel, to give
thanks to the name of the Lord.
For there are set the thrones of
judgement,
the thrones of the house of David. **R**

O pray for the peace of
Jerusalem:
"May they prosper who love you.
"Peace be within your walls
and tranquillity within your
palaces." **R**

For my kindred and companions'
sake,
I will pray that peace be with you.
For the sake of the house of the
Lord our God,
I will seek to do you good. **R**

SECOND READING

Romans 13:11-end

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

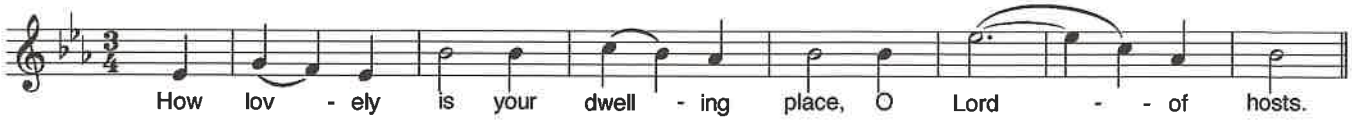
Brothers and sisters, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armour of light; let us live honourably as in the day, not in revelling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarrelling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

GOSPEL Matthew 24:36-44

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Jesus spoke to his disciples: "About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

POST COMMUNION

O Lord our God,
make us watchful and keep
us faithful
as we await the coming of your
Son our Lord;
that, when he shall appear,
he may not find us sleeping in sin
but active in his service
and joyful in his praise;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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