



## Staff Liturgy – Advent

**Leader:** O God, come to our aid.      **All:** O Lord, make haste to help us.

**Leader:** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit

**All:** As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be world without end. Amen.

**Antiphon: (Leader)** Prepare in the wilderness a way for the Lord.  
Make a straight highway for our God.

*(verses prayed in two groups, alternating)*      **Psalm 118(119):169-176**

Lord, let my cry come before you; teach me by your word.

Let my pleading come before you; save me by your promise.

Let my lips proclaim your praise because you teach me your statutes.

Let my tongue sing your promise for your commands are just.

Let your hand be ready to help me, since I have chosen your precepts.

Lord, I long for your saving help and your law is my delight.

Give life to my soul that I may praise you. Let your decrees give me help.

I am lost like a sheep; seek your servant for I remember your commands.

Glory be.....

**Antiphon: (All)** Prepare in the wilderness a way for the Lord.  
Make a straight highway for our God.

**Reading:** Go up on a high mountain, joyful messenger to Zion. Shout with a loud voice, joyful messenger to Jerusalem. Shout without fear, say to the towns of Judah, “Here is your God.” Here is the Lord coming with power, his arm subduing all things to him. The prize of his victory is with him. His trophies all go before him. He is like a shepherd feeding his flock, gathering lambs in his arms, holding them against his breast and leading to their rest the mother ewes.

*(some moments of silent reflection)*

**Leader:** Let us see, O Lord, your mercy.      **All:** And show us your steadfast love.

**Magnificat Antiphon: (All)** Blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.

***My soul glorifies the Lord, my spirit rejoices  
My God forever he will be, bless his holy name.***

He looks upon me his servant,  
looks on me in my lowliness.  
He works marvels for me,  
Hence forth all ages call me blessed, Call me blessed.

He scatters the proud hearted,  
casts the mighty from their thrones.  
His mighty arm before me,  
In strength he raises the lowly, raises the lowly.

He fills the starving with plenty,  
but empty sends the rich away.  
From age to age his mercy,  
The mercy promised us forever, promised forever.

**Antiphon: (All)** Blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.

### Intercessions:

God became a human being, so that human beings might become divine, empowered, in Christ, to learn to love as God loves. And so we pray:

**Response: Come Lord Jesus, be born anew in us.**

Light of the world, enlighten us, that we may know, love and follow you: **Response**

Like you, may we hunger and thirst for justice in our world: **Response**

Like you, may we be merciful, compassionate and welcoming: **Response**

Like you, may we find joy in using our time and our talents for others: **Response**

Like you, may we be ready to suffer persecution in the cause of right: **Response**

**Leader:** Let us pray together in the words Jesus taught us: Our Father.....

### Concluding prayer (together)

O God, revealed to us in Jesus, we praise you. It was not enough for you to be our Creator, but love impelled you to enter into creation itself, be flesh of our flesh and bone of our bone. In this Advent season, we pray, grant us open and receptive hearts to contemplate the awesome mystery of divine incarnation. May we embrace the gift of Emmanuel, God-with-us, accept the gift of his Spirit and his Heart, and so be empowered to love, in truth and mercy, our own selves and every person who crosses our path. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Leader:** Let us go in peace, waiting in joyful hope.      **All:** Thanks be to God.