

Keep awake therefore, for you do not know  
on what day your Lord is coming.

Episcopal Church of the Epiphany  
First Sunday of Advent  
Morning Prayer  
December 1, 2019, 10:30 am

Matthew 24:42

We worship today according to the appointed order for Morning Prayer, Rite Two, beginning on page 75 of the Book of Common Prayer and occasionally from *Enriching Our Worship*. Congregational responses are in **boldface type**. The initials "SH" refer to page numbers in the small Supplemental Hymnal in the pew racks.

Hymn: *Awake, My Soul*.....11

Watch, for you do not know when the master of the house  
will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or in  
the morning, lest he come suddenly and find you asleep.

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*We stand or kneel.*

Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

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

The Invitatory and Psalter (*we stand*)

Lord, open our lips.  
And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy  
Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for  
ever. Amen. Alleluia.**

*Jubilate – Psalm 100*.....Songsheet

Psalm 122

1 I was glad when they said to me, \*  
"Let us go to the house of the Lord."

2 Now our feet are standing \*  
**within your gates, O Jerusalem.**

3 Jerusalem is built as a city \*  
**that is at unity with itself;**

4 To which the tribes go up,  
the tribes of the Lord, \*  
**the assembly of Israel,  
to praise the Name of the Lord.**

5 For there are the thrones of judgment, \*  
**the thrones of the house of David.**

6 Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: \*  
**"May they prosper who love you.**

7 Peace be within your walls \*  
**and quietness within your towers.**

8 For my brethren and companions' sake, \*  
**I pray for your prosperity.**

9 Because of the house of the Lord our God, \*  
**I will seek to do you good."**

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

The Lessons

(*We sit for each lesson and stand for each canticle or hymn.*)

The First Lesson – Isaiah 2:1-5

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!

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

Canticle 16 – The Song of Zechariah.....444

Epistle Lesson – Romans 13:11-14

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 armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

Canticle 17 – The Song of Simeon

**Lord, you now have set your servant free \***  
**to go in peace as you have promised;**  
**For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, \***  
**whom you have prepared for all the world to see:**  
**A Light to enlighten the nations, \***  
**and the glory of your people Israel.**

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

The Gospel Lesson – Matthew 24:36-44

Jesus said to the disciples, “But 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.”

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

Hymn – *Judge Eternal, Throned in Splendor (we stand)*.....596

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**  
**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**  
**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.**  
**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**  
**He descended to the dead.**  
**On the third day he rose again.**  
**He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**  
**He will come again to judge the living and the  
dead.**  
**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

Joys and Concerns of the Congregation (*we sit*)

The Offering

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

Hymn – *Sleepers, Wake! (we remain seated)*.....61:1 & 3

Presentation – *O Come, O Come Emmanuel (we stand)*.....56:1

The Prayers (*we stand or kneel*)

Hear our cry, O God.  
**And listen to our prayer.**  
Let us pray.

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.**  
**Give us today our daily bread.**  
**Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.**

**Suffrage**

**Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;  
Govern and uphold them, now and always.**

**Day by day we bless you;  
We praise your Name for ever.**

**Lord, keep us from all sin today;  
Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.**

**Lord, show us your love and mercy;  
For we put our trust in you.**

**In you, Lord, is our hope;  
And we shall never hope in vain.**

**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 Collect for Peace**

**O God, the author of peace and lover of concord, to know you is eternal life and to serve you is perfect freedom: Defend us, your humble servants, in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in your defense, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**A Prayer for Mission**

**Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**Hymn: *Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending* .....57**

Don't forget next Sunday afternoon. Epiphany will host its now-famous annual community *Messiah*. Singers will gather in the nave at 1:00 for a quick run-through, and then at 2:00 our nave will fill with beautiful music! Please come and invite your friends. For more information, contact Amanda Borden.

**Intercessions and Thanksgivings (*we stand or kneel*)**  
**We pray for the souls of all those who have departed this life, including those we now name silently or aloud.**

***Silence***

**In our parish we pray for those who are sick or recovering from illness, including *Mike Oniffrey, Micah Hart, Dennis Harper, Charlie Hayes, Larry and Pat Sharpton, Troy Warlick, Arnold Bush, Dezzel Oliver, Tom Haynie, Ruth Harper*, and the others we now name.**

***Silence***

**In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for our Companion Diocese of the Virgin Islands and its bishop, Ambrose. For our Bishop, Kee Sloan; for the Diocesan Council, the Diocesan Standing Committee, the Diocesan Department of Finance, and the Cathedral Church of the Advent, Birmingham.**

**The General Thanksgiving**

**Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made.**

**We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.**

**And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days.**

**Through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.**

**Hymn: *Alleluia, He Is Coming* .....SH 72**

**Alleluia, Alleluia. Let us bless the Lord.  
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

**Serving at Epiphany this week:**

Ushers: Laura Williams and Barbara Trogdon  
Altar Guild: Pam Van Etten  
Lay Reader: Lee Borden  
Officiant: Lavonne Hart  
Refreshments: Betty Weldon

**And next:**

Ushers: Lavonne Hart and Jimmy Weldon  
Altar Guild: Cathy Jones  
Lay Reader: Suzy Wilson  
Lay Eucharistic Minister: Kay Dickey  
Refreshments: Lavonne Hart