

DECEMBER 3rd FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Protect us by your strength and save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

THE FIRST LESSON -Isaiah 64: 1-9

1 Oh that you would rend the heavens and come down, that the mountains might quake at your presence--**2** as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil-- to make your name known to your adversaries, and that the nations might tremble at your presence! **3** When you did awesome things that we did not look for, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. **4** From of old no one has heard or perceived by the ear, no eye has seen a God besides you, who acts for those who wait for him. **5** You meet him who joyfully works righteousness, those who remember you in your ways. Behold, you were angry, and we sinned; in our sins we have been a long time, and shall we be saved? **6** We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. **7** There is no one who calls upon your name, who rouses himself to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have made us melt in the hand of our iniquities. **8** But now, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. **9** Be not so terribly angry, O LORD, and remember not iniquity forever. Behold, please look, we are all your people. *ESV*

THE RESPONSIVE READING – Psalms 80: 1-7

1 Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock! You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth.

2 Before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh, stir up your might and come to save us!

3 Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved!

4 O LORD God of hosts, how long will you be angry with your people's prayers?

5 You have fed them with the bread of tears and given them tears to drink in full measure.

6 You make us an object of contention for our neighbors, and our enemies laugh among themselves.

7 Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved!

THE SECOND LESSON – 1 Corinthians 1: 3-9

3 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. **4** I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, **5** that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge--**6** even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you--**7** so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, **8** who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. **9** God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. *ESV*

THE HOLY GOSPEL – Mark 13: 24-37

24 "But in those days, after that tribulation, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, **25** and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.**26** And then they will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory. **27** And then he will send out the angels and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. **28** "From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts out its leaves, you know that summer is near. **29** So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. **30** Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place. **31** Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. **32** "But concerning that day or that hour, no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. **33** Be on guard, keep awake. For you do not know when the time will come. **34** It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his servants in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to stay awake. **35** Therefore stay awake--for you do not know

when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or when the rooster crows, or in the morning--
36 lest he come suddenly and find you asleep. **37** And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake." *ESV*

HYMNS

Prepare the Royal Highway	LBW 26
Light One Candle (verse 1)	WOV 630
Come Thou Long Expected Jesus	LBW 30
I Wonder As I Wander	WOV 642
Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers	LBW 25