

ADVENT COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICE

INTRODUCTORY RITES

HYMN

Wake, awake, for night is flying;
The watchmen on the heights are crying:
Awake, Jerusalem, at last!
Midnight hears the welcome voices
And at the thrilling cry rejoices;
Come forth, ye virgins, night is past;
The Bridegroom comes, awake;
Your lamps with gladness take;
Alleluia! And for His marriage feast prepare
For ye must go and meet Him there.

Zion hears the watchmen singing,
And all her heart with joy is springing;
She wakes, she rises from her gloom;
For her Lord comes down all glorious,
The strong in grace, in truth victorious.
Her Star is risen, her Light is come.
Ah come, Thou blessèd One, God's own belovèd Son:
Alleluia! We follow till the halls we see
Where Thou hast bid us sup with Thee.

Text: *Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme*, Philipp Nicholi, 1556-1608
Translation: Catherine Winkworth, 1858
Tune: WACHET AUF, 89 8 89 8 66 4 44 8; Philipp Nicholi, 1556-1608

GREETING

OPENING PRAYER

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Zephaniah 3:14-18a

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 24, 1-2, 3-4, 5-6

R. Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.

SECOND READING

1 John 2:3-11

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

GOSPEL

Luke 12: 35-40

HOMILY

EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE

RITE OF RECONCILIATION

GENERAL CONFESSION OF SINS

**I confess to almighty God
and to you, my brothers and sisters,
that I have greatly sinned,
in my thoughts and in my words,
in what I have done
and in what I have failed to do,
through my fault, through my fault,
through my most grievous fault:
therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,
all the Angels and Saints,
and you my brothers and sisters,
to pray for me to the Lord our God.**

LITANY OF REPENTANCE

Presider: By human weakness we have disfigured the holiness of the Church:
pardon all our sins and restore us to full communion with our
brothers and sisters.

In your goodness, forgive our sins against the unity of your family,

All: **--make us one in heart, one in spirit.**

Presider: Touch our hearts and change our lives,

All: **--make us grow always in your friendship.**

Presider: Receive us as we come before you with humble and contrite hearts,

All: **--with your pardon give us also your peace.**

Presider: Restore us, Lord, to your favor, and give us joy in your presence,

All: **--may our glory be to serve you with all our hearts.**

LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO INDIVIDUAL CONFESSION

PRAYER

HYMN

The King shall come when morning dawns,
And light triumphant breaks.
When beauty gilds the eastern hills,
And life to joy awakes.

Not, as of old, a little child,
To suffer and to die,
But crowned with glory like the sun
That lights the morning sky.

O brighter than that glorious morn
Shall this fair morning be,
When Christ, our King, in beauty comes,
And we His face shall see.

And let the endless bliss begin,
By weary saints foretold,
When right shall triumph over wrong,
And truth shall be extolled.

The King shall come when morning dawns,
And light and beauty brings:
Hail, Christ the Lord! Thy people pray,
Come quickly, King of kings.

Text: John Brownlie, 1857-1925;
Tune: MORNING SONG, CM; John Wyeth, 1770-1858

INDIVIDUAL CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Then the penitents go to the priests designated for individual confession, and confess their sins. Each one receives and accepts a fitting act of satisfaction and is absolved. After hearing the confession and offering suitable counsel, the priest extends his hands over the penitent's head (or at least extends his right hand) and gives him or her absolution. Everything else which is customary in individual confession is omitted.

After receiving absolution the penitents may return to the main body of the church and spend some time in private prayer.