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Tuesday Morning and Advent – Coming Lord **An Alternative Daily Office**

Becoming present to God

Through a sign of attentiveness like lighting a candle or

+ In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit

Ever present God,

In this place and at this time, come to us.

or

My soul waits for the Lord.

More than the watchmen wait for the morning.

or

Hark the glad sound, the Saviour comes

the Saviour promised long,

let every heart prepare a throne

and every voice a song

(Philip Dodderidge 1702-51)

Celebrating the presence of God

Coming King,

whose nature is always to be poured out

in self-abandoning love,

you created this world in love:

its spinning galaxies and every particle,

its beauty and its balance,

its terror and its fearful symmetry.

You crowned your creation

in those you fashioned after your likeness,

***God of One in Three
and Three in One;
eternal relationship
at the heart of all that is;
calling humankind into existence
and giving them
stewardship of this planet earth.***

You came in Jesus Christ,
who poured himself out
in self-giving love
through death on a cross,
***showing how your glory
means giving not grasping.***

You came by your Spirit,
in words of grace and tongues of fire.
***And you have come to us,
in faces known and unknown
in every gesture of grace
and word of welcome,***
opening our eyes
to your hidden beauty,
in the cry of the new-born
and the knowing gaze
of those whose lives are long.

***Help us to celebrate your presence
as we seek to make known
your love to the world,
and as we look with hope
to the new creation which will break in
when you come again.
In Christ's name we pray. Amen.***

A pause to name any specific thanks or praise

Acknowledging our humanity

God of mercy and forgiveness,
who comes to us as the One who bore our sins
and cleanses us from all unrighteousness,
we acknowledge that,
even as you have come to us,
we have often avoided you.

***We have not recognised
your presence
in the face of friend or stranger;
nor have we listened
to your voice.***

Forgive our indifference,
our haste and our turning away;
the times when the cares of this world
and hunger for the approval of others
have threatened to overwhelm
the seed of your kingdom.

***Come and restore to us
the primacy of your will and ways
and fill us afresh with your sanctifying Spirit.***

Listening for the Word of God

From *The Common Lectionary*

Canticle – Optional

The Glorious New Creation

¹⁷For I am about to create new heavens and a new earth;
the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind.

¹⁸***But be glad and rejoice forever in what I am creating;
for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy,
and its people as a delight.***

¹⁹I will rejoice in Jerusalem,
and delight in my people;
***no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it,
or the cry of distress.***

²⁰No more shall there be in it an infant that lives but a few days,
or an old person who does not live out a lifetime;
***for one who dies at a hundred years will be considered a youth,
and one who falls short of a hundred will be considered accursed.***

²¹They shall build houses and inhabit them;
they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit.

²²***They shall not build and another inhabit;
they shall not plant and another eat;
for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be,
and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands.***

²³They shall not labour in vain, or bear children for calamity;
for they shall be offspring blessed by the Lord—
and their descendants as well.

²⁴Before they call I will answer,
while they are yet speaking I will hear.

²⁵***The wolf and the lamb shall feed together,
the lion shall eat straw like the ox;
but the serpent—its food shall be dust!
They shall not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain,
says the Lord.***

Isaiah 65:17-25

or

The River of the Water of Life

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life,
bright as crystal,

flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb
through the middle of the street of the city.

***On either side of the river is the tree of life
with its twelve kinds of fruit,
producing its fruit each month;
and the leaves of the tree
are for the healing of the nations.***

Nothing accursed will be found there any more.
But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it,
and his servants will worship him;
they will see his face,
and his name will be on their foreheads.

***And there will be no more night;
they need no light of lamp or sun,
for the Lord God will be their light,
and they will reign for ever and ever.***

Revelation 22:1-5

Reflecting on our roots

***Living God, enable us this day
to be pilgrims and companions:
committed to the way of Christ,
faithful to the call of Christ,
discerning the mind of Christ,
offering the welcome of Christ,
growing in the likeness of Christ,
engaging in the mission of Christ,
in the world that belongs to Christ.***

Bringing our concerns

We pray for the world
in which good and evil flourish together
like tares amongst wheat,
until the end of the Age
and your coming ushers in
a new heaven
and a new earth.

***We recognise the presence of
injustice,
oppression,
violence,
hatred,
indifference
and vengeance,
in a world which you created very good.***

Until the day arrives when all will be put right
and suffering, death
and tears will be no more,

***until then may your Kingdom come
through loving service;
courageous witness to truth;
faithful standing with the poor;
and selfless hunger for the good.***

***May your Kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth, as it is in heaven. Amen***

We pray for:

- World
- Church
- People

The Lord's Prayer:

***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.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.***

Going to love and serve

Coming Lord,
whose arrival as the Bridegroom
brings joy to those who are waiting
***help us this day to so recognise
how we should serve you,
that we shall be ready
to do your good and perfect will,
and welcome your coming
with joyful service
and faithful hearts. Amen.***

Optional:

+ In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit