Sunday, December 6, 2026
Second Sunday of Advent

Prayer for the Morning

Prepare the way of the Lord!
Glory to the Father…Amen. Alleluia

Hymn — Meter: CMD

O comfort each believing heart,
our ancient bondage ends!
The Lord himself shall take our part
and make, of sinners, friends.
Prepare for him a royal road,
make smooth and straight his way,
who comes to bear our weary load,
our ransom price to pay.
Our life is brief as summer grass,
our days are but a sigh;
we wither at the winds that pass
and fade and fall and die.
But safe in God's almighty hand
our souls are kept secure:
for evermore his word shall stand,
his covenant endure.
The very hills shall find a voice
to make his tidings heard.
In God and in his grace rejoice,
receive his promised word.
O comfort each believing heart
where God in Christ has come!
The Lord himself shall take our part
and lead his people home.

Canticle — Isaiah 49:9b-13

The Lord is our shepherd; there is nothing we shall want. *(cf. Ps 23:1)*

The herald's voice cries out: prepare the way of the Lord. Upon that way, we go to meet the Lord as he comes to meet us. The way lies through our own heart. Let us clear it of stumbling blocks, briars, and dust, that we may travel in freedom and joy and that we may not hinder the Lord's coming to us.

Along the ways they shall find pasture,
on every bare height shall their pastures be.
They shall not hunger or thirst, nor shall the
scorching wind or the sun strike them;
For he who pities them leads them
and guides them beside springs of water.
I will cut a road through all my mountains,
and make my highways level.
See, some shall come from afar,
others from the north and the west,
and some from the land of Syene.
Sing out, O heavens, and rejoice, O earth,
break forth into song, you mountains.
For the Lord comforts his people
and shows mercy to his afflicted.

Glory to the Father

Word of God — Baruch 5:5-7

Up, Jerusalem! stand upon the heights;/ look to the east and see your children/ Gathered from the east and the west/ at the word of the Holy One,/ rejoicing that they are remembered by God./ Led away on foot by their enemies they left you:/ but God will bring them back to you/ borne aloft in glory as on royal thrones./ For God has commanded/ that every lofty mountain be made low,/ And that the age-old depths and gorges/ be filled to level ground,/ that Israel may advance secure in the glory of God.

The mountains melt under him/ and the valleys split open,/ Like wax before the fire,/ like water poured down a slope. (Mi 1:4)

Canticle of Zechariah

For see, the Lord comes forth from his place,/ he descends and treads upon the heights of the earth. *(Mi 1:3)*

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; he has come to his people and set them free. He has raised up for us a mighty savior, born of the house of his servant David.
Through his holy prophets he promised of old that he would save us from our enemies, from the hands of all who hate us. He promised to show mercy to our fathers and to remember his holy covenant.
This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham: to set us free from the hands of our enemies, free to worship him without fear, holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life. You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way, to give his people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of their sins. In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us, to shine on those who dwell

in darkness and the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Glory to the Father...

Intercessions

Let us pray to Christ with joy at his coming:

R/You comfort your people and show mercy to your afflicted.

Hear the prayers of those who feel separated from you: R/

Hear the prayers of those who fear your coming: R/

Hear the prayers of those who do not know that you have come and will come again: R/

Personal intentions

Our Father....

God of glory, you prepare the way for your Son to come among us in mercy and in glory. Make straight his road in our hearts through this Advent season. Through Christ our Lord. Amen

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Reading 1 — Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11

Comfort, give comfort to my people,/ says your God./ Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her/ that her service is at an end,/ her guilt is expiated;/ indeed, she has received from the hand of the Lord/ double for all her sins.

A voice cries out:/ In the desert prepare the way of the Lord!/ Make straight in the wasteland a highway for our God!/ Every valley shall be filled in,/ every mountain and hill shall be made low;/ the rugged land shall be made a plain,/ the rough country, a broad valley./ Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,/ and all people shall see it together;/ for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

Go up onto a high mountain,/ Zion, herald of glad tidings;/ cry out at the top of your voice,/ Jerusalem, herald of good news!/ Fear not to cry out/ and say to the cities of Judah:/ Here is your God!/ Here comes with power/ the Lord God,/ who rules by his strong arm;/ here is his reward with him,/ his recompense before him./ Like a shepherd he feeds his flock;/ in his arms he gathers the lambs,/ carrying them in his bosom,/ and leading the ewes with care.

Reading 2 — 2 Peter 3:8-14

Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years and a thousand years like one day. The Lord does not delay his promise, as some regard "delay," but he is patient with you, not wishing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a mighty roar and the elements will be dissolved by fire, and the earth and everything done on it will be found out. Since everything is to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be, conducting yourselves in holiness and devotion, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved in flames and the elements melted by fire. But according to his promise we await new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. Therefore, beloved, since you await these things, be eager to be found without spot or blemish before him, at peace.

Gospel — Mark 1:1-8

As it is written in Isaiah the prophet:
Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you;/ he will prepare your way./ A voice of one crying out in the desert:/ "Prepare the way of the Lord,/ make straight his paths."
John the Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. People of the whole Judean countryside and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River as they -acknowledged their sins. John was clothed in camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist. He fed on -locusts and wild honey. And this is what he proclaimed: "One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

Men of St. Joseph Prayer

St. Joseph, help me to be like you. Help me to be obedient to the teachings of the Church and faithful to God's commands. Help me to patiently endure my cross each day. Let me be a model of holiness and a pillar of virtue. I solemnly promise to embrace God's will and I accept the challenge to work tirelessly for my family's salvation. Be my guide and companion on this journey. St. Joseph, terror of demons, pray for us!

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