



*Chaplaincy of All Saints' Marseille  
with Aix-en-Provence  
and the Luberon*

*1<sup>st</sup> December 2024  
Advent Sunday*

*Welcome to our online service. Below you will find readings, prayers and links to music for this Sunday. There is also a reflection by the Chaplain, The Revd Jamie Johnston, published separately on the website, the text of which is included in the service.*

**The Gathering**

*The minister says*

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

*All*    **Amen.**

Grace, mercy and peace  
from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ  
be with you

*All*    **and also with you.**

**Hymn**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zuZKl0-LSyc>

Hark! a herald voice is calling:  
'Christ is nigh!' it seems to say;  
'Cast away the dreams of darkness,  
O ye children of the day!'

Startled at the solemn warning,  
Let the earth-bound soul arise;  
Christ, her Sun, all sloth dispelling,  
Shines upon the morning skies.

Lo! the Lamb, so long expected,  
Comes with pardon down from heaven;  
Let us haste, with tears of sorrow,  
One and all to be forgiven;

So when next he comes in glory,  
And the final hour draws near,  
May he then as our defender  
On the clouds of heaven appear.

Honour, glory, virtue, merit,  
To the Father and the Son,  
With the co-eternal Spirit,  
While unending ages run.

*Words: 6<sup>th</sup> century, tr. Edward Cassall (1814-1878)  
Tune: Merton – William Henry Monk (1823-1889)*

## **Prayer of Preparation**

*All*    **Almighty God,  
to whom all hearts are open,  
all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hidden:  
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love you,  
and worthily magnify your holy name;  
through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

## **The Advent Wreath**

*The first candle on the Advent Wreath is lit and the following prayer is said:*

Blessed are you, sovereign Lord, God of our ancestors:  
to you be praise and glory for ever.

You called the patriarchs to live by the light of faith  
and to journey in the hope of your promised fulfilment.  
May we be obedient to your call  
and be ready and watchful to receive your Christ,  
a lamp to our feet and a light to our path;  
for you are our light and our salvation.

*All* **Blessed be God for ever.**

### **Prayers of Penitence**

*The minister says*

When the Lord comes,  
he will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness,  
and will disclose the purposes of the heart.  
Therefore in the light of Christ let us confess our sins.

*cf 1 Corinthians 4.5*

*All* **Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
we have sinned against you and against our neighbour  
in thought and word and deed,  
through negligence, through weakness,  
through our own deliberate fault.  
We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
who died for us, forgive us all that is past,  
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life  
to the glory of your name.  
Amen.**

### **Kyrie eleison**

Lord, have mercy.

*All* **Lord, have mercy.**

Christ, have mercy.

*All* **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, have mercy.

*All* **Lord, have mercy.**

*The minister says*

Almighty God,  
who forgives all who truly repent,  
have mercy upon you,  
pardon and deliver you from all our sins,  
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,  
and keep you in life eternal;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All:* **Amen.**

### **The Collect**

*The minister says*

Let us pray.

*Silence is kept.*

Almighty God,  
give us grace to cast away the works of darkness  
and to put on the armour of light,  
now in the time of this mortal life,  
in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility;  
that on the last day,  
when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead,  
we may rise to the life immortal;  
through him who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

*All* **Amen.**

### **The Ministry of the Word**

**Reading**

**Jeremiah 33.14-16**

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm 25.1-9**

- 1 To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul; O my God, in you I trust; \*  
let me not be put to shame; let not my enemies triumph over me.
- 2 Let none who look to you be put to shame, \*  
but let the treacherous be shamed and frustrated.
- 3 Make me to know your ways, O Lord, \*  
and teach me your paths.
- 4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, \*  
for you are the God of my salvation; for you have I hoped all the day long.
- 5 Remember, Lord, your compassion and love, \*  
for they are from everlasting.
- 6 Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions, \*  
but think on me in your goodness, O Lord, according to your steadfast love.
- 7 Gracious and upright is the Lord; \*  
therefore shall he teach sinners in the way.
- 8 He will guide the humble in doing right \*  
and teach his way to the lowly.
- 9 All the paths of the Lord are mercy and truth \*  
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

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

### **New Testament Reading**

### **1 Thessalonians 3.9-end**

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

This is the word of the Lord.

*All*    **Thanks be to God.**

## Hymn

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ghxzhXPYiWs>

The Advent of our King  
Our thoughts must now employ;  
Then let us meet him on the road  
With songs of holy joy.

The co-eternal Son  
A maiden's offspring see;  
A servant's form Christ putteth on  
To set his people free.

Our joyful praises sing  
To Christ who set us free;  
Like tribute to the Father bring  
And Holy Ghost to thee.

*Words: Charles Coffin (1676-1749), trans. Robert Campbell (1814-1868)*

*Tune: St Thomas – Aaron Williams (1731-1776)*

## Gospel Reading

**Luke 21.25-36**

*The minister says*

Alleluia, alleluia.  
Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,  
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.

*cf Isaiah 40.3–5*

*All*    **Alleluia.**

The Lord be with you  
*All*    **and also with you.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

*All*    **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said: 'There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see "the Son of Man coming in a cloud" with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.'

Then he told them a parable: 'Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.'

'Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

*All*    **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **Reflection**

We have reached Advent Sunday, the beginning of a new liturgical year. Traditionally, Advent is a time when one of those creative tensions that are part of the Christian faith is felt. We look forward to the coming of Christ at Bethlehem, as we prepare to celebrate the joy of Christmas. In that sense, it's a season of eager anticipation. But in Advent we are also encouraged to reflect on the second coming of Christ, the scriptural message that the Kingdom Jesus proclaimed would be brought to fulfilment on his return. In that sense, it's also a season of reflection on a day of reckoning that is to come, both for us individually and for the creation as a whole. A time for living more honestly about ourselves.

Each year on Advent Sunday, our Lectionary gives us one of the accounts of Jesus's teaching about the second coming. This year we have the one from Luke, whose Gospel which will form the basis of our Sunday readings in the coming months. Our extract today is a reminder that the evangelists were writing against the backdrop of brutal conflict in Judea, culminating in the siege and destruction of Jerusalem in 70 AD by the forces of Imperial Rome. The writer was aware of the catastrophe, and also of the warnings about it in the Old Testament. The disruption and anxiety of the times are reflected in the language, expressed in cosmic terms:

‘There will be signs in the sun, the moon and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations’. Yet the evangelist clings to the hope of redemption in Christ, with the coming of the ‘Son of Man’. These Advent readings are a mixture of politics, prophecy, prayer and perseverance.

The authors of the New Testament – including Paul, writing to the early church in Thessalonica - understood that the return of Christ was imminent. Two thousand years on, the Church has learned to live with the understanding that it has not yet happened, along with the uncertainty of when it might come. This is why Advent encourages us to reflect on what might be ahead. Our times are certainly troubled enough, and there is a sense of doom abroad at the moment.

How, then, might we meditate on these texts, two thousand years on? In reflecting on this last week, I was reminded by what my colleague David Pickering said when he preached on Advent Sunday last year:

‘Our Christian message tells the story of how through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, God has triumphed over sin and evil. The call and role of the Church down the ages is to declare and show that victory in every generation. We have the message of the presence of the Second Coming for our world today. Through the power and reality of Holy Spirit, Christ is present in our world - if only we have the eyes of faith to recognise the divine in the so-called ‘ordinary’. Wherever good overcomes an evil, love defeats hatred, peace replaces enmity, healing restores a broken body or mind, a positive replaces a negative in thought, speech or action. ... [A]ll of these are the presence and reality of Christ’s Second Coming in our contemporary world.’

We live in troubled times, but there *are* signs of the Kingdom if we learn how to read them. Later today, an ecumenical service will be held in Marseille at the Basilique du Sacré-Coeur, when a project will be launched through which different church denominations across the city will come together to serve the poorest and more vulnerable. It’s a tiny example of what can happen when a thirst for compassion and justice takes hold. We must keep building and sustaining communities that support one another, keep returning to the God who is the source of all compassion and justice. We must live immersed in the renewing energy of God, alert to the presence of God in every person, on every street, in every heart. Trying to live a life that is spacious, grace-filled, shot through with the sense of eternity.

There were many such moments in the footage this week of the renovated interior of Notre-Dame de Paris, due to be reopened next week after the devastating fire of 2019. As politicians squabbled in the National Assembly nearby, threatening to bring down a government that will soon be forgotten, a group of two thousand artisans were shown the fruit of their extraordinary work in a building that for centuries has spoken of a longing for God, whose restored beauty took away the breath of every commentator. It felt very appropriate that the work should be unveiled on the threshold of Advent.



Advent is both a time of preparing to receive God afresh, and a reminder that we don't know the time or manner of that coming. We know from our own lives that waiting for what we expect or desire is not always what turns out to be. The season of Advent asks of us something deeper. It's about developing a wisdom and a spiritual patience that can cope with the surprises God sometimes gives us. Helping us to live more fully, more mature in our faith, as we learn to lean deeper into God. Reading the signs of the Kingdom in our midst, however unexpected.

Recently I read a strange and beautiful example of God's unexpectedness in an article by Dennis Bailey, an Anglican priest who worked as a development consultant in Rwanda in the aftermath of the genocide there in 1994. In a reflection entitled 'Brief Encounter: a true Advent story'<sup>1</sup>, Bailey writes of a flight that he took from Kigali to Johannesburg, in which he was placed next to a nun who was pregnant. While others rolled their eyes and looked the other way, Bailey listened as the sister told her story. Caught up in the backlash of the Rwandan genocide, she had been attacked and raped. She was travelling to South Africa to be cared for by members of her order until her child was born.

Dennis Bailey was aware she was sparing him much of the agony she had suffered. Concluding her story, she said: 'I'm grateful to God for the unexpected privilege of motherhood'. He left the encounter inspired by her resilience and courage. As he tried to imagine what the child might become to a community torn apart by hatred and violence, he found himself thinking: 'Should God decide to become one of us, the transport awaits in seat number 1A'. As they arrived, he said: 'You haven't told me your name, Sister.' 'You haven't asked, Father', she replied. 'My name is Sister Immaculate.' At which point they both broke into helpless laughter.

Bailey later heard that the child had been born on St Valentine's Day and, back in Rwanda, was being raised by his mother in a Catholic orphanage. She called him Emmanuel. Which means, 'God is with us'.

I wonder what signs of Christ's coming each of us may encounter this Advent.

Amen.

*The Revd Jamie Johnston, Chaplain*

## **The Nicene Creed**

**All We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,**

---

<sup>1</sup> *News of Great Joy*, ed. Hillyard-Parker (2021), p 14.

**of all that is,  
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come.**

**Amen.**

## **Prayers**

As we look for the coming of the Kingdom, let us pray for the Church and the world. Heavenly Father, grant that the Church, filled with love for you and for all that you have made, may grow in holiness and in your service. Teach us to look for the signs of your will and to be always ready for your calling.

We pray for our Bishop Robert, our Archdeacon Peter, our Chaplain, Jamie, for all who minister in this chaplaincy, and for everyone with whom we worship and pray.

We give you thanks for the appointment of Canon Andrew Norman as the new Suffragan Bishop in Europe, and for all the gifts and experience he will give to our diocese. Bless him as he prepares for his consecration and his new role with us.

Lord, in your mercy,

*All* **hear our prayer.**

Your Son came into the world to serve and not to be served. We entrust to you the Diakonia Ecumenical Assembly, inaugurated in Marseille this afternoon. Gather all Christians in this city in the unity of your Spirit, so that our hearts may open to your light and your will. Help us to know one another better, to unite our strengths, and to discern the needs of our brothers and sisters. Grant us the courage to create new responses to rekindle the fire of charity in our communities.

Lord, in your mercy,

*All* **hear our prayer.**

Cleanse the world of selfish indulgence and the excesses that make people deaf to your words. We pray for those who walk in the darkness of war, oppression and strife, remembering Ukraine, Russia, Gaza, Israel, Lebanon, and Sudan. Bless all nations, that they may be governed with true judgments and righteous dealing. Bring to the whole earth the blessing of peace.

Lord, in your mercy,

*All* **hear our prayer.**

As we watch and wait in your gracious presence, lift up our eyes to see the signs of our salvation at this time. When troubles distress us, give strength to us, our families, friends and neighbours, and free our hearts from fear.

We raise before you those who suffer in body, mind or spirit, those who are lonely and distressed, those without hope for the future. We pray for healing, wholeness and hope in their lives. On this World AIDS Day, we hold before you those affected by HIV and AIDS, and those who care for them.

From our community we pray especially this morning for Malcolm, Peter, Gabrielle, Elizabeth, Sarah, Alan, Jean-Marc and Josie, and for the continued recovery of King Charles. In a moment of silence, we bring before you those known to us, who need your healing.

Lord, in your mercy,  
*All* **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who have been called from this world, that they may be numbered with your saints. Keep us mindful that we too await the same call and make us ready to stand in your fuller presence.

Lord, in your mercy,  
*All* **hear our prayer.**

Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, we commend ourselves and the whole creation to your unfailing love.

Merciful Father,  
*All* **accept these prayers  
for the sake of your Son,  
our Saviour, Jesus Christ.  
Amen.**

## **The Peace**

*The minister says*

In the tender mercy of our God,  
the dayspring from on high shall break upon us,  
to give light to those who dwell in darkness  
and in the shadow of death,  
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

*cf Luke 1.78,79*

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

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

## **Hymn**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JEEdOuWnDGs>

Come, thou long-expected Jesus,  
Born to set thy people free;  
From our fears and sins release us;  
Let us find our rest in thee.

Israel's strength and consolation,  
Hope of all the earth thou art;  
Dear desire of every nation,  
Joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver;  
Born a child and yet a king;  
Born to reign in us forever;  
Now thy gracious kingdom bring.

By thine own eternal spirit,  
Rule in all our hearts alone:  
By thine all-sufficient merit,  
Raise us to thy glorious throne.

*Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788)  
Tune: Cross of Jesus – John Stainer (1840-1901)*

## **Preparation of the Table**

*The celebrant says*

Look upon us in mercy not in judgement;  
draw us from hatred to love;  
make the frailty of our praise  
a dwelling place for your glory.

*All*    **Amen.**

## **The Eucharistic Prayer**

The Lord is here.

*All*    **His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.

*All*    **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*All*    **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right and good to give you thanks and praise,  
almighty God and everlasting Father,  
through Jesus Christ your Son.

For when he humbled himself to come among us in human flesh,  
he fulfilled the plan you formed before the foundation of the world  
to open for us the way of salvation.

Confident that your promise will be fulfilled,  
we now watch for the day  
when Christ our Lord will come again in glory.  
And so we join our voices with angels and archangels  
and with all the company of heaven  
to proclaim your glory  
for ever praising you and saying:

*All* **Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

Accept our praises, heavenly Father,  
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
and as we follow his example and obey his command,  
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,  
these gifts of bread and wine  
may be to us his body and his blood;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,  
took bread and gave you thanks;  
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.  
In the same way, after supper  
he took the cup and gave you thanks;  
he gave it to them, saying:  
Drink this, all of you;  
this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it,  
in remembrance of me.

Therefore, heavenly Father,  
we remember his offering of himself  
made once for all upon the cross;

we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;  
we look for the coming of your kingdom,  
and with this bread and this cup  
we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Great is the mystery of faith:

*All* **Christ has died:  
Christ is risen:  
Christ will come again.**

Accept through him, our great high priest,  
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,  
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts  
in the presence of your divine majesty,  
renew us by your Spirit,  
inspire us with your love  
and unite us in the body of your Son,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,  
we worship you, Father almighty,  
in songs of everlasting praise:

*All* **Blessing and honour and glory and power  
be yours for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour taught us:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done;  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation;**

**but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

**Notre Père, qui es aux cieux,  
que ton nom soit sanctifié,  
que ton règne vienne,  
que ta volonté soit faite,  
sur la terre comme au ciel.  
Donne-nous aujourd'hui notre pain de ce jour.  
Pardonne-nous nos offenses,  
comme nous pardonnons aussi à ceux qui nous ont offensés;  
et ne nous laisse pas entrer en tentation,  
mais délivre-nous du mal.  
Car c'est à toi qu'appartiennent le règne, la puissance et la gloire,  
pour les siècles des siècles. Amen.**

*The celebrant breaks the consecrated bread, saying:*

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

*All* **Though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.**

*All* **Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world,  
grant us peace.**

*The celebrant says*

Jesus is the lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.  
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

*All* **Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and I shall be healed.**



## **An Act of Spiritual Communion**

*As circumstances are such that we cannot share in the Eucharist in person, we make an Act of Spiritual Communion, in which we express our faith in Christ and in his presence in the Eucharist, and we ask him to unite himself with us.*

Heavenly Father, in union with Christian people throughout the world and across the centuries gathered to make Eucharist, hearing your holy Word and receiving the precious Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, we offer you praise and thanksgiving. Even though we cannot at this time receive Communion, we pray that you will unite us with all the baptised and with your Son who gave his life for us.

Come, Lord Jesus, into our hearts, dwell in us in the fullness of your strength, and send your Holy Spirit that we may be filled with your presence. Amen.

**Anthem:** E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qjtMJxtoool>

*Words: adapted by Ruth Manz from Revelation 22*

*Music: Paul Manz (1919-2009)*

Peace be to you and grace from him  
Who freed us from our sins,  
Who loved us all and shed his blood  
That we might savèd be.

Sing Holy, Holy to our Lord,  
The Lord, Almighty God,  
Who was, and is, and is to come,  
Sing Holy, Holy Lord.

Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell within,  
Rejoice on earth, ye saints below,  
For Christ is coming, is coming soon,  
For Christ is coming soon.

E'en so Lord Jesus, quickly come,  
And night shall be no more;  
They need no light nor lamp nor sun,  
For Christ will be their All!

## Prayer after Communion

O Lord our God,  
make us watchful and keep us faithful  
as we await the coming of your Son our Lord;  
that, when he shall appear,  
he may not find us sleeping in sin  
but active in his service and joyful in his praise;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

## Hymn

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kKu0orOt8Uw>

O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
And ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here,  
Until the Son of God appear:

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free  
Thine own from Satan's tyranny;  
From depths of hell thy people save,  
And give them victory o'er the grave:

O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer  
Our spirits by thine advent here;  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
And death's dark shadows put to flight:

O come, thou Key of David, come,  
And open wide our heavenly home;  
Make safe the way that leads on high,  
And close the path to misery:

O come, O come, thou Lord of might,  
Who to thy tribes, on Sinai's height,  
In ancient times didst give the law  
In cloud and majesty and awe:

*Words: John Mason Neale (1818-1866)  
Tune: Veni Emmanuel – Thomas Helmore (1811-1890)*

## Blessing

*The celebrant says*

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you,  
scatter the darkness from before your path,  
and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

*All*    **Amen.**

*The minister says*

As we await our coming Saviour,  
go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*All*    **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

**Music**        **J S Bach: Aria *Öffne dich, mein ganzes Herze*, from cantata BWV 61**

## Offertory

The Diocese in Europe has a JustGiving page, making it possible for donations to be made to individual chaplaincies in a simple way. For those not already donating by standing order, we would be most grateful for any one-off donations at the following link:

<https://www.justgiving.com/diocese-ineurope>

Where you are asked if you would like to 'add a message', please include the words 'This is for the Marseille chaplaincy'. (Occasionally this box does not appear on the JustGiving page – if this happens, please let us know and we will ensure that your gift is allocated to the chaplaincy.)

Thank you for your support.