

KLC Advent Gathering

December 4, *anno domini* 2025

Welcome - Rev. Dr. Craig Bartholomew

Explanation of Rubrics - Hugo

BC – AD *A Poem by U.A. Fanthorpe*

This was the moment when Before
Turned into After, and the future's
Uninvented timekeepers presented arms.

This was the moment when nothing
Happened. Only dull peace
Sprawled boringly over the earth.

This was the moment when even energetic Romans
Could find nothing better to do
Than counting heads in remote provinces.

And this was the moment
When a few farm workers and three
Members of an obscure Persian sect

Walked haphazard by starlight straight
Into the kingdom of heaven.



U A Fanthorpe, from Christmas Poems (Enitharmon, 2002)

V. O God, come to our assistance.

R. O Lord, make haste to help us.

V. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

R. As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

First Reading

Isaiah 2.1-5

The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

It shall come to pass in the latter days
that the mountain of the house of the Lord
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be lifted up above the hills;
and all the nations shall flow to it,

and many peoples shall come, and say:
“Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,
to the house of the God of Jacob,
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths.”
For out of Zion shall go forth the law,
and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

He shall judge between the nations,
and shall decide disputes for many peoples;
and they shall beat their swords into plowshares,
and their spears into pruning hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war anymore.

O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk
in the light of the Lord.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

The Poet Wearies *by Adélia Prado*

I've had it with being Your herald.
Everybody has a voice,
why am I the one who has to get on board
with no say about where we're headed?
Why not proclaim the wondrous woof of looms
Yourself, with that voice that echoes
to the four corners of the earth?
The world's seen so much progress
and you still insist on traveling salesmen
going door-to-door on horseback.
Check out this jack knife, people,
Take a good look, ma'am, it's magic:
slices and screws, tweezers and dices –
a whole set of tools in one!
Dear God,
let me work in the kitchen.
I'm not a peddler, or a scribe,
just let me make Your bread.
Child, says the Lord,
all I eat is words.

Adélia Prado, translated by Ellen Doré Watson, from *The Mystical Rose: Selected Poems*, Bloodaxe Books, 2014.

Psalm 122

A Song of Ascents. Of David.

I was glad when they said to me,
“Let us go to the house of the Lord!”

Our feet have been standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem!

Jerusalem—built as a city
that is bound firmly together,

to which the tribes go up,
the tribes of the Lord,

as was decreed for Israel,
to give thanks to the name of the Lord.

There thrones for judgment were set,
the thrones of the house of David.

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem!
“May they be secure who love you!

Peace be within your walls
and security within your towers!”

For my brothers and companions' sake
I will say, “Peace be within you!”

For the sake of the house of the Lord our God,
I will seek your good.

Second Reading

Romans 13.11-14

Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armour of light. Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarrelling and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

The Gospel Reading

Matthew 24.36-44

“But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only. For as were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, and they were unaware until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two men will be in the field; one will be taken and one left. Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one left. Therefore, stay awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But know this, that if the master of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he

would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

The Gospel of Christ

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Scriptural Meditation *by Rev. Libbie Webber*

Two minutes of silence

— brief time of sharing on Scripture passages —

Mary *by Anthony Wilson*

At first a fluttering
then a kick,
his fist pummelling my rib cage
when I knelt to pray.

They sent me away,
my belly burgeoning
shame on his name,
his eyes looking right through me.

Amazed, he took me back.
He muttered
he'd seen him too
but best not mention it in company.

I sang then,
hymning prophecies
that were poetry
inventing themselves on my tongue.

The riots and the cold
you know about.
The roadblocks.
That donkey.

Let me tell you
nothing prepares you

for that O
cracking your pelvis,

his fists flailing in air
as if from nowhere,
tarnished wings
of an angel.

They say I said nothing
but treasured these things in my heart.
Pain overruled my throat
and hasn't stopped since.

None of us gives birth
in silence.
I was no one's favourite girl
till this.

<https://anthonywilsonpoetry.com/2019/12/24/advent-poems-24-mary-by-anthony-wilson/>

VISIO DIVINA - by Jessica Rosales

Two minutes of silence

A brief time of prayer for KLC ministry in the public square. Please send your petition with: "Lord, in your mercy." The rest will respond with: "Hear our prayer."

Litany: Let us Pray

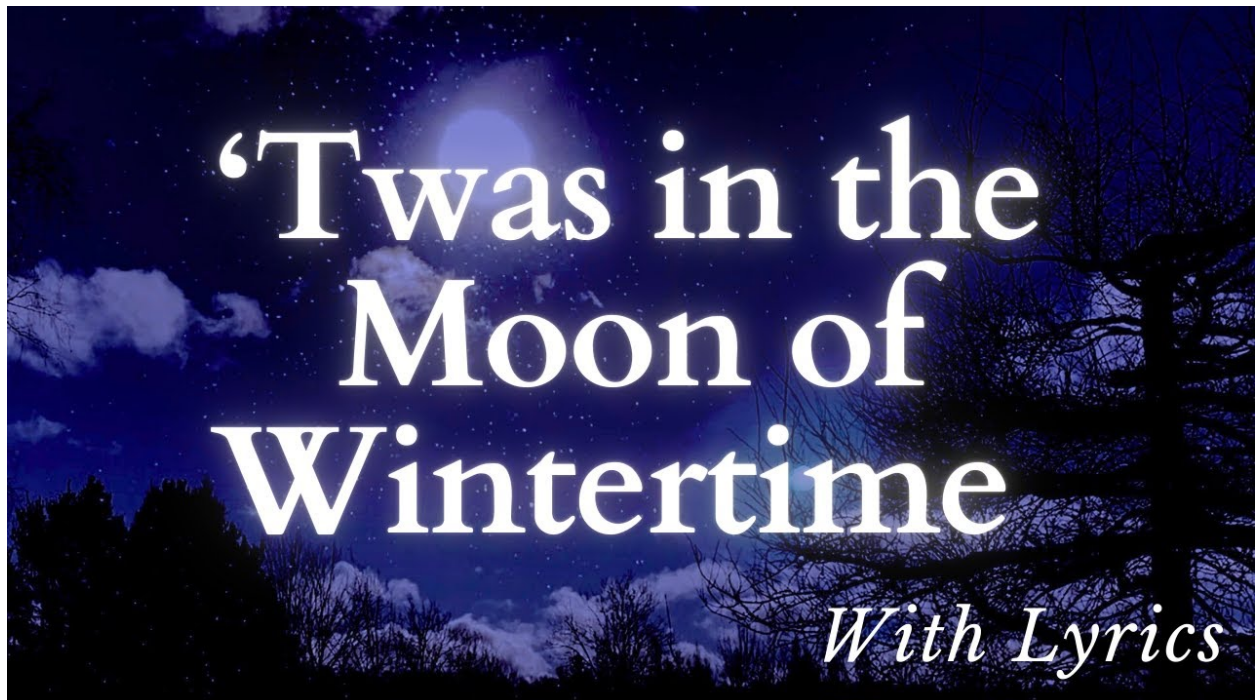
Lord Jesus, you made your dwelling place among us so that we might see your glory.
Listen as we say: *Lord, be with us.*

- **King of peace**, who beats swords into plowshares and spears into pruning hooks, put an end to violence and war, and give us peace. *Lord, be with us.*
- **Prince of justice and right**, who vindicates the poor, bring just judgement for the meek of the earth. *Lord, be with us.*
- **Lord of truth**, whose ways are not our ways, deepen the faith of those who seek you. *Lord, be with us.*

- **Good Shepherd**, who gathers all people into your kingdom, come and find those who wait to see your face. *Lord, be with us.*
- **Judge of all peoples**, who will come upon the clouds with power and glory, see that we need not stand before your face in confusion. *Lord, be with us.*
- **Redeemer of the world**, grant us peace. *Lord, be with us.*

Let us pray as our Lord taught us:

*Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed by 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.*



Concluding prayer:

God, Lord of Eternity, your Son came to visit us in time. Grant to each of us the heart of a child which never ceases to marvel at your wonders, so that once again today, you may find us watching in hope. We ask you this, because of your love for us, God blessed forever and ever. **Amen.**

The Grace:

*And now, may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be with us all. Amen.*