

ADVENT III

O LORD, open ✠ thou our lips:
**And our mouth shall shew
forth thy praise.**

O God, make ✠ speed to save us:
O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to
the Holy Ghost:

**As it was in the beginning, is now
and ever shall be : world without
end. Amen.**

Praise ye the Lord:
The Lord's Name be praised.

WHEN came in flesh the
incarnate **W**ord,
The heedless world slept on,
And only simple shepherds heard
That God had sent his Son.

**When comes the Saviour at the
last
From east to west shall shine^A
The awful pomp, and earth
aghast
Shall tremble at the sign.**

**Lord, who could dare see thee
descend
In state, unless he knew
Thou art the sorrowing sinner's
friend,
The gracious and the true?**

**Dwell in our hearts, O Saviour
blest:
So shall thine advent's dawn
'Twixt us and thee, our bosom-
guest,
Be but the veil withdrawn.**

Ps. lxxv Confitebimur tibi

UNTO thee, O God, do we give thanks : yea,
unto thee dó we give thanks.

**Thy Name also is só nigh : and that
do thy wóndrous works declare.**

In the appointed time sáith God : I shall judge
accórding unto right.

**The earth is weak, and all the
inhabiters théreof : I bear up the
píllars of it.**

I said unto the fools, Deal not so mádly: and to
the ungodly, Sét not up your horn.

**Set not up your horn ón high : and
speak not wíth a stiff neck.**

For promotion cometh neither from the east,
nor from thé west : nor yét from the south.

**And why? God is thé Judge : he
putteth down one, and settéth up
another.**

For in the hand of the Lord there is a cup, and
the wine ís red : it is full mixed, and he poureth
óut of the same.

**As for the dregs théreof : all the
ungodly of the earth shall drink
thém, and suck them out.**

But I will talk of the God of Jácob : and praise
hím for ever.

**All the horns of the ungodly also
will Í break : and the horns of the
righteous shall bé exalted.**

Glory be to the Father, and to thé Son : and to
the Holy Ghost:

**As it was in the beginning,* is now,
and ever sháll be : world wíthout
end. Amen.**

Abridge

Here beginneth the 1st verse of the 26th chapter of the prophecy of Isaiah.

IN that day shall this song be sung in the land of Judah; We have a strong city; salvation will God appoint for walls and bulwarks. Open ye the gates, that the righteous nation which keepeth the truth may enter in. Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee. Trust ye in the LORD for ever: for in the LORD JEHOVAH is everlasting strength:

For he bringeth down them that dwell on high; the lofty city, he layeth it low; he layeth it low, even to the ground; he bringeth it even to the dust. The foot shall tread it down, even the feet of the poor, and the steps of the needy. The way of the just is uprightness: thou, most upright, dost weigh the path of the just. Yea, in the way of thy judgments, O LORD, have we waited for thee; the desire of our soul is to thy name, and to the remembrance of thee. With my soul have I desired thee in the night; yea, with my spirit within me will I seek thee early: for when thy judgments are in the earth, the inhabitants of the world will learn righteousness. Let favour be shewed to the wicked, yet will he not learn righteousness: in the land of uprightness will he deal unjustly, and will not behold the majesty of the LORD. LORD, when thy hand is lifted up, they will not see: but they shall see, and be ashamed for their envy at the people; yea, the fire of thine enemies shall devour them.

LORD, thou wilt ordain peace for us: for thou also hast wrought all our works in us. O LORD our God, other lords beside thee have had dominion over us: but by thee only will we make mention of thy name. They are dead, they shall not live; they are deceased, they shall not rise: therefore hast thou visited and destroyed them,

and made all their memory to perish. Thou hast increased the nation, O LORD, thou hast increased the nation: thou art glorified: thou hadst removed it far unto all the ends of the earth. LORD, in trouble have they visited thee, they poured out a prayer when thy chastening was upon them. Like as a woman with child, that draweth near the time of her delivery, is in pain, and crieth out in her pangs; so have we been in thy sight, O LORD. We have been with child, we have been in pain, we have as it were brought forth wind; we have not wrought any deliverance in the earth; neither have the inhabitants of the world fallen. Thy dead men shall live, together with my dead body shall they arise. Awake and sing, ye that dwell in dust: for thy dew is as the dew of herbs, and the earth shall cast out the dead.

Come, my people, enter thou into thy chambers, and shut thy doors about thee: hide thyself as it were for a little moment, until the indignation be overpast. For, behold, the LORD cometh out of his place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity: the earth also shall disclose her blood, and shall no more cover her slain.

Is 26:4—21 AV

Here endeth the first lesson.

MY soul ✠ doth magnify the LORD: and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.

For he hath regarded: the lowliness of his handmaiden.

For behold, from henceforth: all generations shall call me blessed.

For he that is mighty hath magnified me: and holy is his Name.

And his mercy is on them that fear him: throughout all generations.

He hath shewed strength with his arm: he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.

He hath put down the mighty from their seat: and hath exalted the humble and meek.

He hath filled the hungry with good things: and the rich he hath sent empty away.

He remembering his mercy: hath holpen his servant Israel;

As he promised to our forefathers: Abraham and his seed for ever.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost:

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

Here beginneth the 25th chapter of the gospel according to S. Matthew.

JESUS said unto his disciples, Then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins, which took their lamps, and went forth to meet the bridegroom. And five of them were wise, and five were foolish. They that were foolish took their lamps, and took no oil with them: But the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps. While the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept. And at midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him.

Then all those virgins arose, and trimmed their lamps. And the foolish said unto the wise, Give us of your oil; for our lamps are gone out. But the wise answered, saying, Not so; lest there be not enough for us and you: but go ye rather to them that sell, and buy for yourselves. And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with him to the marriage: and the door was shut. Afterward came also the other virgins, saying, Lord, Lord, open to us. But he answered and said, Verily I say unto you, I know you not.

Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh.

For the kingdom of heaven is as a man travelling into a far country, who called his own servants, and delivered unto them his goods. And unto one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one; to every man according to his several ability; and straightway took his journey. Then he that had received the five talents went and traded with the same, and made them other five talents. And likewise he that had received two, he also gained other two. But he that had received one went and digged in the earth, and hid his lord's money.

After a long time the lord of those servants cometh, and reckoneth with them. And so he that had received five talents came and brought other five talents, saying, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me five talents: behold, I have gained beside them five talents more. His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord. He also that had received two talents came and said, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me two talents: behold, I have gained two other talents beside them. His lord

said unto him, Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.

Then he which had received the one talent came and said, Lord, I knew thee that thou art an hard man, reaping where thou hast not sown, and gathering where thou hast not strawed: And I was afraid, and went and hid thy talent in the earth: lo, there thou hast that is thine. His lord answered and said unto him, Thou wicked and slothful servant, thou knewest that I reap where I sowed not, and gather where I have not strawed: Thou oughtest therefore to have put my money to the exchangers, and then at my coming I should have received mine own with usury. Take therefore the talent from him, and give it unto him which hath ten talents.

For unto every one that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath. And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Mt 25:1—30 AV

Here endeth the second lesson.

LORD, now ✠ lettest thou thy servant depart in peace : according to thy word.

For mine eyes have seen thy salvation : which thou hast prepared before the face of all people,

To be a light to lighten the Gentiles: and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost:

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

I BELIEVE in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary, Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead and buried, He descended into hell; The third day he rose again from the dead, He ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty: From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, The holy catholick Church, The communion of saints, The forgiveness of sins, The resurrection ✠ of the body, And the life everlasting.

The Lord be with you :
And with thy spirit.
Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us:
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

OUR FATHER, which art in
heaven, Hallowed be thy Name.
Thy kingdom come. Thy will be
done, In earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses, As
we forgive them that trespass
against us. And lead us not into
temptation; But deliver us from evil.

O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us:
And grant us thy salvation.

O Lord, save the Queen:
**And mercifully hear us when we
call upon thee.**

Endue thy ministers with righteous-ness:
**And make thy chosen people
joyful.**

O Lord, save thy people:
And bless thine inheritance.

Give peace in our time, O Lord:
**Because there is none other that
fighteth for us, but only thou, O
God.**

O God, make clean our hearts within us:
**And take not thy holy Spirit from
us.**

OLORD Jesu Christ, who at thy first
coming didst send thy messenger to
prepare thy way before thee; Grant that the
ministers and stewards of thy mysteries may
likewise so prepare and make ready thy way, by
turning the hearts of the disobedient to the
wisdom of the just, that at thy second coming to
judge the world we may be found an acceptable
people in thy sight, who livest and reignest with
the Father and the Holy Spirit ever, one God,
world without end.
Amen.

OGOD, from whom all holy desires, all
good counsels and all just works do
proceed: Give unto thy servants that peace
which the world cannot give: That both, our
hearts may be set to obey thy commandments,
and also that by thee we being defended from
the fear of our enemies may pass our time in rest
and quietness : Through the merits of Jesus
Christ our Saviour. **Amen.**

LIGHTEN our darkness, we beseech , thee,
O Lord: And by thy great mercy defend us
from all perils and dangers of this night: For the
love of thine only Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.

The Lord be with you:
And with thy spirit.

Let us bless the Lord:
Thanks be to God.

May the souls ✠ of the faithful through the
mercy of God rest in peace:
And rise in glory.

¶ **The sermon follows.**

¶ **And the prayers.**

SOMETIMES a light surprises
The Christian while he sings:
It is the Lord who rises
With healing in his wings;
When comforts are declining,
He grants the soul again
A season of clear shining
To cheer it after rain.

In holy contemplation
We sweetly then pursue
The theme of God's salvation,
And find it ever new:
Set free from present sorrow
We cheerfully can say,
E'en let the unknown morrow
Bring with it what it may.

It can bring with it nothing
But he will bear us through;
Who gives the lilies clothing
Will clothe his people too :
Beneath the spreading heavens
No creature but is fed;
And he who feeds the ravens
Will give his children bread.

Though vine nor fig-tree neither
Their wonted fruit should bear,
Though all the fields should
wither,
Nor flocks nor herds be there;
Yet, God the same abiding,
His praise shall tune my voice;
For, while in him confiding,
I cannot but rejoice.

Bentley