The First Sunday of Advent – Year B
29th November 2026

Sentence: Mark 13.31
'Heaven and earth will pass away,' says the Lord, 'but my words will not pass away.'

Collect:
Eternal God,
through long generations you prepared a way
for the coming of your Son,
and by your Spirit
you still bring light to illumine our paths:
renew us in faith and hope
that we may welcome Christ to rule our thoughts
and claim our love;
to whom be glory for ever. **Amen**.

First Reading: Isaiah 64.1-9
A reading from the book of the Prophet Isaiah

1 O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains
would quake at your presence — 2 as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire
causes water to boil — to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the
nations might tremble at your presence! 3 When you did awesome deeds that we
did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. 4 From
ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides
you, who works for those who wait for him. 5 You meet those who gladly do right,
those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned;
because you hid yourself we transgressed. 6 We have all become like one who is
unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.
We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. 7 There is no
one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden
your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.
8 Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are
all the work of your hand. 9 Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not
remember iniquity for ever. Now consider, we are all your people.
Hear the Word of the Lord,
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 80.1-7; 80.17-19

1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel,
you that led Joseph like a flock:

you that are enthroned upon the cherubim,
shine out in glory;

2 Before Ephraim, Benjamin and Manasseh:
stir up your power, and come to save us.

3 Restore us again, O Lord of hosts:
show us the light of your countenance,
and we shall be saved.

4 O Lord God of hosts:
how long will you be angry at your people's prayer?

5 You have fed them with the bread of tears:
and given them tears to drink in good measure.

6 You have made us the victim of our neighbours:
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.

7 Restore us again, O Lord of hosts:
show us the light of your countenance,
and we shall be saved.

17 Let your power rest on the man at your right hand:
on that son of man
whom you made so strong for yourself.

18 And so we shall not turn back from you:
give us life, and we will call upon your name.

19 Restore us again, O Lord of hosts:
show us the light of your countenance,
and we shall be saved.

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Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1.1-9

A reading from the first Letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

1 Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother
Sosthenes, 2 To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in
Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on
the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: 3 Grace to you and
peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. 4 I give thanks to my God
always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ
Jesus, 5 for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge
of every kind — 6 just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you
— 7 so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of
our Lord Jesus Christ. 8 He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be
blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 God is faithful; by him you were
called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Hear the Word of the Lord,

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation: Psalm 84.8

Alleluia. **Alleluia!**
Lord, show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation.
Alleluia!

The Holy Gospel: Mark 13.24-37

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark,

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

24 ‘But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon
will not give its light, 25 and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers
in the heavens will be shaken. 26 Then they will see “the Son of Man coming in
clouds” with great power and glory. 27 Then he will send out the angels, and gather
his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.
28 ‘From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts
forth its leaves, you know that summer is near.
29 So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the
very gates. 30 Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these
things have taken place. 31 Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not
pass away. 32 ‘But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in
heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.
33 Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. 34 It is like a
man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each
with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. 35 Therefore,
keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the
evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, 36 or else he may find you
asleep when he comes suddenly. 37 And what I say to you I say to all: Keep
awake.’

This is the Gospel of the Lord,

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

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