

Second Rite of Reconciliation

Advent Year B 2020

Environment

Create an environment that reflects growth and change.

- Candle.
- Dry branches, broken pots, rocks.
- Plants and greenery.
- Fabric: purples, blues, browns.
- Project an image of clay in the hands of a potter.



Introduction

Welcome to our rite of reconciliation service for Advent.
We are all in need of making changes in our lives so we can better act in the way
God directs us and in the image of Jesus Christ.
Along the way we need forgiveness and renewal of our relationship with God.

Opening Song

Grant to Us, O Lord, a Heart Renewed. Gather Australia: Number 303.

or

A New Heart for a New World. Gather Australia: Number 438.

Opening Prayer

Celebrant: God of goodness and kindness, you offer us opportunities for forgiveness as we strive to live as your people. Help us to let you mould and change us to be more like you. Give us the courage to open our hearts fully in truth and hope. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

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Reading

Jeremiah 18:1-6,11

The Lord said to me, “Go down to the potter's house, where I will give you my message.” So I went there and saw the potter working at his wheel. Whenever a piece of pottery turned out imperfect, he would take the clay and make it into something else.

Then the Lord said to me, “Don't I have the right to do with you people of Israel what the potter did with the clay? You are in my hands just like clay in the potter's hands.

Now then, tell the people of Judah and of Jerusalem that I am making plans against them and getting ready to punish them. Tell them to stop living sinful lives—to change their ways and the things they are doing.

Hymn

Hosea | Gregory Norbert

Come back to me with all your heart.
Don't let fear keep us apart.
Trees do bend, though straight and tall;
so must we to other's' call.

Refrain:

*Long have I waited for your coming,
home to me and living, deeply our new life.*

The wilderness will lead you
to your heart where I will speak.
Integrity and justice,
with tenderness you shall know. **Refrain**

You shall sleep secure with peace;
faithfulness will be your joy. **Refrain**

Contributors: Gregory Norbet, Weston Priory

Tune: Text: Based on Hosea. Text and music, Gregory Norbet, OSB, © 1972, The Benedictine Foundation of the State of Vermont, Inc. All rights reserved. Used with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-640929

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Gospel Reading

Matthew 5:23-24

So if you are about to offer your gift to God at the altar and there you remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar, go at once and make peace with your brother, and then come back and offer your gift to God.

Words of Encouragement

Examination of Conscience

Celebrant: **Let us reflect on how we respond to the message of Jesus in our everyday life.**

- † Am I attentive to the Word of God and the Eucharist, interacting with them so as to live as God asks of me?
- † Am I allowing the things of the world to distract me from being a committed follower of Christ?
- † Am I willing to be seen as a follower of Jesus in the way I act and speak?

Celebrant: **Let us reflect on how following Jesus Christ influences how we treat others.**

- † Am I a good neighbour, helping and supporting those in need?
- † Am I critical and disrespectful of those who are different from me or those who do not believe what I believe?
- † Am I caring and careful of the property of others, not envious or jealous of what they have?

Celebrant: **Let us reflect on how we respond to the relationships in our lives.**

- † Am I a person of peace or do I carry anger and resentment within myself?
- † Am I open to the good in other people or do I begrudge others of their talents?
- † Am I thankful for what God has given to me?

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Celebrant: **Let us reflect on how we treat ourselves.**

- † Am I able to see the good in myself or am I always putting myself down?
- † Am I caring for the gift of my body?
- † Am I generous with the gifts and talents God has given me or do only what I have to?

Rite of Reconciliation

General Confession of Sins

Celebrant: My sisters and brothers, confess your sins and pray for each other, that you may be healed. Together we pray.

All: I confess to almighty God,
and to you here present
that I have greatly sinned,
In my thoughts and in my words,
in what I have done and in what I have failed to do,
through my fault, through my fault,
through my most grievous fault;
therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,
all the Angels and Saints
and you, my brothers and sisters,
to pray for me to the Lord our God.

Celebrant: The Lord is merciful.
He makes us clean of heart
and leads us out into his freedom
when we acknowledge our guilt.
Let us ask him to forgive us and bind
up the wounds inflicted by our sins.
Together, let us pray.

All: Amen.

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Invitation to Individual Confession and Absolution

An invitation is now extended to the community to approach one of the priests for confession and absolution. Explain that penitents only need to concentrate on two or three areas of difficulty in their lives. Music is played in the background during confessions.

(At the end of the individual confessions and absolutions, before the concluding prayer, encourage those gathered to continue leading good lives which will proclaim the grace of repentance in the life of the entire community and each of its members.)

Thanksgiving

Celebrant: As a sign of reconciliation and peace let us join together and pray the Prayer our Lord gave us.

All: **Our Father...**

Celebrant: Almighty God and Father, you have shown us your mercy and made us new through your love.

All: **We praise and thank you.**

Celebrant: May we always seek the truth that you have given us to use through your Son Jesus Christ.

Concluding Rite

Celebrant: Let us pray. May the Lord guide your hearts in the way of his love and fill you with Christ-like patience.

All: **Amen.**

Celebrant: May almighty God bless you, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

All: **Amen.**

Celebrant: The Lord has freed us from sin, so we may live fully the promise made to us through Jesus Christ. Go now to live in peace and the love of God.

All: **Amen.**

Concluding Song

Now Thank We All Our God. As One Voice 1 Number: 189.

or

In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful. Gather Australia Number: 429.