

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

27 NOVEMBER 2016

These readings are provided, first, so you can re-read and reflect on them during the week, and second, if you wish, to follow the readings during the service.

Isaiah 2.1-5

¹ The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

² In days to come

the mountain of the Lord 's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains,

and shall be raised above the hills;

all the nations shall stream to it.

³ 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 instruction,

and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

⁴ He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples;

they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks;

nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

⁵ O house of Jacob,

come, let us walk

in the light of the Lord !

Psalm 122

- ¹ I was glad when they said to me:
'Let us go to the house of the
Lord.'
- ² And now our feet are standing:
within your gates, O Jerusalem;
- ³ Jerusalem which is built as a city:
where the pilgrims gather in unity.
- ⁴ There the tribes go up, the tribes of
the Lord:
as he commanded Israel,
to give thanks to the name of the
Lord.
- ⁵ There are set thrones of
judgement:
the thrones of the house of David.
- ⁶ O pray for the peace of Jerusalem:
may those who love you prosper.
- ⁷ Peace be within your walls:
and prosperity in your palaces.
- ⁸ For the sake of my kindred and
companions:
I will pray that peace be with you.
- ⁹ For the sake of the house of the
Lord our God:
I will seek for your good.

Romans 13.9-14

- ⁹ The commandments, 'You shall not
commit adultery; You shall not
murder; You shall not steal; You shall
not covet'; and any other
commandment, are summed up in
this word, 'Love your neighbour as
yourself.'¹⁰ Love does no wrong to a
neighbour; therefore, love is the
fulfilling of the law.¹¹ Besides this,
you know what time it is, how it is
now the moment for you to wake
from sleep. For salvation is nearer to
us now than when we became

believers;¹² the night is far gone, the
day is near. Let us then lay aside the
works of darkness and put on the
armour of light;¹³ let us live
honourably as in the day, not in
revelling and drunkenness, not in
debauchery and licentiousness, not in
quarrelling and jealousy.¹⁴ Instead,
put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and
make no provision for the flesh, to
gratify its desires.

Matthew 24.36-44

³⁶ 'But about that day and hour no
one knows, neither the angels of
heaven, nor the Son, but only the
Father.'³⁷ For as the days of Noah
were, so will be the coming of the
Son of Man.³⁸ For as in those days
before the flood they were eating and
drinking, marrying and giving in
marriage, until the day Noah entered
the ark,³⁹ and they knew nothing
until the flood came and swept them
all away, so too will be the coming of
the Son of Man.⁴⁰ Then two will be
in the field; one will be taken and one
will be left.⁴¹ Two women will be
grinding meal together; one will be
taken and one will be left.⁴² Keep
awake therefore, for you do not know
on what day your Lord is
coming.⁴³ But understand this: if the
owner 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.⁴⁴ Therefore you also
must be ready, for the Son of Man is
coming at an unexpected hour.