

(This animated holy hour was prepared for pastoral use. We give credits to the different sources)

## **Waiting... Waiting... Waiting...** **Holy Hour for Advent Season**

### **Introduction:**

#### **Life Is an Advent Season** CONNECTIONS, 11-28-93

"Life is a constant Advent season: we are continually waiting to become, to discover, to complete, to fulfil. Hope, struggle, fear, expectation and fulfilment are all part of our Advent experience.

"The world is not as just, not as loving, not as whole as we know it can and should be. But the coming of Christ and his presence among us—as one of us—give us reason to live in hope: that light will shatter the darkness, that we can be liberated from our fears and prejudices, that we are never alone or abandoned.

"May this Advent season be a time for bringing hope, transformation and fulfilment into the Advent of our lives."

### **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament (*Kneel*)**

#### **Exposition Hymn:**

*O Sacrament Most Holy, O Sacrament Divine,  
All praise and all thanksgiving be every moment thine.  
Be every moment thine.*

Silence...

Leader: O Divine Jesus, we firmly believe in your presence here. In the Eucharist you made yourself the "medicine of immortality". You gave us the taste for a full life that will help us journey on, as trusting and joyful pilgrims on this earth, our eyes fixed on the goal of life without end.

All: We adore You, O Lord Jesus.

Leader: O Lord Jesus Christ, present in the Eucharist, light and life of the new millennium, our human heart, burdened with sin, often bewildered, weary and tried by suffering of all kinds, has need of light.

All: We adore You, O Lord Jesus.

Silence...

**Opening Prayer:** *(Stand)*

ALL: Bless us Lord as we come before Your Presence. Fill us with Your Holy Spirit so that we may truly experience You. Open our hearts and our minds that we may fully understand Your message and let the fire of Your love move us to live Your instructions.

Increase our strength of will, O God, for doing good that Christ may find an eager welcome at His coming and call us to His side.

**Opening Song: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel**

[Verse 1]

O come, O come, Emmanuel  
And ransom captive Israel  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appear

[Refrain]

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel

[Verse 2]

O come, O come, Thou Lord of might  
Who to Thy tribes, on Sinai's height  
In ancient times didst give the law  
In cloud, and majesty and awe [Refrain]

[Verse 3]

O come, Thou Rod of Jesse, free  
Thine own from Satan's tyranny  
From depths of hell Thy people save  
And give them victory o'er the grave [Refrain]

[Verse 4]

O come, Thou Dayspring, come and cheer  
Our spirits by Thine advent here  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night  
And death's dark shadows put to flight [Refrain]

[Verse 5]

O come, Thou Key of David, come  
And open wide our heavenly home  
Make safe the way that leads on high  
And close the path to misery [Refrain]

[Verse 6]

O come, Thou Wisdom from on high  
And order all things, far and nigh  
To us the path of knowledge show  
And cause us in her ways to go [Refrain]

[Verse 7]  
O come, desire of nations, bind  
In one the hearts of all mankind  
Bid Thou our sad divisions cease  
And be Thyself our King of peace [Refrain]

(Sit)

L: A day is coming when we shall face our Maker. St. Luke in his gospel teaches us to be on guard and to be faithful so that we may be ready when He comes.

**First Reading:** Luke 21: 25-28,34-36

Silence to reflect on the Scripture...

Points to ponder?

1. "Beware that your hearts do not become drowsy from the anxieties of daily life..."
2. "Be vigilant and pray that you have the strength to stand before the Son of Man..."

**Psalm Hymn: Awit Paghahangad**(*stand*)

O Diyos, Ikaw ang laging hanap  
Loob ko'y Ikaw ang tanging hangad  
Nauuhaw akong parang tigang na lupa  
Sa tubig ng 'Yong pag-aaruga

Ika'y pagmamasdan sa dakong banal  
Nang makita ko ang 'Yong pagkarangal  
Dadalangin akong nakataas aking kamay  
Magagalak na aawit ng papuring iaalay

**KORO:**

Gunita ko'y Ikaw habang nahihimlay  
Pagkat ang tulong Mo sa tuwina'y taglay  
Sa lilim ng Iyong mga pakpak  
Umaawit akong buong galak

Aking kaluluwa'y kumakapit sa 'Yo  
Kaligtasa'y tiyak kung hawak Mo ako  
Magdiriwang ang hari, ang Diyos, S'yang dahilan  
Ang sa Iyo ay nangako, galak yaong makamtan (**KORO**)

**CODA:**

Umaawit, umaawit  
Umaawit akong buong galak

**Second Reading:** Reflection from Pax Christi(*sit*)

Encouraged to read the signs of the times and to prepare for the coming of a Savior, we enter Advent in awe and more than a little anxious. Even a cursory glance at the state of our world reveals good reasons for concern: war, threats of war, and numerous, dreadful consequences of war; disinformation, enemy-making, and exclusion; an unthinkable gap worldwide between the 1% and the 99%, with millions of people living in absolute poverty; and increasingly visible signs of ecological catastrophe.

“But when these signs begin to happen, stand erect and raise your heads because your redemption is at hand” (Luke 21:28). Do we dare to believe this Promise—and what does it mean?

We who have heard the Story before listen with renewed hope and settle into the waiting-time when the “not yet” of New Creation begins again to quiver in anticipation.

**Hope defines our waiting.** Unbounded love, we *know*, will transform the ordinary and extraordinary struggles of daily life—for survival, for dignity, for beauty, for meaning, for integrity. God-with-us will restore the damaged relationships of our lives; bring the beloveds now excluded from the fullness of life to the banquet table; and carry to fruition all our work for peace on Earth.

In these times, new meaning permeates the possibilities. Slowly we are beginning to imagine that the groaning of all creation may in fact bear fruit—that the One we await is the Cosmic Christ, who will help us once and for all to decipher and respond with integrity to the “signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars . . . and the roaring of the sea and the waves.”

Silence to reflect the reading....

Points to Ponder: Take some time to reflect on the “signs of our times.” Where do you find hope in the day-by-day journey of life?

**Response Hymn: Christ be Our Light** (*stand*)

1. Longing for light, we wait in darkness. Longing for truth, we turn to you.  
Make us your own, your holy people, Light for the world to see.

Chorus:

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.  
Christ, be our light! Shine in your Church Gathered today.

2. Longing for peace, our world is troubled. Longing for hope, many despair.  
Your word alone has power to save us, Make us your living voice. (Chorus)

3. Longing for food, many are hungry. Longing for water, many still thirst.  
Make us your bread, broken for others, Shared until all are fed. (Chorus)

4. Longing for shelter people are homeless. Longing for warmth, many are cold.  
Make us your building, sheltering others, Walls made of living stone.(Chorus)

5. Many the gifts, many the people, Many the hearts that yearn to belong.  
Let us be servants to one another, Making your kingdom come. (Chorus)

Silence....(*sit*)

### **Prayers of the Faithful**

L: Lord, many times we foolishly tire ourselves with concerns that do not prepare our family for Your precious coming. Please keep us faithful and grant us the wisdom to know what are truly important. When we fail to live our lives according to Your will...

All: Lord, make us vigilant and prepare us for Your coming.

Reader: When we spend too much time on worldly concerns and routines and had been unwilling to take for matters of our faith;

All: Lord, make us vigilant and prepare us for Your coming.

R: When we are too busy for prayer. The Holy Mass and church service;

All: Lord, make us vigilant and prepare us for Your coming.

R: When we don't take efforts to read Your Word;

All: Lord, make us vigilant and prepare us for Your coming.

R: When we refuse to experience You in others;

All: Lord, make us vigilant and prepare us for Your coming.

R: When we fail to fully listen to the people You send our way;

All: Lord, make us vigilant and prepare us for Your coming.

R: When we fail to realize the blessings you've given us;

All: Lord, make us vigilant and prepare us for Your coming.

L: Forgive us Lord for being blind and deaf to Your call for not submitting to Your instructions. Plant the seed of yearning in us to seek Your kingdom so that we may be ready to face You when You come.

### **The Lord's Prayer (to be sung) (*stand*)**

**Closing Prayer:** All-powerful God, help us to look forward in hope to the coming of our Saviour. May we live as he has taught ready to welcome him with burning love and faith. We ask this through Christ our Lord Amen.

### **Closing Hymn: Tinapay ng Buhay**

#### **KORO:**

Ikaw, Hesus, ang tinapay ng buhay  
Binasbasan, hinati't inialay  
Buhay na ganap ang sa ami'y kaloob  
At pagsasalong walang hanggan

Basbasan ang buhay naming handog  
Nawa'y matulad sa pag-aalay Mo  
Buhay na laan nang lubos  
Sa mundong sa pag-ibig ay kapos **(KORO)**

Marapatin sa kapwa maging tinapay  
Kagalakan sa nalulumbay  
Katarungan sa naaapi  
At kanlungan ng bayan Mong sawi **(KORO)**

At pagsasalong walang hanggan