Proper for December 3, 2023, the First Sunday of Advent

Theme: “Enlarging our Borders in Hope”

Collect of the Day:

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which Your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when He shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through Him Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. ***Amen.***

Old Testament Proclamation: Isaiah 64: 1-9

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 80: 1-3; 17-19

New Testament Proclamation: 1 Corinthians 1: 1-9

Gospel Proclamation: Mark 13: 33-37

Gradual Verse:

Whatever was written in earlier times was written for our instruction, that through perseverance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.

Prayers of the People:

You may use Form 1, (ICCEC Lectionary) *or the following:*

Deacon: Dearly beloved brethren, the Lord always acts on behalf of the one who waits for Him. Let us beseech Him on behalf of those who are in need of restoration.

Minister: Faithful God, come to those who suffer because of war, poverty, flood, or famine;

*People: Come with deliverance, O Lord!*

Minister: Come to those who suffer because of oppression, greed, or unrighteousness;

*People: Come with recompense, O Lord!*

Minister: Come to those who suffer because of grief, error, or loss;

*People: Come with consolation, O Lord!*

Minister: Come to those who desire to return to You;

*People: Come with mercy, O Lord!*

Minister: Come to those who strive to obey Your Word and await Your promise;

*People:* *Come with fulfillment, O Lord!*

Minister: Come to those who suffer because of sickness, disease, or infirmity;

*People: Come with healing, O Lord!*

Deacon: Come to those who, in response to Your promise, pray our Corporate Petition;

*People:* *Come and fulfill that promise, O Lord!*

# The Concluding Collect:

Presider: Hasten, O Father, the fulfillment of Your Kingdom, and grant that we Your servants, who now live by faith, may with joy behold Your Son at His coming in glorious majesty; even Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate, in Whose Name we pray. ***Amen.***

# Proper Preface:

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give You thanks, Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Christ our Lord.

For He assumed at his first coming the lowliness of human flesh, and so fulfilled the design You formed long ago, and opened for us the way to eternal salvation, that, when He comes again in glory and majesty and all is at last made manifest, we who watch for that day may inherit the great promise in which now we dare to hope.

And so, with angels and archangels, with thrones and dominions, and with all the hosts and powers of heaven, we sing the hymn of Your glory, as without end we acclaim:

Benediction:

May He Whose second coming in power and great glory we await make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love; and the blessing of God Almighty: ✠ the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, be with you now and forever. ***Amen.***