

The Following Collect, Epistle & Gospel will be read during the Eucharist today in the personal Chapel of the Presiding Archbishop of the Australian Church of Antioch, The Most Reverend Frank Bugge.

The 4th Sunday in Advent

Intent - Opening of Hearts

The Collect.

Enter our hearts O lord, and open them to the needs of all humanity and especially the higher forces abounding at this time; allow us the art of helping to unfreeze the hearts of those who need it, and guide them to you through the Holy Name of Christ our Lord. Amen.

O Universal Creator, grant to us the wisdom to recognise the Avatar you send to us, and with this recognition we may cease our searching for the pathway to you; knowing our feet are pointing in your direction and guided by your love, this we ask in the name of your Christed Messenger. Amen.

The Epistle for the 4th Sunday in Advent is from the Sutras of Patanjali.

Ordinarily a person is lost in their own confused state of thought and feeling, but when the heart is fully opened, the personal consciousness becomes stilled like a lamp in a windless place, and then it is possible for the embodied spirit to know itself as apart from the manifestations to which it is accustomed, and to become aware of its own nature. The opening of heart brings about good deeds, but these good deeds are not the direct cause of change, but prepare the way for it by removing obstacles, just as evil deeds obstruct change by creating obstacles. When opening of heart is achieved in the face of distraction a point is reached where all the physical processes are transcended.

Here Endeth The Epistle.

The Gospel for the 4th Sunday in Advent is from the writings of Bishop Leadbeater.

The highest thought that we can have is that of the Supreme Lord of all, but of course we must not suppose that our thought changes in the least the attitude of the Supreme towards us. We ought to be far beyond that stage at which humanity thinks it can produce change in the Supreme; a thought which belongs to the ignorant and unphilosophical. We ourselves however are certainly affected by opening ourselves to God. If you open a window of your room to the sun, the condition of your room is changed by the power of the sun, but the sun is in no way changed by your opening of the window. Open the windows of your soul to God.

Praise Be to Thee O Christ.