



**Welcome to St Margaret's Church Ifield**  
*Loved as you are*



**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2021**  
**Advent 3**

*All are welcome to St Margaret's and we encourage all to take part fully in this service. If you have **mobility issues** that make it difficult for you to come and receive communion, should you want to, then do please notify our sides-people, and we will come to you.*

***Due to the Coronavirus please make your responses in a quiet voice in order to minimise the risk of infection***

### **THE GATHERING**

**As we gather together:**

Voluntary

*John Bull 1563-1628*

*We stand at the entrance of the clergy*

Preludium

*Gustav Merkel 1827-1885*

Opening Hymn

**On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry  
Announces that the Lord is nigh.  
Come then and hearken for he brings  
Glad tidings from the King of kings.**

**Then cleansed be every Christian breast,  
And furnished for so great a guest!  
Yes, let us each our hearts prepare  
For Christ to come and enter there.**

*'Accept one another, for the glory of God, as Christ has accepted you.'* (Romans 15:7)

**For thou art our salvation, Lord,  
Our refuge and our great reward,  
Without thy grace our souls must fade,  
And wither like a flower decayed.**

**Stretch forth thy hand to heal our sore,  
And make us rise to fall no more,  
Once more upon thy people shine,  
And fill this world with love divine.**

**All praise, eternal Son, to thee  
Whose advent sets thy people free,  
Whom with the Father, we adore,  
And Holy Ghost, for evermore.**

*Charles Coffin 1676-1749*

## **THE GREETING**

**Celebrant** In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**All** **Amen.**

**Celebrant** Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**All** **And also with you.**

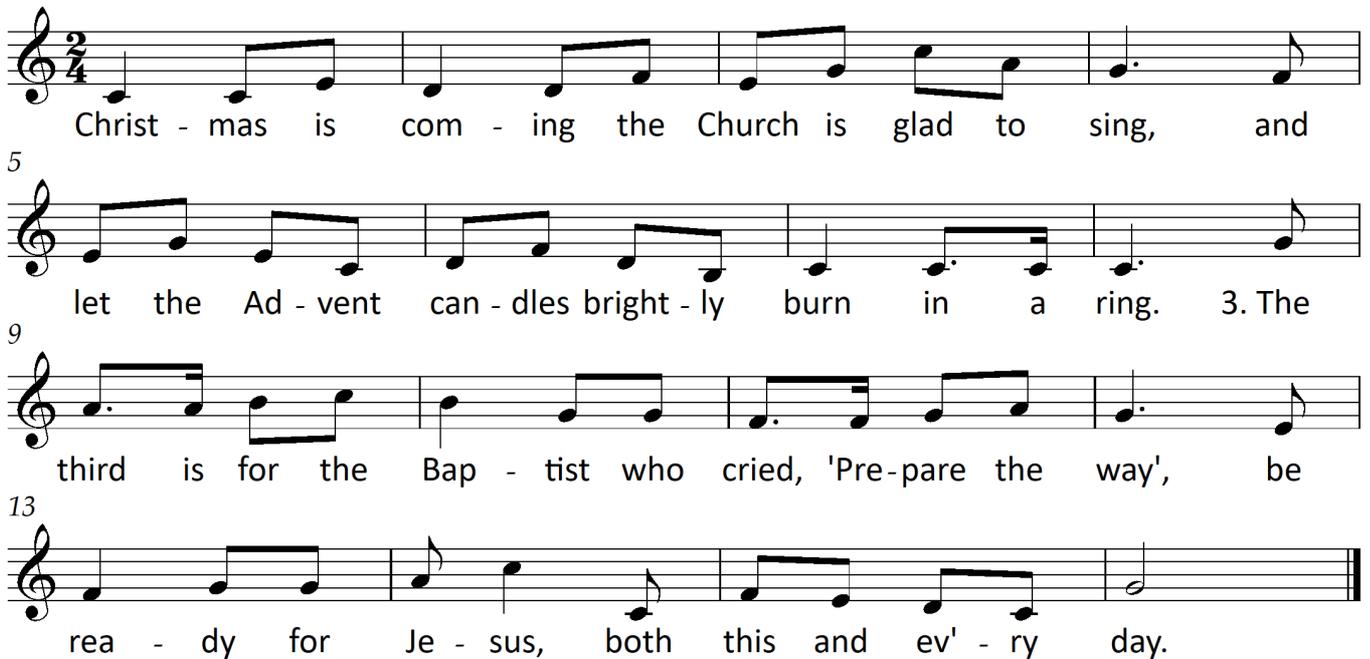
## **WORDS OF WELCOME**

*'Accept one another, for the glory of God, as Christ has accepted you.'* (Romans 15:7)

## THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CROWN

**An introduction will be given.**

*The Advent Crown is a symbol of the light of Christ coming into the world and into the darkness of our lives. As the Advent Crown is lit, we sing*



Christ - mas is com - ing the Church is glad to sing, and  
5  
let the Ad - vent can - dles bright - ly burn in a ring. 3. The  
9  
third is for the Bap - tist who cried, 'Pre - pare the way', be  
13  
rea - dy for Je - sus, both this and ev' - ry day.

**All** Lord Jesus, Light of the World; John told the people to prepare, for you were very near. As Christmas draws closer day by day, help us to be ready to welcome you now. Amen.

## THE PRAYER OF PREPARATION

**All** Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden, cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*'Accept one another, for the glory of God, as Christ has accepted you.'* (Romans 15:7)

## PRAYERS OF PENITENCE

Celebrant When the Lord comes, he will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness, and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Therefore, in the light of Christ let us confess our sins.

**All** Lord God, we have sinned against you; we have done evil in your sight. We are sorry and repent. Have mercy on us according to your love. Wash away our wrongdoing and cleanse us from our sin. Renew a right spirit within us and restore to us the joy of your salvation, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Celebrant Almighty God, who in Jesus Christ has given you a kingdom that cannot be destroyed, forgive you your sins, open your eyes to God's truth, strengthen you to do God's will and give you the joy of his kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All** Amen.

## THE KYRIE

*Repeat each invocation after the Cantor*

5  
10

## THE COLLECT

Celebrant Let us pray. O Lord Jesus Christ, who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare your way before you: grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight; for you are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

*Please sit for the readings.*

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

### **First Reading**

*Zephaniah 3:14-end*

Reader This is the word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

### **Second Reading**

*Philippians 4:4-7*

Reader This is the word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God**

*Please stand for the Gospel:*

***The Gospel Reading***

*Luke 3:7-18*

The Lord be with you.

**All And also with you.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

**All Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At the end:*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**All Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please remain standing until the preacher has introduced the Sermon:*

**THE SERMON**

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Let us declare our faith in God.

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man.**

*'Accept one another, for the glory of God, as Christ has accepted you.'* (Romans 15:7)

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with  
the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come.**

**Amen.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

*Prayers for the Church, the world, and for all human need. After each petition the following response is used:*

**All**            Lord, in your mercy  
                  **Hear our prayer**

*and at the end of the prayers:*

**All**            Merciful Father,  
                  **accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,  
                  our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

### The Peace

Celebrant In the tender mercy of our God, the dayspring from on high shall break upon us, to give light to those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you

**All** **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace by looking at those around you and greeting them with a warm smile.

*As the Body of Christ receives its life from God, and offers its life to God, so we, as members of that Body, greet each other in love.*

### The Preparation of the Table

### The Taking of the Bread and Wine

#### During the Preparation of the Table

**Hark! a herald voice is Calling:  
'Christ is nigh!' it seems to say,  
'Cast away the dreams of darkness,  
O ye children of the day'**

**Startled at the solemn warning,  
Let the earth-bound soul arise;  
Christ, her Sun, all sloth dispelling,  
Shines upon the morning skies.**

*'Accept one another, for the glory of God, as Christ has accepted you.'* (Romans 15:7)

**Lo! The Lamb so long expected,  
Comes with pardon down from heaven;  
Let us haste with tears of sorrow,  
One and all to be forgiven.**

**So, when next he comes with glory,  
Wrapping all the earth in fear,  
May he then as our Defender  
On the clouds of heaven appear.**

**Honour, glory, virtue, merit,  
To the Father and the Son,  
With the co-eternal Spirit,  
While unending ages run.**

*6<sup>th</sup> Century, Tr. Edward Caswall 1814-1878*

Celebrant Heavenly Father accept these prayers, left this past week, on the fishing net. We pray that you will meet these people at their point of need.

**All Amen.**

Celebrant Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendour, and the majesty; for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.

**All All things come from you, and of your own do we give you.**

## **THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

*We sit or stand*

Celebrant The Lord be with you

**All and also with you.**

*'Accept one another, for the glory of God, as Christ has accepted you.'* (Romans 15:7)

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.  
**All We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**All It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Celebrant It is indeed right and good to give you thanks and praise, almighty God and everlasting Father, through Jesus Christ your Son. He is the one foretold by all the prophets, whom the Virgin Mother bore with love beyond all telling. John the Baptist was his herald and made him known when at last he came. In his love Christ fills us with joy as we prepare to celebrate his birth, so that when he comes again he may find us watching in prayer, our hearts filled with wonder and praise. And so, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your glory, and join in their unending hymn of praise:

**All**

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of pow'r and might.  
5  
Hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry, ho - san - na  
8  
in the high - est. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of  
13  
pow'r and might. Bles - sed is he who comes in the  
17  
name of the Lord. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of pow'r and might.

*'Accept one another, for the glory of God, as Christ has accepted you.'* (Romans 15:7)

Celebrant We praise and bless you, loving Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit, that broken bread and wine outpoured may be for us the Body and Blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends and, taking bread, he praised you. He broke the bread, gave it to them and said: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine. Again, he praised you, gave it to them and said: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did, in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross. Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation, we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

Praise to you Lord Jesus:

**All**

5

Dy - ing you des - troyed our death, ri - sing you re - stored our life, Lord  
Je - sus come in glo - ry, Lord Je - sus come in glo - ry.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and common time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. A small number '5' is written below the first staff. The lyrics are: 'Dy - ing you des - troyed our death, ri - sing you re - stored our life, Lord Je - sus come in glo - ry, Lord Je - sus come in glo - ry.'

*'Accept one another, for the glory of God, as Christ has accepted you.'* (Romans 15:7)

Lord of all life, help us to work together for that day when your kingdom comes, and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth. Look with favour on your people, gather us in your loving arms and bring us with St Margaret and all the saints to feast at your table in heaven. Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father, for ever and ever.



### THE LORD'S PRAYER

**All**            **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.  
Your kingdom come.  
Your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.**

### ***The Breaking of the Bread***

*The Priest breaks the consecrated bread*

**All**            **We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.  
Though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.**

*'Accept one another, for the glory of God, as Christ has accepted you.'* (Romans 15:7)

## ***The Giving of Communion***

**Celebrant** Draw near with faith. Receive the Body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, and his Blood which he shed for you. Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

**All** We do not presume to come to this your table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord whose nature is always to have mercy.

Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ and to drink his Blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his Body and our souls washed through his most precious Blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him and he in us. Amen.

**All**

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world, have mer-cy on us.

4  
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world, grant us peace.

*Please follow the directions of the sidespeople who will guide you to receive your Communion.*

*The sacrament will be administered to the congregation in both kinds but by intinction. As the priest offers you the host with the words **'The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ'** please respond: **Amen.***

### **During the distribution of Communion**

Creator alme Siderum No 1 from Sixteen Chorales

*Mighty Creator of the Skies for Sundays in Advent*

*Marcel Dupré 1886-1971*

### **Reflection**

**Wait for the Lord, his day is near.**

**Wait for the Lord: keep watch, take heart.**

*Jacques Berthier 1923-1994*

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Celebrant We give you thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts; kindle in us the fire of your Spirit that when your Christ comes again we may shine as lights before his face; who is alive and reigns now and for ever. **Amen.**

**All** **Father of all, we give you thanks and praise, that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory. May we who share Christ's Body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*'Accept one another, for the glory of God, as Christ has accepted you.'* (Romans 15:7)

## NOTICES

### THE BLESSING

Celebrant May God the Father, judge all-merciful,  
make us worthy of a place in his kingdom. **Amen.**

May God the Son, coming among us in power,  
reveal in our midst the promise of his glory. **Amen.**

May God the Holy Spirit make us steadfast in faith,  
joyful in hope and constant in love. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son,  
and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you  
always. **Amen.**

### Final Hymn

**Hail to the Lord's anointed! Great David's greater son!  
Hail in the time appointed, his reign on earth begun!  
He comes to break oppression, to set the captive free,  
To take away transgression, and rule in equity.**

**He shall come down like showers upon the fruitful earth,  
And love, joy, hope, like flowers, spring in his path to birth.  
Before him on the mountain shall peace the herald go,  
And righteousness in fountains from hill to valley flow.**

**Kings shall fall down before him, and gold and incense bring,  
All nations shall adore him, his praise all people sing.  
To him shall prayer unceasing and daily vows ascend,  
His Kingdom still increasing a Kingdom without end.**

*'Accept one another, for the glory of God, as Christ has accepted you.'* (Romans 15:7)

**O'er every foe victorious, he on his throne shall rest,  
From age to age more glorious, all-blessing and all-blest,  
The tide of time shall never this covenant remove,  
His name shall stand for ever; that name to us is love.**

*James Montgomery 1771-1854*

## **THE DISMISSAL**

Celebrant Our Lord says, 'I am coming soon.'

**All Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Celebrant May the Lord, when he comes, find us watching and waiting.

**All Amen.**

*The Clergy will recess to the postlude:*

Chorale Prelude: Gottes Sohn ist Kommen

*God's Son is Coming*

*Johann Gottfried Walther 1684-1748*

*Johann Gottfried Walther was most well known as the compiler of the Musicalisches Lexicon (Leipzig, 1732), an enormous dictionary of music composition is 'a mathematical science through which an agreeable and correct harmony of the notes is brought to paper in order that it might later be sung or played, thereby appropriately moving the listeners to Godly devotion as well as to please and delight both mind and soul...' he was cousin to Johann Sebastian Bach. As an organ composer, Walther wrote many transcriptions and as a city organist of Weimar wrote exactly 132 organ preludes based on Lutheran chorale melodies. This Chorale Prelude is most apposite for this Advent as we wait for the coming of our Saviour.*

## ***Thank you for joining in our worship today.***

*A collection plate has been placed by the west door where you can leave your offering to support the work of St. Margaret's Church. You can also make a donation:*

- *via the home page of our website [www.ifieldparish.org](http://www.ifieldparish.org) using the yellow 'DONATE NOW' button.*
- *by sending a cheque made payable to 'Ifield Parochial Church Council' to: Ifield Church Parish Office, 1 Lychgate, Ifield Street, Ifield, Crawley RH11 0NN.*
- *or by bank transfer to:  
Ifield Parochial Church Council.  
Sort Code: 40-52-40 Account Number: 00022470*

Thank You

Registered Charity Account no. 1132318

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### **Notices**

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**Service next Sunday:  
Advent 4**

**All Age Worship Service (9.30 am)  
Sung Eucharist Service (11.00 am)  
and on Facebook and the parish website [www.ifieldparish.org](http://www.ifieldparish.org)  
Nine Lessons and Carols (6.00pm)**

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