



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



**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2023**  
**Advent 2**

*Everyone is welcome to St Margaret's. In this service of the Eucharist we remember with thanksgiving the life, death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ and his self-giving for the sins of the whole world. As the bread and wine are offered, symbols of that self-giving, so we offer ourselves to God and receive at communion the life of Christ. So nourished, we are enabled to go out into the world to live in the service of God.*

*As we gather before the service, we speak to God. During the service, we let God speak to us. After the service, we speak to each other.*

**THE GATHERING**

**As we gather together**

'Lucis Creator Optime' Supreme Creator of the Light, *Marcel Dupré 1886-1971*

**Processional Hymn**

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

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

**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 the 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. Amen.**

*Words: Charles Coffin 1676-1749 tr John Chandler 1806-1876*

*Music: from 'Musikalisches Handbuch' 1690*

## **THE GREETING**

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

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

## **WORDS OF WELCOME**

### **THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CROWN**

*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,*

Jesus said, 'Do not think that I have come to abolish the law and the  
prophets: I have not come to abolish them but to fulfil them.  
**Amen. Come soon, Lord Jesus!**

*The second candle is lit and this response is used*

Jesus is the light of the world.  
**A light no darkness can ever put out.**

*We sing:*

**Advent candles tell their story  
as we watch and pray,  
longing for the Day of Glory,  
'Come, Lord, soon,' we say.  
Pain and sorrow, tears and sadness changed for gladness  
on that Day.**

**Prophet voices loudly crying, making pathways clear,  
Glimpsing glory, self-denying calling all to hear.  
Through their message challenged, shaken, hearts awaken:  
God is near!**

*Words: Mark Earey b. 1965 Music: Edwin George Monk 1819-1900*

## **THE PRAYER OF PREPARATION**

*The prayer is introduced ending with,*

Therefore, in the light of Christ let us confess our sins.

**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.**

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.

**Amen.**

## THE KYRIE

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Chri - ste e - le - i -

6  
son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i -

9  
son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

## THE COLLECT

*The priest introduces a period of silent prayer with the words, 'Let us pray.'  
The Collect is said, and all respond, Amen.*

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

*Please sit*

### First Reading

*Isaiah 40.1-11*

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### Second Reading

*2 Peter 3.8-15a*

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand*

### Gospel Procession

Chorale: 'Righteousness and peace shall go before the Lord' Ps85

*Stephen C Horsman b.1961*

### The Gospel Reading

*Mark 1.1-8*

Alleluia, alleluia

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths  
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God

**Alleluia**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

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

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At the end:*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

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

## **THE SERMON**

*We stand*

### **THE 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 from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
and was made man.**

**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:*



The musical notation is written on a single staff in 4/4 time. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody consists of the following notes: a quarter note G4 (labeled 'Ma'), a quarter note A4 (labeled '-'), a half note B4 (labeled 'ra'), a half note C5 (labeled '-'), a quarter note D5 (labeled 'na'), a quarter note E5 (labeled '-'), a quarter note F#5 (labeled 'tha!'). There is a fermata over the notes B4 and C5. The second part of the melody starts with a quarter note G4 (labeled 'Come,'), a quarter note A4 (labeled 'Lord,'), and a quarter note B4 (labeled 'come.').

*and at the end of the prayers:*

Merciful Father,

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

## THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

### The Peace

*We stand*

*The priest introduces the sign of Peace.*

The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**And also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*All may exchange a sign of peace.*

## **The Presentation of the Gifts**

*During the Offertory hymn the bread and wine and the collection are brought to the altar and the altar is prepared*

**During the Preparation of the Table**

**Come, thou long-expected Jesus,  
Born to set thy people free,  
From our fears and sins release us,  
Let us find our rest in thee.**

**Israel's strength and consolation,  
Hope of all the earth thou art.  
Dear desire of every nation,  
Joy of every longing heart.**

**Born thy people to deliver,  
Born a child and yet a king,  
Born to reign in us for ever,  
Now thy gracious kingdom bring.**

**By thine own eternal Spirit,  
Rule in all our hearts alone;  
By thine all-sufficient merit,  
Raise us to thy glorious throne.**

*Words: Charles Wesley 1707-1788 Music: John Stainer 1840-1901*

*At the end of the Blessing of the Gifts we respond*

**Blessed be God forever**

*We sit or stand*

## **THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

The Lord be with you  
**And also with you**

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

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

*The priest praises God for his mighty acts and at the end we sing*

*All*




Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord, God of pow-er and might.

5

*Cantor:* Heaven and earth are full of your glory, hosanna in the highest. *R*  
*Cantor:* Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. *R*

*The priest continues with the prayer which recalls the Last Supper, after the elevation the priest says, 'Great is the mystery of Faith'*




When we eat this bread and drink this cup, we pro -

6

claim your death, Lord Je - sus, un - til you come in glo - ry.

*The prayer continues and concludes with the doxology where we respond,*



A - men. A - - - men.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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*

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.**

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world. Have  
 6 mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -  
 10 way the sins of the world. Grant us peace.

***The Giving of Communion***

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
 But only say the word and I shall be healed.**

He whom the universe could not contain is present to us in this bread. He who redeemed us and called us by name now meets us in this cup. So take this bread and this wine. In them God comes to us so that we may come to God.

*Please sit and wait to be directed for Communion.*

## **During the distribution of Communion**

Élévation No XVIII from Messe Pour Les Convents *Francois Couperin 1668-1733*

### **Reflection**

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

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

*Words: Taizé Community based on Scripture, Music: Jacques Berthier 1923-1994*

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

*The Priest prays the post-communion prayer followed by*

**Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.**

## **NOTICES**

### **THE BLESSING**

*The priest gives the blessing*

**Amen.**

### **THE DISMISSAL**

We go into the world to walk in God's light,  
to rejoice in God's love,  
and to reflect God's glory.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

### **Final Hymn**

**O come, O come Emmanuel  
And ransom captive Israel,**

**That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appear.**

***Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.***

**O come, thou rod of Jesse  
Free thine own from Satan's tyranny,  
From depths of hell thy people save,  
And give them victory over the grave.**

***Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.***

**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.**

***Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.***

**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.**

***Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.***

**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.**

***Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.***

*Words: From the 'Great O Antiphons' 12th-13th Century tr. John Mason Neale 1818-1866*

*Music: 15th Century French arr: Richard Proulx 1937-2010*

## **Postlude**

**Creator alme Siderum No 1 from Sixteen Chorales for Sundays in Advent  
Mighty Creator of the Skies**

*Marcel Dupré 1886-1971*

*The Postlude comes from a collection of sixteen chorales entitled: Le Tombeau de Titelouze. Titelouze was an organist at the Cathedral St John in Rouen, and the Chorales are based on his hymns. This chorale is for use on Sundays in Advent: 'Creator Alme Siderum, Aeterna lux credentium, Jesu, Redemptor omnium, intende votis supplicum.' Translates: Mighty Creator of the stars, eternal Light of believers, Jesus, Redeemer of mankind, hearken to our beseeching prayers.*



Thank you to those who attended or took part as readers, in the choir or in providing the music in the Advent Carol service last week. It was a lovely time of reflection and peace to get us started on the Advent journey of expectant waiting for Christmas. *Christine*



A big thank you too to Karl and Sarah for organising the outside Christmas tree – Karl worked an extra shift at Furze Firs (<https://www.furzefirs.co.uk/contact>) and they kindly let him choose the tree we have outside. A big thank you goes to Trevor for transporting the tree on his new car roof bars and Bridgeham who bought us the met post to ensure that the tree stays upright. *Christine*



You may have noticed the memory tree in the Lady Chapel. Whilst Christmas is a time of joy for many, for some it can be a difficult time. The stars are there for you to write a name on to remember someone missed at this time of year. When the tree branches are full the stars will be removed and moved to form a garland around the pillars so that they form part of our decorations here. Further details about the Memory tree and the stars can be found on the bench Infront of the tree. *Christine*

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## Notices

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**Service next Sunday:**  
*Advent 3*

**Parish Communion (9.30 am)**  
**All Age Eucharist (11.00 am)**  
**and on Facebook and the parish website [www.ifieldparish.org](http://www.ifieldparish.org)**

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