



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



Sunday 11th December 2022
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.*

THE GATHERING

As we gather together

Voluntary *John Bull 1563-1628*

We stand and sing at the entrance of the clergy

Processional Hymn

**The Voice of God goes out to all the world,
His glory speaks across the universe.
The Great King's herald cries from star to star
*With power, with justice, he will walk his way.***

**Give glory to the mystery revealed,
The voice of God, his image and his Word.
His word of peace, the image of his grace,
*With power, with justice, he will walk his way.***

**The Lord has said: Receive my messenger,
My promise to the world, my pledge made flesh,
A lamp to every nation, light form light,
*With power, with justice, he will walk his way.***

**The broken reed he will not trample down,
Nor set his heel upon the dying flame.
He binds the wounds, and health is in his hand,
*With power, with justice, he will walk his way.***

**Anointed with the Spirit and with power,
He comes to crown with comfort all the weak,
To show the face of justice to the poor,
*With power, with justice, he will walk his way.***

**His touch will bless the eyes that darkness held,
The lame shall run, the halting tongue shall sing,
And prisoners laugh in light and liberty,
*With power, with justice, he will walk his way.***

Words: Luke Connaughton 1919-1979 Music: Walter Greatorex 1877-1949

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, we sing*

Jesus said, 'No one more important than John the
Baptist has ever been born; yet the least in the

kingdom of heaven is greater than he.'
Amen. Come soon, Lord Jesus!

The third 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.**

**John the Baptist, by his preaching and by water poured,
brought to those who heard his teaching news of hope restored:
'Keep your vision strong and steady,
And be ready for the Lord.'**

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

THE PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Let us hear our Lord's blessing on those who follow him.
Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn,
for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek,
for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst after
righteousness,
for they shall be satisfied.

Blessed are the merciful,
for they shall obtain mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart,
for they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they shall be called children of God.

Blessed are those who suffer persecution for
righteousness' sake,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

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.

**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 - son Kyr - i - e e - le - i - son.

THE COLLECT

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.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Please sit for the readings

First Reading

Isaiah 35:1-10

Reader This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

James 5:7-10

Reader This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God

Please stand for the Gospel

The Gospel Reading

Matthew 11:2-11

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

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

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.

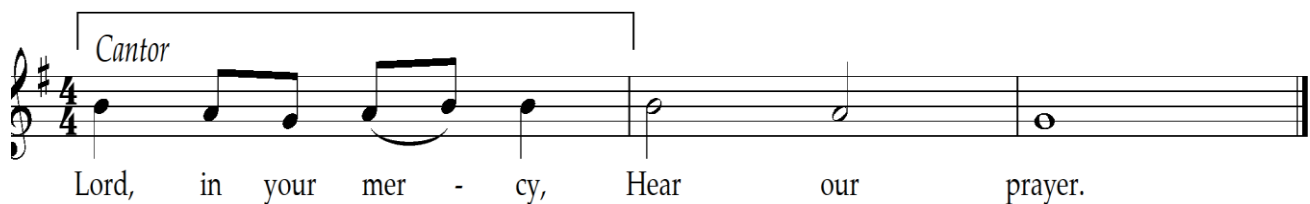
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

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 for a response in 4/4 time, G major. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is: G4 (quarter), A4-B4 (eighths), C5 (quarter), B4-A4 (eighths), G4 (quarter), F#4 (half), E4 (half), D4 (half), C4 (half). The lyrics are: Lord, in your mer - cy, Hear our prayer. A bracket labeled 'Cantor' spans the first four notes.

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

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
And also with you.

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

**Lord, for the years your love has kept and guided,
Urged and inspired us, cheered us on our way,
Sought us and saved us, pardoned and provided:
Lord of the years, we bring our thanks today.**

**Lord, for that word, the word of life that fires us,
Speaks to our hearts and sets our souls ablaze,
Teaches and trains, rebukes us and inspires us:
Lord of the word, receive your people's praise.**

**Lord, for our land in this our generation,
Spirits oppressed by pleasure, wealth and care,
For young and old, for commonwealth and nation,
Lord of our land, be pleased to hear our prayer.**

**Lord, for the world, when we disown and doubt him,
Loveless in strength, and comfortless in pain,
Hungry and helpless, lost indeed without him,
Lord of the world, we pray that Christ may reign.**

**Lord, for ourselves, in living power remake us,
Self on the cross and Christ upon the throne,
Past put behind us, for the future take us,
Lord of our lives, to live for Christ alone.**

*Words: Timothy Dudley-Smith b. 1926 Music: Michael Baughen b. 1930 arr: David Iliff
b. 1939*

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.

Amen.

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

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

We sit or stand

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord is here
His Spirit is with us.

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.

It is indeed right and good to give you thanks and praise, almighty God and everlasting Father, through Jesus Christ your Son.

For when he humbled himself to come among us in human flesh, he fulfilled the plan you formed before the foundation of the world to open for us the way of salvation.

Confident that your promise will be fulfilled, we now watch for the day when Christ our Lord will come again in glory. And so we join our voices with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven to proclaim your glory, forever praising you and singing:



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

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:

When we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus until you come in glory.

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

**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.

Musical notation for the hymn, consisting of three staves of music in G major (one sharp). The lyrics are: Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world. Have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world. Grant us peace.

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The Giving of Communion

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.

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.

Please be seated and wait to be directed for Communion.

The sacrament will be administered to the congregation in both kinds.

*As the priest offers you the host with the words **'The Body of our Lord Jesus Christ'** please respond: **Amen**. As you are offered the chalice, please remember you won't be permitted to handle the sides of the chalice only the base. When you are offered the chalice to take a sip with the words **The Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ**, please respond **Amen**. You will not be permitted to 'dip' the host into the chalice and must consume the host before receiving wine from the chalice. There is no need now to return to your seat with the host in your hands.*

During the distribution of Communion

Chorale Prelude 'Nun Komm, der Heiden Heiland' BWV 659

Now Come Saviour of the Gentiles

Johann Sebastian Bach 1685-1750

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

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 **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

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.

THE DISMISSAL

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

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
All In the name of Christ. Amen.

Recessional 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 the 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, the 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

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.

You can now make *contactless donations* to St Margaret's using the GoodBox, and GoodPlate by the North or West Door.

Online donations can be made at www.ifieldparish.org



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Notices

Service next Sunday:
Advent 4

Family Service (9.30 am)
Sung Eucharist Service (11.00 am)
and on Facebook and the parish website www.ifieldparish.org
