



THE SUNDAY SHEET
ADVENT 4
19TH DECEMBER 2021

*A very warm welcome as we gather for the Parish Eucharist.
An induction loop is provided. To use, please turn your hearing aid to T.*

Gluten free wafers are available for those who need them. Please inform one of the stewards/sidespersons who will pass the information on to the clergy. Many thanks

ENTRANCE HYMN

Long ago, prophets knew
Christ would come, born a Jew,
come to make all things new;
bear his people's burden,
freely love and pardon.

*Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring!
sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!
When he comes, when he comes,
who will make him welcome?*

Mary, hail! Though afraid,
she believed, she obeyed.
In her womb, God is laid:
till the time expected,
nurtured and protected,

Journey ends! Where afar
Bethlem shines, like a star,
stable door stands ajar.
Unborn Son of Mary,
Saviour, do not tarry!

Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring!
sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!
Jesus comes, Jesus comes,
we will make him welcome!

Fred Pratt Green 1903-2000
Tune: Personent Hodie

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATHE

Jesus Christ is the Light of the world:
a light no darkness can quench.

God our Father,
the angel Gabriel told the Virgin Mary
that she was to be the mother of your Son.
Though Mary was afraid,
she responded to your call with joy.
Help us, whom you call to serve you,
to share like her in your great work
of bringing to our world your love and healing.
We ask this through Jesus Christ,
the light who is coming into the world. **Amen.**

THE COLLECT

God our redeemer,
who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary
to be the mother of your Son:
grant that, as she looked for his coming as our Saviour,
so we may be ready to greet him
when he comes again as our judge;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

MICAH 5. 2-5A

A reading from the book of the prophet Micah.

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,
who are one of the little clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to rule in Israel,
whose origin is from of old,
from ancient days.

Therefore he shall give them up until the time
when she who is in labour has brought forth;
then the rest of his kindred shall return
to the people of Israel.

And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord,
in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God.
And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great
to the ends of the earth;
and he shall be the one of peace.

For the word of the Lord:

Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL

Please Stand

The Angel Gabriel from heaven came,
his wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame;
'All hail,' said he, 'thou lowly maiden Mary,
most highly favoured lady.' Gloria!

'For known a blessed Mother thou shalt be,
all generations laud and honour thee,
thy Son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold:
most highly favoured lady.' Gloria!

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head,
'To me be as it pleaseth God,' she said,
'My soul shall laud and magnify his holy name':
most highly favoured lady. Gloria!

LUKE I. 39-45

Listen to the Gospel of Christ according to Saint Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leapt for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

OFFERTORY HYMN

A winter rose shall flower
On Jesse's ancient thorn,
The Word of God unfolding,
In human likeness born.
The world will see a marvel
It cannot understand:
When God made man approaches,
Salvation in his hand.

O Christ, so long awaited,
Your age-old promise keep;
Awake to life your people
Who lie in sin asleep.
Come forth from God, your Father,
Take Adam's guilt away,
And with your Holy Spirit
Come, Lord, do not delay.

Words: Stanbrook Abbey

Tune: Penlan

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Come, O come, Emmanuel,
you are the way, the truth and the life;
you are the true vine and living bread.
Come, Christ our Saviour,
come to the world which waits for you;
who are alive and reign, now and for ever. **Amen.**

HYMN AT THE END OF COMMUNION

Lord Jesus Christ,
you have come to us,
you are one with us,
Mary's Son;
cleansing our souls from all their sin,
pouring your love and goodness in;
Jesus, our love for you we sing,
living Lord.

Lord Jesus Christ,
now and every day,
teach us how to pray,
Son of God.
You have commanded us to do
this in remembrance, Lord, of you:
into our lives your power breaks through,
living Lord.

Patrick Appleford b.1925
Tune: Living Lord

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Heavenly Father,
who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary
to be the mother of the promised Saviour:
fill us your servants with your grace,
that in all things we may embrace your holy will
and with her rejoice in your salvation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

FINAL HYMN

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!
Unnumbered blessings, give my spirit voice;
tender to me the promise of his word;
in God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his name!
Make know his might, the deeds his arm has done;
his mercy sure, from age to age the same;
his holy name, the Lord, the might one.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might!
Powers and dominions lay their glory by.
Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,
the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.

Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word!
Firm is his promise, and his mercy sure.
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord
to children's children and for evermore!

Timothy Dudley-Smith b.1926 based in Luke 1. 46-55

Tune: Woodlands

TODAY'S READINGS

MICAH 5. 2-5A

The ancient words of the prophet Micah echo down the centuries and speak of a strange birth, and a ruler of the humblest origins, who will bring security and peace in the name of the Great God.

HEBREWS 10. 5-10

The writer to the Hebrews explains the destiny of the baby whose birth we prepare to celebrate: to open the way to God for all of us, for all time.

LUKE 1. 39-45

Mary has received her angelic visit and the astounding news of her pregnancy. She sets off to visit her cousin Elizabeth, also an important part of the story and mother-to-be of a miraculous child.

NOTICES

Christmas Carols. There will be a Celebration of Christmas tonight at 6.30pm here at the Parish Church with Cantamus. Come along and join in the singing of favourite Christmas Carols.

Refreshments. Please join us for refreshments after the service this morning if you can. Donations towards the cost are welcome but not compulsory, so do stay even if you haven't got money with you!

Covid 19 Please use the hand sanitiser, complete the Track & Trace form, and please continue wear a face covering when coming to church. Some changes

are being made as restrictions ease but please take care to keep one another safe.

Service Booklets. Please do take this reading sheet away with you after the service but please leave the service booklet on your seat. The booklets are quarantined until the following Sunday. Thank you!

Prayers. Please continue to pray for the current situation with Covid 19 and for all those who suffer especially the anxious. Please pray too for the recovery and reconstruction of the Church both now and when this crisis is over. Pray for the renewal and growth of the Church in this place.

Collection. We do not go around with collection plates at the Offertory but there are plates as the back for your donations. If you are a regular worshipper here please consider giving by Gift Direct, a simple and easy way to give to the work of the Church. Details can be found on the Church in Wales website: www.churchinwales.org.uk Thank you!

THE WEEK AHEAD

20th Monday – O Key of David!

9am Morning Prayer

9.30am Holy Eucharist *at the Cathedral*

5pm Evening Prayer

21st Tuesday – O Dayspring!

9am Morning Prayer

6pm Evening Prayer

7pm Holy Eucharist *at the Cathedral*

22nd Wednesday – O King of the Nations!

9am Morning Prayer
10.30am Holy Eucharist *at the Cathedral*
5pm Evening Prayer

23rd Thursday – O Emmanuel!

9am Morning Prayer
10am Holy Eucharist *at the Parish Church*
6pm Evening Prayer

24th Friday – Christmas Eve

9am Morning Prayer
9.30am Offeren (*Welsh Eucharist*)
4pm Crib Service and Christingle *at the Parish Church*
7pm Nine Lessons & Carols *at the Cathedral*
11.30pm Midnight Mass *at the Cathedral*

25th Saturday – Christmas Day

9.30am The Parish Eucharist
11am The Cathedral Eucharist
3.30pm Evening Prayer

26th Sunday – Christmas 1

11am Mission Area Eucharist *at the Cathedral*
3.30pm Evening Prayer

Contact:

Parish Church: 01745 535957

Fr Rex: 07393 639813

Parish Church Website:

www.stasaphparishchurch.org.uk