



THE SUNDAY SHEET
ADVENT 2
5TH 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

Hark, a thrilling voice is sounding;
'Christ is nigh,' it seems to say;
'cast away the dreams of darkness,
O ye children of the day.'

Wakened by the solemn warning,
let the earth-bound soul arise;
Christ, her Sun, all ill dispelling,
shines upon the morning skies.

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.

That when next he comes with glory,
and the world is wrapped in fear,
with his mercy he may shield us,
and with words of love draw near.

Honour, glory, might, and blessing
to the Father and the Son,
with the everlasting Spirit,
while eternal ages run.

Edward Caswall 1814-1878

Tune: Merton

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATHE

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

God our Father,
you spoke to the prophets of old
of a Saviour who would bring peace.
You helped them to spread the joyful message
of his coming kingdom.
Help us, as we prepare to celebrate his birth,
to share with those around us
the good news of your power and love.
We ask this through Jesus Christ,
the light who is coming into the world. **Amen.,**

THE COLLECT

Father in heaven,
who sent your Son to redeem the world
and will send him again to be our judge:
give us grace so to imitate him
in the humility and purity of his first coming
that, when he comes again,
we may be ready to greet him
with joyful love and firm faith;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns
with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

MALACHI 3. 1-4

A reading from the book of the prophet Malachi.

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

For the word of the Lord:

Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL

Please Stand

Purify my heart,
let me be as gold and precious silver.
Purify my heart,
let me be as gold, pure gold.

*Refiner's fire, my heart's one desire
is to be holy, set apart for you, Lord.
I choose to be holy, set apart for you my Master,
ready to do your will.*

Purify my heart,
cleansing me from within and make me holy.
Purify my heart,
cleansing me from my sin, deep within.

Brian Doerksen b.1965

LUKE 3. 1-6

Listen to the Gospel of Christ according to Saint Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of

Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, 'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

“Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.
Every valley shall be filled,
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,
and the crooked shall be made straight,
and the rough ways made smooth;
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.” ’

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

OFFERTORY HYMN

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
announces that the Lord is nigh;
awake and harken, for he brings
glad tidings from the King of kings.

Then cleansed be every breast from sin;
make straight the way for God within;
prepare we in our hearts a home,
where such a mighty guest may come.

For thou art our salvation, Lord,
our refuge and our great reward;
without thy grace we waste away,
like flowers that wither and decay.

To heal the sick stretch out thine hand,
and bid the fallen sinner stand;
shine forth, and let thy light restore
earth's own true loveliness once more.

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 translated by John Chandler 1806-1876

Tune: Winchester New

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

God of hope,
renew in us the joy of your salvation
and make us a living sacrifice to you;
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

HYMN AT THE END OF COMMUNION

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.
Wait for the Lord, keep watch, take heart.

Taize Community

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Lord, here you have nourished us with the food of life;
through our sharing in this holy sacrament
teach us to judge wisely earthly things
and to yearn for things heavenly.
We do this through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

FINAL HYMN

The kingdom of God is justice and joy,
for Jesus restores what sin would destroy;
God's power and glory in Jesus we know,
and here and hereafter the kingdom shall grow.

The kingdom of God is mercy and grace,
the captives are freed, the sinners find place,
the outcast are welcomed God's banquet to share,
and hope is awakened instead of despair.

The kingdom of God is challenge and choice,
believe the good news, repent and rejoice!
His love for us sinners brought Christ to his cross,
our crisis of judgement for gain or for loss.

God's kingdom is come, the gift and the goal,
in Jesus begun, in heaven made whole;
the heirs of the kingdom shall answer his call,
and all things cry 'Glory!' to God all in all.

Bryn Rees 1911-1983

Tune: Paderborn

TODAY'S READINGS

MALACHI 3. 1-4

The Lord's terrible, judging messenger is coming.

PHILIPPIANS I. 3-II

Paul gives thanks for the Philippians, and prays that their faith will bear fruit and enable them to come safely before Christ's judgement.

LUKE 3. 1-6

John the Baptist, God's messenger, breaks into the ongoing history of the world.

NOTICES

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 at 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!

Christmas Flowers. Donations in memory of loved ones will be gratefully received towards Christmas Flowers. Please complete the envelope at the back of the Church and pass for the attention of Fr Rex. Thank you!

Christmas Eve. Attendance at the Christingle & Crib Service at 4pm will be ticket only. Tickets are available in church. Please do pick one up if you intend to be at that service. Nine Lessons and Carols at the Cathedral at 7pm will also be ticketed. If you want tickets for this please let Fr Rex know asap.

THE WEEK AHEAD

6th Monday – Nicholas, Bishop

9am Morning Prayer

9.30am Holy Eucharist *at the Cathedral*

6pm Evening Prayer

7th Tuesday – Ambrose, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

9am Morning Prayer

6pm Evening Prayer

7pm Holy Eucharist *at the Cathedral*

8th Wednesday – Ember Day

9am Morning Prayer

10.30am Holy Eucharist *at the Cathedral*

6pm Evening Prayer

9th Thursday – Feria

9am Morning Prayer

10am Holy Eucharist *at the Parish Church*

6pm Evening Prayer

10th Friday – Ember Day

9am Morning Prayer

9.30am Offeren (*Welsh Eucharist*)

6pm St Kentigern's Light up a Life

Service

11th Saturday – Ember Day

9am Morning Prayer

6pm Evening Prayer

12th Sunday – Advent 3

9.30am The Parish Eucharist

11am The Cathedral Eucharist

6pm Candlelit Choral Evensong for

Gaudete Sunday

Contact:

Parish Church: 01745 535957

Fr Rex: 07393 639813

Parish Church Website:

www.stasaphparishchurch.org.uk