



St Saviour's Church

Chalk Farm

Priest-in-charge: Revd Paul Nicholson
Sunday 5th December – Advent 2

THE FIRST HYMN

1
Hills of the north rejoice,
Echoing songs arise,
Hail with united voice
Him who made earth and skies;
He comes in righteousness and
love,
He brings salvation from above.

2
Isles of the Southern seas,
sing to the listening earth,
carry on every breeze
hope of a world's new birth:
In Christ shall all be made anew,
his word is sure, his promise true.

5
Shout, as you journey home,
songs be in every mouth,
lo, from the North they come,
from East and West and South:
in Jesus all shall find their rest,
in him the universe be blest.

3
Lands of the East, arise,
he is your brightest morn,
greet him with joyous eyes,
praise shall his path adorn:
your seers have longed to know
their Lord;
to you he comes, the final word.

4
Shores of the utmost West,
lands of the setting sun,
welcome the heavenly guest
in whom the dawn has come:
he brings a never-ending light
who triumphed o'er our darkest
night.

Based on C E Oakley

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.**

The Lighting of the Advent Candle

As the Candle is lit the priest says the following prayer:

Blessed are you, sovereign Lord, just and true: to you be praise and glory for ever. Of old you spoke by the mouth of your prophets, but in our days you speak through your Son, whom you have appointed the heir of all things, Grant us, your people, to walk in his light, that we may be found ready and watching when he comes again in glory and judgement; for you are our light and our salvation. **Blessed be God for ever**

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

**Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleans 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.**

A voice cries out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord.'
So let us listen, and turn to the Lord in penitence and faith.

**Most merciful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we confess that we
have sinned in thought, word and deed. We have not loved you with our
whole heart. We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. In your
mercy forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we are, and
direct what we shall be; that we may do justly, love mercy, and walk
humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

THE ABSOLUTION

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, And keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

KYRIE ELEISON

**Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy
Christ have mercy, Christ have mercy
Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy**

COLLECT OF THE DAY

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and for ever. **Amen**

FIRST READING Malachi 3.1-4

Thus says the LORD God: 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.

This is the word of the Lord **Thanks be to God**

BENEDICTUS

Blessed be the Lord, who sets his people free
Blessed be the Lord, who sets his people free

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel
For he has come to his people and set them free.
He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour,
Born of the house of his servant, David. *Refrain*

Through his holy prophets he promised of old,
That he would save us from our enemies,
From the hands of all that hate us.
He promised to show mercy to our forebears
And to remember his holy covenant. *Refrain*

This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham;
To set us free from the hands of our enemies,
Free to worship him without fear,
Holy and righteous In his sight,
All the days of our life. *Refrain*

You my child,
Shall be called the prophet of the Most High,
For you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,
To give his people knowledge of salvation,
By the forgiveness of their sins. *Refrain*

In the tender compassion of our God,
The dawn from on high shall break upon us,
To shine on those who dwell in darkness
And the shadow of death,
And to guide our feet into the way of peace. *Refrain*

SECOND READING Philippians 1.3-11

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defence and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

This is the word of the Lord **Thanks be to God**

GRADUAL HYMN

1

The advent of our God
with eager prayers we greet,
and singing haste upon the road
his glorious gift to meet.

2

The everlasting Son
scorns not the Virgin's womb;
that we from bondage may be
won
he bears a bondsman's doom.

3

Daughter of Zion, rise
to meet thy lowly King,
let not thy stubborn heart despise
the peace he comes to bring.

4

On clouds of dazzling light,
as judge he comes again,
his scattered people to unite
with them in heaven to reign.

5

Let evil flee away
ere that dread hour shall dawn,
let this old Adam day by day
the new man all put on.

Charles Coffin tr H Putman

GOSPEL Luke 3.1-6

The Lord be with you **and also with you**

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

THE SERMON

THE CREED

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.

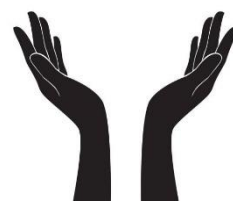
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

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.**

THE INTERCESSIONS

One of these responses may be used:
Lord, in your mercy **Hear our prayer**
or Lord, hear us **Lord, graciously hear us.**



We pray for

Adrian, Belinda, Bruno, Charles, Chinyere, Jean Dickinson, Joan, Joanne,
John, Mirela, Nicholas, Noam, Norah, Oyè, Rachel, Sean, Sue, Zalan

The prayers end with these words:
Merciful Father **accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour, Jesus Christ, Amen.**

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

OFFERTORY HYMN

1

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

2

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.

3

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.

4

Stretch forth thine 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.

5

All praise, eternal son, to thee,,
whose advent sets thy people free;
whom with the Father we adore
and Spirit blest, for evermore! Amen

Charles Coffin translated by John Chandler

EUCCHARISTIC 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.:

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, for ever praising you and saying:

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he that comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Please kneel

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.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again:

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 (*N 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.

Amen

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF 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.

AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world; blessed are they who are called to his supper.

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

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYERS

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.

Amen

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

FINAL HYMN

O come O come, Emmanuel!
Redeem thy captive Israel,
That into exile drear is gone
Far from the face of God's dear son.
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

O come, thou Wisdom from on high!
Who madest all in earth and sky,
Creating man from dust and clay;
To us reveal salvation's way.

O come, O come, Adonai,
Who in thy glorious majesty
From Sinai's mountain, clothed with awe,
Gavest thy folk the ancient law.

O come, thou Root of Jesse! Draw
The quarry from the lion's claw;
From those dread caverns of the grave,
From nether hell, thy people save.

O come, thou Lord of David's Key!
The royal door fling wide and free;
Safeguard for us the heavenward road,
And bar the way to death's abode.

O come, O come, thou Dayspring bright!
Pour on our souls thy healing light;
Dispel the long night's lingering gloom,
And pierce the shadows of the tomb.

O come, Desire of nations show
Thy kingly reign on earth below;
Thou Cornerstone, uniting all,
Restore the ruin of our fall.
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

THE BLESSING

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you,
scatter the darkness from before your path,
and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory;
and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be with you now and always. **Amen**

The Lord be with you
and also with you

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