THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

CHORAL EUCHARIST

12TH DECEMBER 2021, 11AM

ST BRIDE'S CHURCH

Opening Sentence

John the Baptist said: 'I baptise you with water; but he who is mightier than I is coming, the thong of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.'

Hymn

When Jesus came to Jordan
to be baptised by John,
he did not come for pardon,
but as his Father's Son.
He came to share repentance
with all who mourn their sins,
to speak the vital sentence
with which good news begins.

He came to share temptation,
our utmost woe and loss;
for us and our salvation
to die upon the cross.
So when the Dove descended
on him, the Son of Man,
the hidden years had ended,
the age of grace began.

Come, Holy Spirit, aid us
to keep the vows we make,
this very day invade us,
and every bondage break.
Come, give our lives direction,
the gift we covet most:
to share the resurrection
that leads to Pentecost.

Tune: Offertorium adapted from M Haydn 1737-1806
Words: F Pratt Green 1903-2000

The minister greets the people

Minister The Lord be with you,
All **and also with you.**

Welcome

The lighting of the third Advent Candle

We light these Advent Candles to remind us
of those who prepared for the coming of Christ:
the Patriarchs, the Prophets, John the Baptist,
and the Virgin Mary.
As we remember them, Lord God,
help us to prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ,
and to open our hearts to receive him.

Advent III

God our Father, you called John the Baptist
to prepare your people for the coming of the Lord. Help
us, who have been baptised into Christ,
to grow strong in faith by the power of the Holy Spirit.
We ask this through Jesus Christ,
the Light of the World.
All **Blessed be God for ever.**

The Holly and The Ivy

Choir *The holly bears a berry,*
as red as any blood,
and Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ,
to do poor sinners good.

Refrain: *The rising of the sun*
And the running of the deer,
The playing of the merry organ,
Sweet singing in the choir.

Prayer of Preparation

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

Prayer of Penitence

Minister *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.

All **Almighty God, our heavenly Father,**
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry
and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you
in newness of life to the glory of your name.
Amen.

Kyrie
Chester Missa brevis – Matthew Martin

Choir

Kyrie eleison.	Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christe eleison.	Christ, have mercy upon us.
Kyrie eleison.	Lord, have mercy upon us.

Minister 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.
All **Amen.**

Collect

Minister *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 for ever.
All **Amen.**

First Reading
Zephaniah 3: 14-end
read by Kirsty McEwen

Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgments against you, he has cast out your enemies.

The King of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear evil no more.

On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: "Do not fear, O Zion; let not your hands grow weak. The Lord your God is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival.

"I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. Behold, at that time I will deal with all your oppressors. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you together; yea, I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes," says the Lord.

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

Psalm
68: 1-12, 18-19

Choir

1 Let God arise, and let his enemies be scattered :
let them also that hate him flee before him.

2 Like as the smoke vanisheth, so shalt thou drive them away :
and like as wax melteth at the fire, so let the ungodly perish at the presence of God.

3 But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God :
let them also be merry and joyful.

4 O sing unto God, and sing praises unto his Name :
magnify him that rideth upon the heavens, as it were upon an horse; praise him in his Name Jah, and rejoice before him.

5 He is a father of the fatherless, and defendeth the cause of the widows :
even God in his holy habitation.

6 He is the God that maketh men to be of one mind in an house, and bringeth the prisoners out of captivity :
but letteth the runagates continue in scarceness.

7 O God, when thou wentest forth before the people :
when thou wentest through the wilderness;

8 The earth shook, and the heavens dropped at the presence of God :
even as Sinai also was moved at the presence of God, who is the God of Israel.

9 Thou, O God, sentest a gracious rain upon thine inheritance :
and refreshedst it when it was weary.

10 Thy congregation shall dwell therein :
for thou, O God, hast of thy goodness prepared for the poor.

11 The Lord gave the word :
great was the company of the preachers.

12 Kings with their armies did flee, and were discomfited :
and they of the household divided the spoil.

18 Thou art gone up on high, thou hast led captivity captive, and received gifts for men :
yea, even for thine enemies, that the Lord God might dwell among them.

19 Praised be the Lord daily :
even the God who helpeth us, and poureth his benefits upon us.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost :
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.

Chant: Henry Smart 1813-79

Second Reading
Philippians 4: 4-7
read by David Lowish

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let all men know your forbearance. The Lord is at hand. Have no anxiety about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, will keep your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

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

Hymn

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.

Tune: Cross of Jesus by John Stainer 1840-1901
Words: Charles Wesley 1707-88

Gospel Reading

Reader Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Luke

All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Luke 3: 7-18

read by The Revd Dr Jeff Lake, *Associate Priest of St Bride's*

John said to the multitudes that came out to be baptised by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits that befit repentance, and do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

And the multitudes asked him, "What then shall we do?" And he answered them, "He who has two coats, let him share with him who has none; and he who has food, let him do likewise." Tax collectors also came to be baptised, and said to him, "Teacher, what shall we do?" And he said to them, "Collect no more than is appointed you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what shall we do?" And he said to them, "Rob no one by violence or by false accusation, and be content with your wages."

As the people were in expectation, and all men questioned in their hearts concerning John, whether perhaps he were the Christ, John answered them all, "I baptise you with water; but he who is mightier than I is coming, the thong of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor, and to gather the wheat into his granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

So, with many other exhortations, he preached good news to the people.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
All **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon
The Revd Canon Dr Alison Joyce, *Rector of St Bride's*

Creed
All **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
led by Jenny Kingsley

These responses may be used

Lord, in your mercy,
All **Hear our prayer.**

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

The Peace

Minister *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,
All **and also with you.**

Preparation of the Table

Hymn

The people that in darkness sat
a glorious light have seen;
the light has shined on them who long
in shades of death have been.

To hail thee, Sun of Righteousness,
the gathering nations come;
they joy as when the reapers bear
their harvest treasures home.

For unto us a child is born,
to us a Son is given,
and on his shoulder ever rests
all power in earth and heaven.

His name shall be the Prince of Peace,
the everlasting Lord,
the Wonderful, the Counsellor,
the God by all adored.

His righteous government and power
shall over all extend;
on judgement and on justice based,
his reign shall have no end.

Lord Jesus, reign in us, we pray,
and make us thine alone,
who with the Father ever art
and Holy Spirit One.

Tune: Dundee as set in Ravenscroft's Psalter 1621
Words: Isaiah 9: 2-7 J Morrison 1750-98

Minister Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.
Through your goodness we have this bread to offer,
which earth has given and human hands have made.
It will become for us the bread of life.
All **Blessed be God for ever.**

Minister Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.
Through your goodness we have this wine to offer,
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.
It will become our spiritual drink.
All **Blessed be God for ever.**

Eucharistic Prayer

Minister The Lord be with you,
All **and also with you.**

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

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

Minister Let us pray.

Minister It is indeed right,
it is our duty and our joy,
at all times and in all places
to give you thanks and praise,
holy Father, heavenly King,
almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

And now we give you thanks
because you sent him to redeem us from sin and death
and to make us inheritors of everlasting life;
that when he shall come again in power
and great triumph to judge the world,
we may with joy behold his appearing,
and in confidence may stand before him.

Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and singing:

Sanctus and Benedictus

Chester Missa brevis – Matthew Martin

Choir

Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus	Holy, holy, holy, Lord,
Dominus Deus Sabaoth,	God of power and might,
pleni sunt caeli et terra	heaven and earth
gloria tua.	are full of your glory.
Hosanna in excelsis.	Hosanna in the highest.
Benedictus qui venit	Blessed is he who comes
in nomine Domini.	in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in excelsis.	Hosanna in the highest.

Prayer of Consecration

Minister Accept our praises, heavenly Father,
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,
and as we follow his example and obey his command,
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us his body and his blood;

Who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup
and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:
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.

Therefore, heavenly Father,
we remember his offering of himself
made once for all upon the cross;
we proclaim his mighty resurrection
and glorious ascension;
we look for the coming of his kingdom,
and with this bread and this cup
we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Minister Great is the mystery of faith:
All **Christ has died:**
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.

Minister Accept through him, our great high priest,
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts
in the presence of your divine majesty,
renew us by your Spirit,
inspire us with your love,
and unite us in the body of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,
we worship you, Father almighty,
in songs of everlasting praise.

All **Blessing and honour and glory and power**
be yours for ever and ever.
Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Minister Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

All

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.

Breaking of the Bread

Minister We break this bread to share in the body of Christ:
All **Though we are many, we are one body,**
because we all share in one bread.

Giving of Communion

Minister 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.

All **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.

Anthem

Ave Maria – Robert Parsons

Ave Maria, gratia plena,	Hail Mary, full of grace,
Dominus tecum.	the Lord is with thee.
Benedicta tu in mulieribus,	Blessed art thou among women,
et benedictus fructus	and blessed is the fruit
ventris tui.	of thy womb.
Amen.	Amen.

Words: Traditional Latin Prayer

Prayers after Communion
The minister leads the post communion prayer for the day

Minister Let us pray.

Minister *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.
All **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.

Hymn

Christ is the King! O friends rejoice;
brothers and sisters, with one voice
tell all the world he is your choice.
Alleluia.

O magnify the Lord, and raise
anthems of joy and holy praise
for Christ's brave saints of ancient days.
Alleluia.

They with a faith for ever new
followed the King, and round him drew
thousands of faithful hearts and true.
Alleluia.

Let love's unconquerable might
your scattered companies unite
in service to the Lord of light.
Alleluia.

So shall God's will on earth be done,
new lamps be lit, new tasks begun,
and the whole church at last be one.
Alleluia.

Tune: Gelobt sei Gott, Melody from Vulpius' Gesangbuch 1609.
Harmony: Henry Ley 1887-1962

Blessing

Minister *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,
rest upon you and remain with you, now and always.
All **Amen.**

Dismissal

Minister Go in the peace of Christ.
All **Thanks be to God**.

Organ Voluntary

Chorale Prelude 'Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme' (Awake, we are called by a voice) BWV 645 – Johann Sebastian Bach

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AN INVITATION FROM SUNDAY CLUB



CRIB SERVICE
SUNDAY 19TH DECEMBER AT 2:30 PM

Our regular Sunday Club children invite others to join them for their annual Crib Service at 2:30pm on Sunday 19th December to act out the Christmas story. Anything can happen, and it really doesn't matter if it does!

Dress up your children or grandchildren in appropriate costumes and join us for this informal celebration, which is followed by refreshments, and craft activities for children.

Secondary age young people can get involved in the service by helping to lead the Christmas prayers and those a little younger to be the Nativity characters in our family service.

Afterwards there will be party food and crafts for the children, and for the grown ups, hot drinks and mince pies.

Please email caroline.hinson@stbrides.com to let us know if you will be joining us.

IN CHURCH AND ONLINE

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS



ADVENT CAROLS
SUN 28TH NOV 5:30PM

CEREMONY OF CAROLS
SUN 12TH DEC 5:30PM

NINE LESSONS & CAROLS
SUN 19TH DEC 5:30PM

FLEET ST CAROLS
WED 22ND DEC 12 & 5PM

SING CHOIRS OF ANGELS
FRI 24TH DEC 4:30PM

MIDNIGHT MASS
FRI 24TH DEC 11:30PM

CHRISTMAS DAY FAMILY COMMUNION SERVICE
SAT 25TH DEC 11AM

So we can manage numbers and keep you up to date, please register if you can at stbrides.com/advent or scan the code

ST BRIDE'S CHURCH

SCAN ME

Thank You

We would like to offer our heartfelt thanks to all who have continued to support us during this crisis, both through regular giving and occasional gifts.

This financial support remains vital to our on-going ministry. Although our normal services have now resumed, our ability to raise funds to maintain our ministry and building is still impacted.

The singers, organist, and Director of Music are all freelance professional musicians who have been significantly affected during the pandemic, and your donations have allowed us to help them financially through these difficult times.

We shall continue to offer our online worship - even though this requires additional investment - because no service from St Bride's would be complete without the wonderful music which our choir provides.

If you would like to make a donation to support the work of St Bride's, please do so at:
www.justgiving.com/stbrideschurchfleetstreet

Alternatively, in the UK:
text 5STBRIDES to 70470 to donate £5
text 10STBRIDES to 70470 to donate £10
text 20STBRIDES to 70470 to donate £20

ST BRIDE'S CHURCH