

THE SECOND SUNDAY

OF

ADVENT

CHORAL EVENSONG

WITH

SERMON IN MUSIC

5TH DECEMBER 2021, 5:30^{PM}

**ST BRIDE'S
CHURCH**

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 in place 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.**

Tune: Hanover, a supplement to the new version 1708
descant by A Gray 1855-1935
Words: B Rees 1911-83

Welcome

Minister Beloved, we are come together
in the presence of Almighty God
and of the whole company of heaven
to offer unto him, through our Lord Jesus Christ,
our worship and praise and thanksgiving;
to make confession of our sins,
to pray as well for others as for ourselves,
that we may know more truly
the greatness of God's love
and shew forth in our lives the fruits of his grace;

and to ask on behalf of all men
such things as their well being doth require.
Wherefore let us kneel now
and humbly confess our sins to Almighty God.

Confession

All **Almighty and most merciful Father,
we have erred, and strayed from thy ways
like lost sheep,
we have followed too much
the devices and desires of our own hearts,
we have offended against thy holy laws,
we have left undone those things
which we ought to have done,
and we have done those things
which we ought not to have done,
and there is no health in us:
but thou, O Lord,
have mercy upon us miserable offenders;
spare thou them, O God,
which confess their faults,
restore thou them that are penitent,
according to thy promises
declared unto mankind
in Christ Jesu our Lord:
and grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake,
that we may hereafter live a godly,
righteous, and sober life,
to the glory of thy holy name.
Amen.**

The Minister delivers the Absolution

May the Almighty and merciful Lord grant unto
you pardon and remission of all your sins,
time for amendment of life,
and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit.

All **Amen.**

Preces

William Byrd

Minister O Lord, open thou our lips,
Choir *and our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.*

Minister O God, make speed to save us,
Choir *O Lord, make haste to help us.*

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

Minister Praise ye the Lord.
Choir *The Lord's name be praised.*

Psalm 75

Choir *1 Unto thee, O God, do we give thanks :
yea, unto thee do we give thanks.*

*2 Thy Name also is so nigh :
and that do thy wondrous works declare.*

*3 When I receive the congregation :
I shall judge according unto right.*

*4 The earth is weak, and all the inhabitants thereof :
I bear up the pillars of it.*

*5 I said unto the fools, Deal not so madly:
and to the ungodly, Set not up your horn.*

*6 Set not up your horn on high :
and speak not with a stiff neck.*

*7 For promotion cometh neither from the east, nor from
the west :
nor yet from the south.*

*8 And why? God is the Judge :
he putteth down one, and setteth up another.*

*9 For in the hand of the Lord there is a cup,
and the wine is red :
it is full mixed, and he poureth out of the same.*

*10 As for the dregs thereof :
all the ungodly of the earth shall drink them,
and suck them out.*

*11 But I will talk of the God of Jacob :
and praise him for ever.*

*12 All the horns of the ungodly also will I break :
and the horns of the righteous shall be exalted.*

*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: Edward J Hopkins 1818-1901

Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 40: 1-11

read by Bee Abel

Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God. Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned: for she hath received of the Lord's hand double for all her sins.

The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill

shall be made low: and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain: And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

The voice said, Cry. And he said, What shall I cry? All flesh is grass, and all the goodliness thereof is as the flower of the field: The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: because the spirit of the Lord bloweth upon it: surely the people is grass. The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever.

O Zion, that bringest good tidings, get thee up into the high mountain; O Jerusalem, that bringest good tidings, lift up thy voice with strength; lift it up, be not afraid; say unto the cities of Judah, Behold your God! Behold, the Lord God will come with strong hand, and his arm shall rule for him: behold, his reward is with him, and his work before him. He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Magnificat

Evening Service in F – Michael Wise

Choir *My soul doth magnify the Lord:
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.
For he hath regarded:
the lowliness of his hand-maiden.
For behold, from henceforth:
all generations shall call me blessed.
For he that is mighty hath magnified me:
and holy is his Name.
And his mercy is on them that fear him:
throughout all generations.
He hath showed strength with his arm:
he hath scattered the proud
in the imagination of their hearts.*

*He hath put down the mighty from their seat:
and hath exalted the humble and meek.
He hath filled the hungry with good things:
and the rich he hath sent empty away.
He remembering his mercy hath
holpen his servant Israel:
as he promised to our forefathers,
Abraham and his seed, for ever.*

*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.*

New Testament Lesson

Luke 1: 1-25

read by Anthony Mann

Forasmuch as many have taken in hand to set forth in order a declaration of those things which are most surely believed among us, Even as they delivered them unto us, which from the beginning were eyewitnesses, and ministers of the word; It seemed good to me also, having had perfect understanding of all things from the very first, to write unto thee in order, most excellent Theophilus, That thou mightest know the certainty of those things, wherein thou hast been instructed.

There was in the days of Herod, the king of Judaea, a certain priest named Zacharias, of the course of Abia: and his wife was of the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elisabeth. And they were both righteous before God, walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless. And they had no child, because that Elisabeth was barren, and they both were now well stricken in years.

And it came to pass, that while he executed the priest's office before God in the order of his course, According to the custom of the priest's office, his lot was to burn incense when he went into the temple of the Lord. And the whole multitude of the people were praying without at the time of incense.

And there appeared unto him an angel of the Lord standing on the right side of the altar of incense. And when Zacharias saw him, he was troubled, and fear fell upon him. But the angel said unto him, Fear not, Zacharias: for thy prayer is heard; and thy wife Elisabeth shall bear thee a son, and thou shalt call his name John. And thou shalt have joy and gladness; and many shall rejoice at his birth. For he shall be great in the sight of the Lord, and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink; and he shall be filled with the Holy Ghost, even from his mother's womb. And many of the children of Israel shall he turn to the Lord their God.

And he shall go before him in the spirit and power of Elias, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just; to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.

And Zacharias said unto the angel, Whereby shall I know this? for I am an old man, and my wife well stricken in years. And the angel answering said unto him, I am Gabriel, that stand in the presence of God; and am sent to speak unto thee, and to shew thee these glad tidings. And, behold, thou shalt be dumb, and not able to speak, until the day that these things shall be performed, because thou believest not my words, which shall be fulfilled in their season.

And the people waited for Zacharias, and marvelled that he tarried so long in the temple. And when he came out, he could not speak unto them: and they perceived that he had seen a vision in the temple: for he beckoned unto them, and remained speechless.

And it came to pass, that, as soon as the days of his ministration were accomplished, he departed to his own house. And after those days his wife Elisabeth conceived, and hid herself five months, saying, Thus hath the Lord dealt with me in the days wherein he looked on me, to take away my reproach among men.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Nunc Dimittis

Evening Service in F – Michael Wise

Choir *Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace:
according to thy word.
For mine eyes have seen:
thy salvation;
Which thou hast prepared
before the face of all people;
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles:
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.*

*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.*

Apostles' Creed

**All I believe in God the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth:
and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried:
He descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;**

**He ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand
of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come
to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost;
the holy Catholic Church;
the Communion of Saints;
the forgiveness of sins;
the Resurrection of the body,
and the Life everlasting.
Amen.**

Responses

William Byrd

Minister The Lord be with you,
Choir *and with thy spirit.*

Minister Let us pray.

Choir *Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.*

*Our Father, which art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive them that trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
Amen.*

Minister O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us,
Choir *and grant us thy salvation.*

Minister O Lord, save the Queen,
Choir *and mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.*

Minister Endue thy Ministers with righteousness,
Choir *and make thy chosen people joyful.*

Minister O Lord, save thy people,
Choir *and bless thine inheritance.*

Minister Give peace in our time, O Lord,
Choir *because there is none other that fighteth for us,
but only thou, O God.*

Minister O God, make clean our hearts within us,
Choir *and take not thy Holy Spirit from us.*

Collects

The first, for the day

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

Choir *Amen.*

The second, for Peace

Minister O God, from whom all holy desires,
all good counsels, and all just works do proceed:
Give unto thy servants that peace
which the world cannot give;
that both our hearts may be set
to obey thy commandments,
and also that by thee we being defended

from the fear of our enemies
may pass our time in rest and quietness;
through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Choir *Amen.*

The third, for Aid against all Perils

Minister Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee,
O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us
from all perils and dangers of this night;
for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Choir *Amen.*

Sermon in Music

i) *Vigilate* – William Byrd

ii) *Laetentur caeli* – William Byrd

iii) *Prepare ye the way of the Lord* – Michael Wise

(Please see notes on page 14)

Prayers of Intercession

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

These responses may be used

All Lord, in thy mercy,
hear our prayer.

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

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.**

Tune: Merton by W H Monk 1823–89
Words: Latin tr. E Caswall 1814–78

Blessing

Minister The peace of God,
 which passeth all understanding,
 keep your hearts and minds
 in the knowledge and love of God,
 and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord:
 and the blessing of God almighty,
 the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
 be amongst you and remain with you always.

Choir *Amen.*

Organ Voluntary

Prelude in C BWV 547 – Johann Sebastian Bach

Sermon in Music

- i) *Vigilate* – William Byrd 1543-1623
- ii) *Laetentur caeli* – William Byrd
- iii) *Prepare ye the way of the Lord* – Michael Wise 1648-87

William Byrd was the leading figure in an exceptional era for English church music. He was organist of Lincoln Cathedral as a young man, then spent the rest of his long and distinguished career at the Chapel Royal, where he enjoyed the personal protection of Queen Elizabeth 1st, saving him from the persecution which many of his fellow Catholics endured during this period. Another privilege which he enjoyed was a monopoly on the printing of music, firstly in partnership with his teacher, Thomas Tallis, then following Tallis's death in 1585, by himself. Both pieces to be heard this evening are traditionally associated with Advent and are taken from one of the first publications dedicated solely to Byrd's music, the *Cantiones sacrae* (Sacred Songs) of 1589, beginning with *Vigilate*, a vigorous setting for five voices of verses 35-37 from chapter 13 of St Mark's Gospel. *Laetentur caeli* is a more reflective piece, despite the joyful nature of the text – it is also in five parts and begins with words from Isaiah chapter 49, some of which are repeated after a central section for three solo voices, which is a setting of verse 7 of Psalm 71.

Michael Wise was one of the first generation of choirboys at the Chapel Royal following the restoration of Charles II to the monarchy in 1660 – he later worked at Salisbury Cathedral, where he died in tragic circumstances while still under 40 years of age. He was somewhat overshadowed as a composer by his great contemporaries Blow and Purcell, but this setting of the familiar Advent text from the opening verses of Isaiah chapter 40 is typical of his style, with sections for solo voices, including a memorable soprano duet, alternating with passages for full choir.

Vigilate

*Vigilate, nescitis enim quando dominus domus veniat,
sero, an media nocte, an gallicantu, an mane.
Vigilate ergo, ne cum venerit repente, inveniat vos dormientes.
Quod autem dico vobis, omnibus dico: vigilate.*

Translation

Watch ye therefore
for you know not when the lord of the house cometh,
at even, or at midnight, or at the cock crowing, or in the morning.
Watch therefore, lest coming on a sudden, he find you sleeping.
And what I say to you, I say to all: Watch.

Words: Mark 13: 35-37

Laetentur caeli

*Laetentur caeli, et exultet terra.
Jubilate montes laudem,
quia Dominus noster veniet,
et pauperum suorum miserebitur.
Orietur in diebus tuis justitia,
et abundantia pacis.
Et pauperum suorum miserebitur.*

Translation

Let the heavens be glad, and the earth exult.
Exclaim praise, O mountains,
for our Lord will come,
and will have mercy on His impoverished ones.
Justice will arise during your days,
and an abundance of peace.
And He will have mercy on His impoverished ones.

Words: Isaiah 49: 13

Prepare ye the way of the Lord

Prepare, prepare ye the way of the Lord,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Ev'ry valley shall be exalted,
and ev'ry mountain and hill shall be made low:
and the crooked shall be made straight,
and the rough places plain:
And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
and all flesh shall see it together.

And the voice said, Cry. What shall I cry?
All flesh is grass, and the goodliness thereof
is as a flower that is in the field.

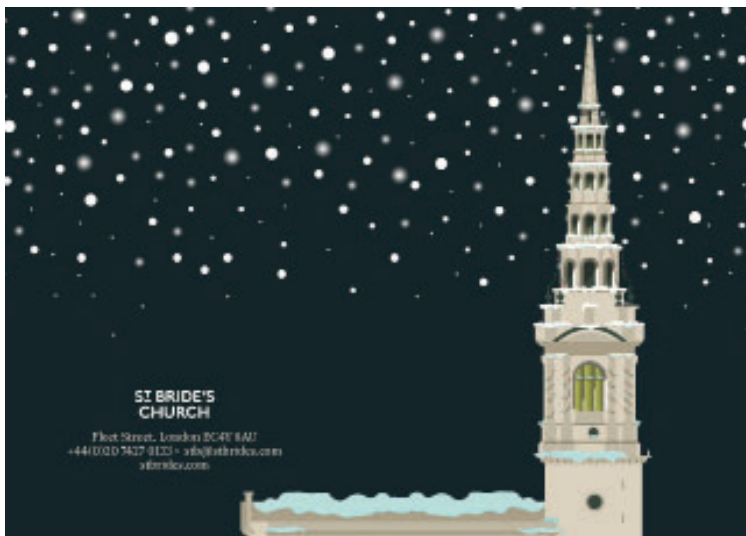
The grass withereth, and the flower fadeth:
But the word of the Lord shall stand fast for ever.

O Zion, that bringest glad tidings,
get thee up into the mountains;
O Jerusalem, that bringest glad tidings,
lift up thy voice with strength, and say unto Judah,
behold thy God.

Words: Isaiah 40: 3-9

ST BRIDE'S CHRISTMAS CARD IS HERE!

Why not send your greetings to friends and family this Christmas with this beautiful 'wrap around' design representing our stunning church?



The greeting
inside reads:

*With warmest
good wishes for
Christmas and
the New Year*

The card is now
available for sale in the
shop.

PRICE

1 pack of 10 for £10
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10% discount if you buy
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Please contact
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IN CHURCH AND ONLINE

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS



ADVENT CAROLS
SUN 28TH NOV 5:30PM

FLEET ST CAROLS
WED 22ND DEC 12 & 5PM

CEREMONY OF CAROLS
SUN 12TH DEC 5:30PM

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

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

MIDNIGHT MASS
FRI 24TH DEC 11:30PM

CHRISTMAS DAY FAMILY 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**



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**