



**THE SECOND
SUNDAY OF
ADVENT**

CHORAL EUCHARIST

4TH DECEMBER 2022, 11^{AM}

**ST BRIDE'S
CHURCH**

Opening Sentence

*John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judaea proclaiming:
'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.'*

Hymn

**On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
announces that the Lord is nigh;
awake and hearken, 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 doth thy people free,
whom with the Father we adore,
and Holy Ghost for evermore.**

Tune: Winchester New c 1690
Words: C Coffin 1676-1749
Translation: J Chandler 1808-76

The minister greets the people

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

Welcome

The Lighting of the Second 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 II

God our Father,
you spoke to the prophets of old
of a Saviour who would bring peace.
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 of the World.

All Blessed be God for ever.

The Holly and The Ivy

Choir *The holly bears a blossom, as white as the lily flower,
and Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ, to be our sweet Saviour.*

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

Communion Service in A minor – Harold Darke

Choir

*Kyrie eleison,
Christe eleison,
Kyrie eleison.*

Lord have mercy on us,
Christ have mercy on us,
Lord have mercy on us.

Absolution

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, 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.*

All Amen.

First Reading

Isaiah 11: 1-10

read by Anthony Mann

There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. And his delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall slay the wicked.

Righteousness shall be the girdle of his waist, and faithfulness the girdle of his loins.

The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid, and the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall feed; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The sucking child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den. They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

In that day the root of Jesse shall stand as an ensign to the peoples; him shall the nations seek, and his dwellings shall be glorious.

This is the word of the Lord.

All

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 72: 1-7

Choir

*1 Give the King thy judgements, O God :
and thy righteousness unto the King's son.*

*2 Then shall he judge thy people according unto right :
and defend the poor.*

*3 The mountains also shall bring peace :
and the little hills righteousness unto the people.*

*4 He shall keep the simple folk by their right :
defend the children of the poor, and punish the wrong-doer.*

*5 They shall fear thee,
as long as the sun and moon endureth :
from one generation to another.*

*6 He shall come down like the rain into a fleece of wool :
even as the drops that water the earth.*

*7 In his time shall the righteous flourish :
yea, and abundance of peace,
so long as the moon endureth.*

*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: Alan Gray 1855-1935

Second Reading

Romans 15: 4-13

read by Jane Wilkinson

For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy.

As it is written, Therefore I will praise thee among the Gentiles, and sing to thy name; and again it is said, Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people; and again, Praise the Lord, all Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him; and further Isaiah says, The root of Jesse shall come, he who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him shall the Gentiles hope.

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

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

Translation: E Caswall 1814–78

Gospel Reading

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

All Glory to you, O Lord.

Matthew 3: 1-12

In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judea, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said, “The voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.”

Now John wore a garment of camel's hair, and a leather girdle around his waist; and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then went out to him Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit that befits repentance, and do not presume 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.

I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.

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

Sermon

The Revd Steve Morris, *Associate Priest 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 Julie Glaser

These responses may be used

All Lord, for the years,
we give you thanks.

All Merciful Father,
**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.*

All The peace of the Lord be always with you,
and also with you.

Preparation of the Table

Hymn

**Hail to the Lord's Anointed,
great David's greater Son!
hail, in the time appointed,
his reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression,
to set the captive free,
to take away transgression,
and rule in equity.**

**He comes with succour speedy
to those who suffer wrong;
to help the poor and needy,
and bid the weak be strong;
To give them songs for sighing,
their darkness turn to light,
whose souls, condemned and dying,
were precious in his sight.**

**He shall come down like showers
upon the fruitful earth,
and love, joy, hope, like flowers,
spring in his path to birth:
before him on the mountains
shall peace, the herald, go;
and righteousness in fountains
from hill to valley flow.**

**O'er every foe victorious,
he on his throne shall rest;
from age to age more glorious,
all-blessing and all-blest:
the tide of time shall never
his covenant remove;
his name shall stand for ever,
his changeless name of love.**

Tune: Crüger, Adapted by W Monk 1823-89
from a chorale by J Crüger 1598-1662
Words: J Montgomery 1771-1854, based on Psalm 72

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

Communion Service in A minor – Harold Darke

Choir *Holy, holy, holy,
Lord God of hosts,
heaven and earth are full of thy glory:
Glory be to thee, O Lord most high.*

*Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.
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

The minister says this invitation to communion

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.

This prayer is said before the distribution

**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.**

The minister and people receive communion.

Anthem

Rejoice in the Lord alway – Anonymous

Choir *Rejoice in the Lord alway,
and again I say rejoice.
Let your softness be known unto all men:
the Lord is e'en at hand.
Be careful for nothing:
but in all prayer and supplication,
let your petitions be manifest unto God,
with giving of thanks.
And the peace of God which passeth all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesu.
Amen.*

Words: Phillipians 4: 4-7

Prayers after Communion

The minister leads the post communion prayer for the day

Minister Let us pray.

Silence is kept

Minister *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.*

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

**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

Blessing

Minister *Christ the Son 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 among you and remain with you always.*

All

Amen.

Dismissal

Minister Go in the peace of Christ.

Choir *Thanks be to God.*

Organ Voluntary

Chorale Prelude 'Gottes Sohn ist kommen' BWV 600

– Johann Sebastian Bach

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