



JOHN KEBLE CHURCH

Welcome to John Keble Church

5 December 2021, 10am

Parish Eucharist, *Second Sunday of Advent*

As the bell rings during the few minutes before the start of the service please sit and take a moment of peace and quiet to prepare yourself for the Eucharist.

Please stand as the Choir enters the Church. We sing the Advent Prose as the Ministers process to take their places – please join in with the refrain.

Pour down, O heavens, from above, and let the skies rain down righteousness.

¹ Turn your fierce anger from us, O Lord, and remember not our sins for ever. Your holy cities have become a desert, Zion a wilderness, Jerusalem a desolation; our holy and beautiful house, where our ancestors praised you. *Refrain:*

² We have sinned and become like one who is unclean; we have all withered like a leaf, and our iniquities like the wind have swept us away. You have hidden your face from us, and abandoned us to our iniquities. *Refrain:*

³ You are my witnesses, says the Lord, and my servant whom I have chosen, that you may know me and believe me. I myself am the Lord, and none but I can deliver; what my hand holds, none can snatch away. *Refrain:*

⁴ Comfort my people, comfort them; my salvation shall not be delayed. I have swept your offences away like a cloud; fear not, for I will save you. I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Redeemer. *Refrain:*

Remain standing for THE GREETING:

Presider: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: **Amen.**

Presider: Peace be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

THE RITE OF PENITENCE:

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 call to mind and confess our sins.

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.

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. *All: Amen.*

THE COLLECT:

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

All sit to sing the CANTICLE: Benedictus

1 Blessèd be the Lord / God of / Israel : for he hath / visited · and re-/deemed his / people;

2 And hath raised up a mighty sal-/vation / for us : in the / house of · his / servant / David;

3 As he spake by the mouth of his / holy / Prophets : which have been / since the / world be-/gan;

4 That we should be saved / from our / enemies : and from the / hands of / all that / hate us;

5 To perform the mercy promised / to our / fore-fathers : and to re-/member · his / holy / Covenant;

6 To perform the oath which he swore to our / fore-father / Abraham : that / he would / give / us;

7 That we being delivered out of the / hand of · our / enemies : might / serve him · with-/out /fear.

8 In holiness and / righteousness · be-/fore him : all the / days of / our / life.
9 And thou Child shalt be called the / Prophet of · the / Highest : for thou shalt go
before the face of the Lord / to pre-/pare his / ways;
10 To give knowledge of salvation / unto · his / people : for the re-/mission / of their
/ sins,
11 Through the tender mercy of / our / God : whereby the day-spring / from on /
high hath / visited us;
12 To give light to them that sit in darkness, and in the / shadow · of / death : and to
guide our feet / into · the / way of / peace.

Please remain seated for the FIRST READING: Malachi 3.1-4

'I will send my messenger, who will prepare the way before me. Then suddenly the Lord you are seeking will come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant, whom you desire, will come,' says the Lord Almighty. ²But who can endure the day of his coming? Who can stand when he appears? For he will be like a refiner's fire or a launderer's soap. ³He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver; he will purify the Levites and refine them like gold and silver. Then the Lord will have men who will bring offerings in righteousness, ⁴and the offerings of Judah and Jerusalem will be acceptable to the Lord, as in days gone by, as in former years.

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

All stand to sing the GRADUAL HYMN:

I long for your appearing:
"Come quickly Lord," we pray.
Your love to burn up evil,
and turn our night to day.
Return in glory Jesus,
in majesty descend,
your people yearn to meet you,
our waiting time to end.

I thank you for your patience,
to gather children in,
to spread the gospel message,
the harvest field to win.
Extend your mercy Jesus,
for more to know your cross,
and send out gospel workers,
to speak news to the lost.

I know I am not ready
to meet you face to face.
I am not watching closely
my sin remains in place.
Prepare my heart, O Jesus,
kill sin in all my ways
so at your great appearing
I gladly rise to praise.

Words by Simon Rowbory. Tune: Ewing (commonly sung to Jerusalem the golden)

All stand to greet THE GOSPEL

THE GOSPEL READING: Luke 3: 1-6

Reader: Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar – when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of Iturea and Traconitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene – ²during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³He went into all the country around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁴As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet: ‘A voice of one calling in the wilderness, “Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him. ⁵Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill made low. The crooked roads shall become straight, the rough ways smooth. ⁶And all people will see God’s salvation.”’

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

THE SERMON – all sit.

ANTHEM: Prepare thyself Zion and How shall I fitly meet thee from Bach’s Christmas Cantata

All stand to say THE NICENE 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.

Presider: In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ let us pray to the Father.

All sit or kneel for the INTERCESSIONS:

Using the form: Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayer**

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

Following the intercessions all stand for THE PEACE:

Presider: 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.**

Minister: Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All remain standing for the OFFERTORY HYMN:

Hark! a herald voice is calling:

'Christ is nigh,' it seems to say;

'Cast away the dreams of darkness,

O ye children of the day!'

² Startled at the solemn warning,

let the earth-bound soul arise;

Christ, her Sun, all sloth dispelling,

shines upon the morning skies.

³ 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;

⁴ So when next he comes in glory,

and earth's final hour draws near,

may he then, as our defender,

on the clouds of heaven appear.

⁵ Honour, glory, virtue, merit,

to the Father and the Son,

with the co-eternal Spirit,

while unending ages run.

Following the hymn, the bell is tolled three times to indicate the offering of our hearts to God, after which we all sit or kneel for THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER:

Presider: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Presider: Lift up your hearts.

All: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

The Presider continues:

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 when he humbled himself to come among us in human flesh, he fulfilled the plan you formed long ago and opened for us the way of salvation. So now we watch for the day, knowing that the salvation promised us will be ours when Christ our Lord will come again in glory. 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:

All: **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.**
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

The Presider continues:

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 your 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.**

The Presider continues:

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 bell tolls three times to indicate that the bread and wine have been consecrated for the whole community.

THE LORD'S PRAYER and THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD:

Uniting our prayers with those of the Church Universal, we say in our own language the prayer that Jesus 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.

Presider: 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.**

The Choir sing the AGNUS DEI:

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

**Lamb of God,
You take away the sin of the world,
Grant us peace.**

THE 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.

COMMUNION HYMN:

Father, we thank thee who hast planted
thy holy name within our hearts.
Knowledge and faith and life immortal
Jesus thy Son to us imparts.
Thou, Lord, didst make all for thy pleasure
didst give us food for all our days,
giving in Christ the bread eternal;
thine is the power, be thine the praise.

Watch o'er thy Church O Lord in mercy
Save it from evil, guard it still,
perfect it in thy love, unite it,
cleanse and conformed unto thy will.
As grain once scattered on the hillsides
was in this broken bread made one,
so from all lands thy Church be gathered
into thy kingdom by thy Son.

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYERS: Let us pray *Silence is kept* 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*

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.

All sit for THE NOTICES

With words by Simon Rowbory, we all stand to sing while the ministers process to the font:

“Peace was born in Bethlehem”
angels sang abroad that night.
Glory in the highest heav’n
peace to crown the highest height.
Fighting world of war and greed,
coming Prince of Peace shall right.
Darkness fails in Bethlehem:
Peace has come to shed its light.

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH. The Presider says this PRAYER:

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. *All: Amen*

We all sing the FINAL HYMN:

Long ago, prophets knew
Christ would come, born a Jew.
Come to make all things new;
bear his people’s burden,
freely love and pardon.

*Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring!
Sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!
When he comes, when he comes,
Who will make him welcome?*

2 God in time, God in man,
This is God’s timeless plan:
he will come, as a man,
born himself of woman,
God divinely human:

*Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring!
Sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!
When he comes, when he comes,
Who will make him welcome?*

³ Mary, hail! Though afraid,
She believed, she obeyed.
In her womb God is laid,
till the time expected,
nurtured and protected:

Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring!
Sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!
When he comes, when he comes,
Who will make him welcome?

⁴ Journey ends: where afar
Bethlem shines, like a star,
stable door stands ajar.
Unborn Son of Mary,
Saviour do not tarry!

Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring!
Sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!
When he comes, when he comes,
We will make him welcome.

THE BLESSING:

May God himself, the God of peace, make you perfect and holy, and keep you safe and blameless, in spirit, soul and body, for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. *All: Amen.*

A Minister says THE DISMISSAL:

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

QR code for Giving



Services over the next few weeks and in to 2022:

NEXT SUNDAY, 12th December: Parish sung Eucharist at 10am and at 6:30pm will be our much anticipated **9 Lessons and Carols Service**. There are likely to be some COVID restrictions in place, so do bring a mask just in case, but at time of writing I am still hopeful that you will be able to sing the congregational carols (of which there will be plenty!). Even if not, it will be a wonderful service with a (socially distanced) choir of about 30!

Sunday 19th December: with our regular Parish Eucharist at 10am, but this will be followed by a Parish breakfast to which you are all invited.

Friday 24th December - Christmas Eve:

4pm Christingle service with Carols.

11:30pm our Midnight service with Carols.

Saturday 25th December: 10am Parish sung Eucharist with carols. Please do come and celebrate Christmas morning with us.

Sunday 26th December there will be *no* service.

Sunday 2nd January: our 10am Parish sung Eucharist will incorporate a Baptism.

Sunday 9th January: will be Simon Rowbory's last Sunday at JK. Please try to join us as we say thank you for his time with us, and wish him and his family well for the future.

Thursday 13th January: at 7:30 there will be an Open Evening on Mental Health. Further information to follow, but please keep the date in your diary if you are interested in attending.

NOTICES

Jenny Hearn has asked that if anyone has a **Children's Society box** please could they return it to JK by Christmas. If you are unable to bring it personally, please contact Jenny on 02089592919 and she will arrange to have it collected.

Colindale food bank: please see the notices at the back of church for detailed information on what is needed at the moment – tinned foods, toiletries for men (including disposable razors), women and babies.

The Good Companions ADS next production in the large hall at JK will be "**Black Comedy**" a one-act farce by Peter Shaffer. The play will be followed by a fun general knowledge quiz to finish off the evening. With tables of eight why not bring along some friends, socially distanced of course?

The dates for the production are: 16th, 17th and 18th December at 8.00pm

Tickets, at £12 each, can be obtained by calling the Box Office on 07486 865550