



THE SUNDAY SHEET  
ADVENT 3  
II<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2022

*A very warm welcome as we gather for the Parish Eucharist.  
An induction loop is provided.*

*Gluten free wafers are available for those who need them. Please inform one of the stewards/sidespersons who will pass the information on to the clergy. Many thanks*

ENTRANCE 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 sets thus people free,  
whom with the Father we adore,  
and Holy Ghost for evermore.

*Charles Coffin 16760-17439 tr. John Chandler 1806-1876*

*Tune: Winchester New*

## LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

Jesus Christ is the Light of the world  
**a light no darkness can quench.**

God our Father,  
you gave to Zechariah and Elizabeth in their old age  
a son called John.  
He grew up strong in spirit,  
prepared the people for the coming of the Lord,  
and baptized them in the Jordan to wash away their sins.  
Help us, who have baptized into Christ,  
to be ready to welcome him into our hearts,  
and to grow strong in faith by the power of the Spirit.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ,  
the light who is coming into the world. **Amen.**

## THE COLLECT

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. **Amen.**

## ISAIAH 35. 1-10

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,  
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;  
like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly,  
and rejoice with joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,  
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.

They shall see the glory of the Lord,  
the majesty of our God.

Strengthen the weak hands,  
and make firm the feeble knees.

Say to those who are of a fearful heart,  
'Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God.

He will come with vengeance,  
with terrible recompense.

He will come and save you.'

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,  
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;  
then the lame shall leap like a deer,  
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,  
and streams in the desert;

the burning sand shall become a pool,  
and the thirsty ground springs of water;  
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp,  
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

A highway shall be there,  
and it shall be called the Holy Way;

the unclean shall not travel on it,  
but it shall be for God's people;  
no traveller, not even fools, shall go astray.

No lion shall be there,  
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;  
they shall not be found there,  
but the redeemed shall walk there.

And the ransomed of the Lord shall return,  
and come to Zion with singing;

everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;  
they shall obtain joy and gladness,  
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

For the word of the Lord:

**Thanks be to God.**

THE GOSPEL

*Please Stand*

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord;  
unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice;  
tender to me the promise of his word;  
in God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his name!  
Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;  
his mercy sure, from age to age the same;  
his holy name, the Lord, the Mighty One.

*Based on Luke 1. 46-55  
Timothy Dudley Smith b.1926  
Tune: Woodlands*

MATTHEW II. 2-II

Listen to the Gospel of Christ according to Saint Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?' Jesus answered them, 'Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offence at me.'

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you."

Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## OFFERTORY HYMN

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.

Isles of the southern seas  
sing to the list'ning earth,  
carry on ev'ry breeze  
hope of a world's new birth:  
in Christ shall all be made anew,  
his word is sure, his promise true.

Lands of the east, arise,  
he is your brightest morn,  
greet him with joyous eyes,  
praise shall his path adorn:  
the God whom you have longed to know  
in Christ draws near, and calls you now.

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

Shout, as you journey on,  
songs be in ev'ry mouth,  
lo, from the north they come,  
from east and west and south:  
in Jesus all shall find their rest,  
in him the longing earth be blest.

*Editors of English Praise based on Charles Earnest Oakley 1832-1865*

*Tune: Little Cornard*

## PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Lord our God,  
as your servant John the Baptist  
prepared the way for the coming of your Son,  
make us your servants ready for his coming  
in these holy mysteries;  
who is alive and reigns now and for ever. **Amen.**

## HYMN AT THE END OF COMMUNION

I am the bread of life;  
he who comes to me shall not hunger:  
and all who trust in me shall not thirst –  
this is what Jesus said:  
praise him as Lord and saviour.  
    And when the trumpet shall sound  
    and Jesus comes in great power,  
    then he will raise us to be with him  
    for evermore!

*after Suzanne Toolan © Michael Baughan  
Tune: I am the bread of life*

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

God of mercy and power,  
whose Son rules over all,  
grant us so to live in obedience to your will,  
that at his appearing  
we may be raised to eternal life;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## FINAL HYMN

Rejoice! the Lord is King,  
Your Lord and King adore;  
mortals, give thanks and sing,  
and triumph evermore:  
*lift up your heart, lift up your voice,  
rejoice, again I say, rejoice.*

His kingdom cannot fail;  
he rules o'er earth and heaven;  
the keys of death and hell  
are to our Jesus given:

He sits at God's right hand  
till all his foes submit,  
and bow to his command,  
and fall beneath his feet:

Rejoice in glorious hope;  
Jesus the judge shall come,  
and take his servants up  
to their eternal home:

*We soon shall hear the archangel's voice;  
the trump of God shall sound: Rejoice!*

*Charles Wesley 1707-1788  
Tune: Gopsal*

CCL No: 961722

## NOTICES

**Refreshments.** Please do join us for refreshments after the service if you can.

**Foodbank.** The Foodbank box is now back in the Parish Church. Donations gratefully received.

**Praying for Growth.** Please pray for the growth and renewal of the Church here in this place. Here is the Leading Your Church into Growth Prayer (*card copies are available at the back of the Church*):

*God of Mission,*

*Who alone brings growth to your Church,*

*Send your Holy Spirit to give*

*Vision to our planning,*

*Wisdom to our actions,*

*Joy to our worship,*

*And power to our witness.*

*Help our church to grow in numbers,*

*In spiritual commitment to you,*

*And in service to our local community,*

*Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

**Evensong by Candlelight** takes tonight at 6pm at the Cathedral, followed by mulled wine and mince pies. Collection and raffle in aid of the Cathedral Choir. All welcome!

'**An Oasis of Calm**' on the morning of Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December - a pre-Christmas time of peace and quiet between 9.15 and 12 noon.

## THE WEEK AHEAD

### 12<sup>th</sup> Monday – Feria

9am Morning Prayer

9.30am Holy Eucharist *at the Cathedral*

5pm Evening Prayer

### 13<sup>th</sup> Tuesday – Lucy, Martyr

9am Morning Prayer

6pm Evening Prayer

7pm Holy Eucharist *at the Cathedral*

### 14<sup>th</sup> Wednesday – John of the Cross, Priest, Poet & Teacher

9am Morning Prayer

10.30am Holy Eucharist *at the Cathedral*

5pm Evening Prayer

### 15<sup>th</sup> Thursday – Feria

9am Morning Prayer

10am Holy Eucharist *at the Parish Church*

5pm Evening Prayer

6pm Ysgol Glan Clwyd Carol Service

### 16<sup>th</sup> Friday – Ember Day

9am Morning Prayer

9.30am Offeren (*Welsh Eucharist*)

6pm Choral Evensong

### 17<sup>th</sup> Saturday – O Wisdom

9am Morning Prayer

5pm Evening Prayer

### 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday – Advent 4

9.30am The Parish Eucharist

11am The Cathedral Eucharist

3.30pm Choral Evensong

7pm Trelawnyd Male Voice Choir

Concert

### Contact:

Parish Church: 01745 535957

Fr Rex: 07393 639813

### Parish Church Website:

[www.stasaphparishchurch.org.uk](http://www.stasaphparishchurch.org.uk)