

SUNDAY 29TH NOVEMBER
ADVENT SUNDAY



A warm welcome to everyone whether you are regular or visiting.

COLLECT:

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

ISAIAH 64.1-9

¹O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—
²as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil—to make your name known to your adversaries,
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!
³When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.
⁴From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived,
no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. ⁵You meet those who gladly do right,
those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed.
⁶We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.
We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. ⁷There is no one who calls on your name,
or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.
⁸Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. ⁹Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember iniquity for ever.
Now consider, we are all your people.

This is the Word of the Lord *All Thanks be to God*

1 CORINTHIANS 1.3-9

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind— ⁶just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you— ⁷so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

This is the Word of the Lord *All Thanks be to God*

GOSPEL:

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark
All Glory to you, O Lord.

MARK 13.24-END

Jesus said, ²⁴‘But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, ²⁵ and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. ²⁶Then they will see “the Son of Man coming in clouds” with great power and glory. ²⁷Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. ²⁸‘From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. ³⁰Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. ³¹Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. ³²‘But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. ³⁵Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, ³⁶or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. ³⁷And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.’

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

PRAYERS:

We pray for our communities and in particular this week all the people who live on: Acorn Meadow, Alpine View and Ancliffe Lane

We pray for those who are sick or in need at this time:
Margaret Whitely, Terry Davey, Marjorie Entwisle, Margaret Pinkney, Gordon Macleod, Alison, Sue, Mark, Jeff and Stephen

We hold before God those who have recently died and pray for their families and friends:

Graham Titchmarsh, Sheila Foulds, David Stretch,
Paul Anthony, Margaret Watson, Bertie Chamberlin

From our book of remembrance, we remember in prayer:
Valerie Jean Gardiner, Maureen Bannister, John Mather,
Wilson Bowker, Edward Wilson Bowker,
George Ralph Melton, Mary Edith Thompson Morris,
Hilda Muriel McDermott, John Dixon, Eleanor Beatty,
Thomas Beatty, Arthur Chesworth, Michael Rigg Bowker

POST COMMUNION PRAYER:

O Lord our God, make us watchful and keep us faithful as we await the coming of your Son our Lord; that, when he shall appear, he may not find us sleeping in sin but active in his service and joyful in his praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The First Sunday of Advent - The Advent Hope

Jesus said, 'Keep awake,
for you do not know on what day
your Lord is coming.'

All Amen. Come soon, Lord Jesus!

The first candle is lit and this response is used:

Jesus is the light of the world.

All A light no darkness can ever put out.

We sing: [TUNE: Angel voices ever singing.]

**All Advent candles tell their story
as we watch and pray,
longing for the Day of Glory,
'Come, Lord, soon,' we say.
Pain and sorrow, tears and sadness,
changed for gladness
on that Day.**

Advent is a time of preparation, a time of expectation and a time of hope. A time to look for the promise and joy Christ brings anew. Hope which is for us, for those we love, for the world beyond us and the eternal hope for all creation.

The Four Last Things— Death, Judgement, Heaven and Hell have been traditional themes for Advent meditation.

Traditionally, the four Sundays of Advent have particular celebrations:

Advent 1

The Advent Hope (The Patriarchs e.g. Abraham, David)

Advent 2

The Prophets (e.g. Isaiah and Jeremiah)

Advent 3

John the Baptist (The voice crying in the wilderness)

Advent 4

Mary (Mother of Jesus Christ)

The Advent wreath is lit. Purple candles on Sundays 1, 2 and 4; pink on Sunday 3 (Gaudette or 'Rose' Sunday). Finally, the white candle is lit on Christmas Day. The last days of Advent are marked with the sequence of Great 'O' Antiphons.

The fundamental prayer of Advent remains:

'Maranatha' - 'Our Lord, Come'

CALL TO PRAY AND GIVE:

GIFT DAY IN HOLY TRINITY

6TH DECEMBER

Pray for our Gift Day. We haven't got enough income this year to meet our outgoings, we're about £17,000 short. We are asking people to **PRAY AND GIVE**. Praying that we will all be moved to each give a one off generous gift to support church. The amount is between you and God. Pray, and God will help you discern how much is generous for you. What would you spent it on? Pray about giving it up for God. Some people have been struggling financially this year and can give only a very little, others have not lost income this year and could give a bit more generously. God loves a cheerful giver—so don't give if you would feel resentment or begrudge it, give if it would bring you joy and hope flowing from the abundance of the Kingdom of Heaven.

- 1) Small gifts can be texted to church: text any amount up to £20 to 70085 e. g. To donate £10 text HTBLS 10 to 70085, or
- 2) To give online direct to our bank account: Bolton-le-Sands PCC, Natwest Morecambe, sort code: 01 01 60 a/c number: 94801703.
- 3) To give online go to www.give.net/holytrinityboltonlesands, or
- 4) Monthly through your bank. To set it up, email Andy Hampshire, our Treasurer, on holytrinityblstreasurer@yahoo.com

Hopefully, all gifts that can be gift-aided will be, so the tax will be given back to church too!

A CHILD SHALL LEAD THEM—ADVENT BOOK 2020

At the back of church you can pick up a free book of daily reflections on Isaiah for Advent 2020 from our Blackburn Diocese - please give a book to someone who can't get to church.

NO CHRISTMAS FAIR? DON'T WORRY ON MISSING OUT!

Christmas wreaths, cyclamen, hyacinths, holly crosses, grave pots, 'Happy Gnomes' and face masks can be ordered from our new **WEBSITE SHOP** in the 'resources' section:

<https://bolton-le-sands.org.uk/shop/>

Holy Trinity is open for private prayer in the day.

There is a service in church on Sunday Dec 6th at 10.30am and you can join in from home via Zoom. We worship via Zoom on Wednesdays at 10am.

CONTACT: Email parishblsnews@gmail.com for our newsletter and the invite to worship via zoom. Our website is www.bolton-le-sands.org.uk
Rev Nancy Goodrich: 01524 823106.

DAILY HOPE: A free phone line from the Church of England of hymns, reflections and prayers 0800 804 8044