



**THE LINK**

**SUNDAY 5th December, 2021.**

**Second Sunday of Advent**

A warm welcome to everyone whether you are regular or visiting and to those on Zoom.

**HYMNS:**

- 160** Make Way, Make Way for Christ the King
- 30** Come Thou Long Expected Jesus
- 45** O Come, O Come Emmanuel
- 39** Hills of the North Rejoice

**COLLECT:**

Almighty God, purify our hearts and minds, that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again as judge and saviour we may be ready to receive him, who is our Lord and our God.

**All: Amen**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING:**

**Malachi 3.1-4**

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

This is the word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

**EPISTOLARY READING:**

**Philippians 1.3-11**

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to

completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defence and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that on the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

This is the word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

**GOSPEL:**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to **Luke.**

**All: Glory to you, O lord**

**Luke 3.1-6**

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, 'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**All: Praise to you, O Christ**

**PRAYERS:**

We pray for our communities and in particular this week those who live on: Ash Tree Grove, Bridge Croft and Broadlands Drive.

We pray for those who are sick or in need: Stephen, Wendy Hilling, Janet, Kim Sissons, Jean Wilson, Josh,

John, Linda Blessington, Olwyn, Dorothy Bamber and Carol Bull.

From our book of remembrance, we remember in prayer: Andrew John Perks, Kathleen Isobel Gordon, Annie Rachel Parker, Norman Ernest Morris, Ann Davies, Jean Townson, Joseph Robinson and Dorothy Grace Casson.

#### **POST COMMUNION PRAYER:**

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**

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#### **NOTICES.**

**N.B. We continue to have all services and activities in Church with high levels of protection. Sanitising upon entry, wearing a mask when moving around the church, registering with the Welcome Team and observing social distancing.**

**Decorating Help:** We are decorating church after the morning service on 15th December. Any help would be gratefully received. Please bring scissors and any greenery you may have.

**Confirmation Classes 2022:** A service of confirmation is being planned for March 13th 2022, led by Bishop Jill, and confirmation classes will begin on Thursday 13th January 5pm to 6pm. If you are interested, please give your names and contact details to the church wardens or email [kathrynpool@parishbbs.co.uk](mailto:kathrynpool@parishbbs.co.uk).

#### **Parish Services and Events:**

**5th December, 10.30am:** Second Sunday of Advent Service of Holy Communion with Archdeacon David Picken, in Holy Trinity and on Zoom. Followed by Advent Fair.

**5th December, 10.30am:** Sunday Service at St Mark's

**7th December, 1.30pm-3.30pm:** First Tuesday Hub, Holy Trinity.

**7th December, 7pm:** Compassionate Friends at Holy Trinity Church. A service to remember for parents whose child has died at any age and from any cause.

**11th December, 9am:** Men's Breakfast, Holy Trinity Church.

**12th December, 9.15am:** 'Second Sunday' Service, Holy Trinity.

**12th December, 10.30am:** Third Sunday of Advent Service of Holy Communion, led by Bishop Phillip, Holy Trinity and on zoom.

**12th December, 10.30am:** Sunday Service at St Mark's.

#### **Dates for Your Diary 🌟🎄🌟:**

**15th December, 10am:** Wednesday Service, Holy Trinity and on Zoom. Church decoration after the service.

**15th December, 7pm:** Concert by "Ladies of Note". Tickets £10 (inc. refreshments). For more information, see the posters displayed in church or email [parishbbsnews@parishbbs.co.uk](mailto:parishbbsnews@parishbbs.co.uk)

**17th December, 2pm:** Pre-School Nativity Play, Holy Trinity.

**19th December, 10.30am:** Fourth Sunday of Advent Service of Holy Communion, led by Bishop Jill, Holy Trinity and on Zoom.

**19th December, 10.30am:** Sunday Service at St Mark's.

**19th December, 6.30pm:** 9 Lessons and Carols, Holy Trinity.

**22nd December, 10am:** Wednesday Service, Holy Trinity and on Zoom.

**22nd December, 7pm:** Churchyard Carols, Holy Trinity.

**24th December, 4pm:** Crib Service, Holy Trinity.

**24th December, 8pm:** Christmas Vigil Communion Service, Holy Trinity.

**25th December, 10.30am:** Holy Christmas Day Communion, Holy Trinity.

**26th December:** No Sunday Service.

**29th December:** No Wednesday Service.

More details about all our services and events can be found in the Parish Calendar on the website.

Please email [kathrynpool@parishbbs.co.uk](mailto:kathrynpool@parishbbs.co.uk) by Wednesday with any items for the Link.