



& ST MARK'S NETHER KELLET



## **The Link**

Sunday, 11th December, 2022  
**Third Sunday of Advent**

St Mark's 9am - Morning Prayer  
Holy Trinity 9.15am - Second Sunday Service  
Holy Trinity 10.30am - Holy Communion

## **HYMNS:**

394 Tell out my Soul  
42 Longing for Light  
Projector Screen Bring it all to me  
803 There is a hope

## **COLLECT:**

God for whom we watch and wait, you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son: give us courage to speak the truth, to hunger for justice, and to suffer for the cause of right, with Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

## **OLD TESTAMENT READING:**

Today's reading is from **Isaiah**.

### Isaiah 35:1-10

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.

This is the word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## **GOSPEL:**

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

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

### Matthew 11:2-11

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.

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

## **PRAYERS:**

We pray for our communities and in particular those who live on: Bridge Croft, Bridge Road, Brookfield Close, Brookfield View and Byron Avenue.

We pray for those who are sick or in need: Olwyn, Albi, Sue, Ian, Lesley, Jennifer, Ann Deacon, Lynette, Keith and Marion.

We hold before God Brenda Metcalfe, Harry Hill, Jean Helliwell and Robert Swain who have recently died, and pray for their family and friends.

From our book of remembrance, we remember in prayer: Joseph Robinson, Dorothy Grace Casson and John Morrison Sparks.

## **POST COMMUNION PRAYER:**

We give you thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts; kindle in us the fire of your Spirit that when your Christ comes again we may shine as lights before his face; who is alive and reigns now and for ever.

**All: Amen.**

## **Notices and Announcements:**

**A big thank you to everyone who has supported, contributed, helped and attended our Advent Fair. It was fantastic to see so many people enjoying themselves and raising over £2,300.**

A special thank you to the village communities who provided the **“Christmas throughout the World” displays**. Everyone is welcome to visit these displays, which will **remain in church until 5th January**.

Wreaths and flowers will be ready for collection in Church **after 11am on Wednesday**.

Everyone is invited to **Harry Hill’s funeral** in Holy Trinity Church on **15th December at 1.30pm**. Please let Helen Williams know if you are able to join the family at The County Hotel, Carnforth after the service.

### **Our Upcoming Services and Events**

**Sunday, 11th December, 4pm:** St Mark’s Carol Service, followed by mince pies and hot winter drinks, St Mark’s.

**Wednesday, 14th December, 10am:** Wednesday Communion Service, HT.

**Wednesday, 14th December, 7.30pm:** Holy Trinity Choir Practice.

**Thursday, 15th December, 1.30pm:** Funeral of Harry Hill, Holy Trinity.

**Friday, 16th December, 10am:** School Christmas Service.

**Friday, 16th December, 2pm:** Pre-School Nativity

**Sunday, 18th December, 9am:** Fourth Sunday of Advent Service, St Mark’s.

**Sunday, 18th December, 10.30am:** Fourth Sunday of Advent Service Holy Trinity and on Zoom

**Sunday 18th December, 6.30pm:** Carols by Candlelight, Holy Trinity.

**Wednesday, 21st December, 10am:** Wednesday Communion Service, HT.

**Wednesday, 21st December, 7pm:** Carols in the Churchyard

**Saturday, 24th December, 4pm:** Christmas Eve Crib Service, HT.

**Saturday, 24th December, 11.15pm** Midnight Communion Service, Holy Trinity.

**Sunday, 25th December, 9am:** Christmas Service, St Mark's - TBC

**Sunday, 25th December, 10.30am:** Christmas Day Communion Service, Holy Trinity and on Zoom

**Wednesday, 28th December, 10am:** NO WEDNESDAY SERVICE