



St Anne with Holy Trinity, Brondesbury

Confidently sharing the love of Christ

Sunday 12th December 2021

Third Sunday of Advent

President: Mo Christine **Preacher** Mo Christine

*Welcome to worship today—it is great to have you with us. We hope that you will feel welcome. If you are new, please do say hello—we would love to get to know you. If you are unsure where to find something, or about what is going on, please do ask and we will be happy to help. Our worship style is quite formal- but we hope relaxed-as we come to worship God in our midst. **Please wear a face mask at all times during worship and while you are inside.** For the time being we have also decided to suspend refreshments after the service.*

Please let us respect the needs of each other at this challenging time.

All the words you need will be on the screens at the front, but service sheets and hymn books are available if you prefer.

During Advent we wait for the coming of Christ, not only in the story of the Nativity, but in the hear and now. We wait for the coming of God's Reign on earth, when peace and justice will be a reality. The concepts of Advent are often difficult as they speak of judgement and end times. Equally they talk of new life beyond our understanding. As we come to this Advent Season, let us not be afraid of our waiting, or of the uncertainty it may raise. Rather we are invited in our prayer and meditation to call out 'Come, Lord Jesus, Come!'



Please stand as the bell is rung as we sing our opening Hymn 223 – Glorious things of thee have spoken

**We meet in the name of God who is (+) Father,
Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

The President will introduce the service before God with our prayers of confession

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 confess our sins.

Silence is kept

**Almighty God,
long-suffering and of great goodness:
I confess to you,
and to these my brothers and sisters,
I confess with my whole heart my neglect and forgetfulness
of your commandments,
my wrong doing, thinking, and speaking;
the hurts I have done to others,
and the good I have left undone.
O God, forgive me, for I have sinned against you; and raise
me to newness of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

After a period of silent reflection we sing together:

**Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

We are reassured of God's Forgiveness

Almighty God,
who in Jesus Christ has given us
a kingdom that cannot be destroyed,
forgive us our sins,
open our eyes to God's truth,
strengthen us to do God's will
and give us the joy of his kingdom,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Advent Wreath is lit

Each of the four Sundays reminds us of those who prepared for the coming of Christ. On this Third Sunday we remember John the Baptist who foretold the coming Christ. We light the pink candle on the third Sunday which represents joy or rejoicing and reveals a shift in the season of Advent away from repentance and toward celebration

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 been 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

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. **Amen.**

Liturgy of the Word *(please sit)*

Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures

Rejoice! Here comes a happy prophet. We usually do not associate a prophet of the Old Testament with joy and jubilation. But our reading from Zephaniah makes a delightful exception. Gladness engulfs God. God is happy for the redeemed who will now experience evil no more.

A reading from the Prophet Zephaniah 3: 14-end

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion;
shout, O Israel!
Rejoice and exult with all your heart,
O daughter Jerusalem!

The Lord has taken away the judgements against you,
he has turned away your enemies.
The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst;
you shall fear disaster no more.
On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:
Do not fear, O Zion;
do not let your hands grow weak.
The Lord, your God, is in your midst,
a warrior who gives victory;
he will rejoice over you with gladness,
he will renew you in his love;
he will exult over you with loud singing
as on a day of festival.
I will remove disaster from you,
so that you will not bear reproach for it.
I will deal with all your oppressors
at that time.
And I will save the lame
and gather the outcast,
and I will change their shame into praise
and renown in all the earth.
At that time I will bring you home,
at the time when I gather you;
for I will make you renowned and praised
among all the peoples of the earth,
when I restore your fortunes
before your eyes, says the Lord.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

We hear a reading from the New Testament.

“Joy” and “peace” are themes we encounter throughout the season of advent: on cards, decorations, and in music streaming forth from malls and churches. Yet experience shows us that “joy” and “peace” are often allusive, especially at this time of year. Philippians 4:4-7 offers a helpful framework for exploring “joy” and “peace” in relation to the life

of faith. They suggest that the substance of joy and peace is found not so much in the emotions they evoke, as in the attitudes, behaviours, and relationships in which they are grounded.

A reading from the letter to the Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

We remain seated as we sing or listen to 463 Lord Jesus Christ

The Gospel

In today's Gospel Luke depicts John the Baptist's message as a clarion call to repentance. His proclamation can be divided into roughly three sections: First (verses 7-9), he addresses potential excuses. In the second section of his message (Luke 3:10-14), when "the crowds" ask what they should do, he says to provide generously for those in need. Then, two groups -- tax collectors and soldiers -- ask the same question. The third and final section of John's proclamation in the wilderness (Luke 3:15-17) depicts him doing exactly what he has just advised. That is, he shows that he knows his role, and he refuses to push beyond the bounds of the authority he's been given: When the people wonder whether John himself is the promised Messiah (3:15), he responds by underscoring his subordination to the one who is coming (3:16). This passage might lead us to ask: What does it mean to bear fruit worthy of repentance today? Are we content with what we have? From Michal Beth Dinkler, Assistant Professor of New Testament, Yale Divinity School.

The Gospel is announced.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke
Glory to You, O Lord.

Luke 3: 7-18

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.'

And the crowds asked him, 'What then should we do?' In reply he said to them, 'Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.' Even tax-collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, 'Teacher, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.' Soldiers also asked him, 'And we, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.'

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

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

We sit to listen to the sermon.

We stand to affirm our faith in the words of the Apostles creed.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

We sit as we prayer for the Church, the World and for this community.

After each bidding we pray

Lord in your mercy

Hear our prayer

After every group of names we pray

Rest Eternal Grant unto them O Lord

And let light perpetual shine upon them

May they rest in peace

And rise in glory

At the conclusion of the prayers

Merciful Father,

**accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour
Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Liturgy of the Sacrament *(please stand)*

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
and also with you.

Let us offer each other the sign of peace in a Covid friendly way.

We sing our offertory Hymn 811 – What a Friend we have in Jesus

We give thanks for God's gifts

As this bread was scattered
and then gathered and made one,
so may your Church be gathered into your kingdom.
Glory to you, O God, for ever.

Wisdom has built her a house;
she has mixed her wine; she has set her table.
Glory to you, O God, for ever.

The Lord be with you,
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

The preface continues until we sing.

**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.**

After the Consecration

Great is the mystery of faith
**Christ has died: Christ is risen:
Christ will come again**

At the end we say—Amen

**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**

The president breaks the consecrated bread.

We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.
**Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

We sing the Agnus Dei.

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
Grant us peace.**

The Elevation

Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.
**Lord (+) I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word
and I shall be healed.**

All who are baptised are welcome to receive. We currently receive in one kind only. That means we receive the bread only. The Priest receives the wine on our behalf. Once all have received the bread and returned to our seat we consume together with the words
The body of Christ **Amen**

You may also like to light a candle during this time as a symbol of your prayers rising toward God.

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. . **Amen.**

Notices and Banns

The Lord be with you
And also with you

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you,
scatter the darkness from before your path,
and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory;
and the blessing of God almighty, the (+) Father, the Son and
the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.
Amen

Go in the peace of Christ
Thanks be to God

We sing our final hymn **638** *Rejoice the Lord is King*

You are invited to join us for refreshments downstairs.

Notices

Finding Handel is a new book by Helen Dymond. It is her first novel and is based on historically-recorded facts about the composer, during the final phase of his life when he was composing his oratorio 'Jephtha'; the novel is intended both to entertain and to inform. She will be signing copies of her novel Finding Handel on Sunday 12th December, 2.00 to 4.30 pm in the Rotunda.

Revd Canon Lusa Nsenga-Ngoy has been appointed as the next **Bishop of Willesden**. You can read about him on the Diocese website see <https://www.london.anglican.org/articles/new-bishop-of-willesden-tours-west-london/>

Laurence's Larder

You can still leave your donations, tinned fish or any non perishable food in the basket at the top of the stairs. You can see updates on this work at www.laurenceslarder.org.uk

Coming to Church

Please wear a mask at all times. Please 'wrap up' as windows will be open! For now, we are not offering refreshments after the service.



Advent, like Lent, is a time for personal and corporate reflection on how we live our faith. In the case of Advent we are in a season of waiting. Advent waiting is not however simply about the birth of Jesus. Our Advent season waiting is also thinking ahead to Christ's future coming.

Opportunities During Advent 2021



Giving Tree

At St Anne's we have a giving tree on the first floor landing of the church. It is a symbolic place to be charitable during Advent and Christmas.

Four ways to give under the tree this Christmas:

- 1. Laurence's Larder.**
Donations of non perishable items or cash.
- 2. Gift Box for St Mungo's**
Fill a shoe box with items that would be useful for a homeless man. Warm socks, hats, gloves, toiletries, tea bags, cup of soups. Wrap the box, or in a gift bag and place under the tree.
- 3. Gift to St Anne's for its ministry**
This Christmas you are invited to give a gift to St Anne's to help us continue our work in this place. We invite you to simply place your gift to St Anne's in the envelope provided, and place it in the basket under our Christmas tree.
- 4. Vouchers for those in need**
Supermarket vouchers means we can give the ability to those in need to buy what they need. Vouchers of £5 or £10 are the most useful. And it would be helpful if they were for a Supermarket in the local area (including Kilburn). These can be they shared throughout the coming year.

Advent Reflection followed by Mass

Final Session on **20th December at 6pm** there will be an Advent reflection in the Chapel concluding with a Said Mass. This year we will be exploring 'Music of Eternity' using some of the resources from the 2021 Archbishop of York's Advent book.

Carols by Candlelight

with Queen's Park Singers—Sunday 19th December at 4pm followed by mulled wine and mince pies in the carpark!

Finance—St Anne's

Our current monthly target for congregational giving is **£2180**. In November we raised £1850. Thank you to everyone for your generosity!



For our prayers— Piers, Gill, Neale, Michael, Joyce, Jackie, Mavis, Hada, June, Michael, Kay, Comfort, Joyce, Fr Robert, Jean, Peter, Pearl, Rute, Josephine, John, Cecilia and Ruth. We remember those who have died recently including David, Isobel Robinson and Ron Sutcliff and those whose anniversary of death falls at this time including Cecil Nymn, Fredrick Slade, Lionel Patrick Salmon and Nora Sturges.

Services during the week 12th December 2021

Monday 13th 2pm—Christian Contemplation

Tuesday 14th No Morning Prayer today

Thursday 16th 8.30am Morning Prayer in Chapel and on Zoom

Friday 17th 8.30am Morning Prayer in Chapel and on Zoom

9.30am My Moves Playgroup

2pm Tea and Chat today

Sunday 19th 8.30am Morning Prayer in Trinity Chapel

Advent 4 9.30am Sung Mass

4pm— Carols by Candlelight which will also be live streamed to our Facebook Page.

Thought for the Day on Facebook at some point.

Parish contact details

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