



St Anne with Holy Trinity, Brondesbury

Confidently sharing the love of Christ

Readings and Notice Sheet Sunday 27 December 2020 Christmas 1

On this strange Sunday between Christmas and Epiphany we will not have worship in church, though we will have a Zoom Service at 5pm, here are the prayers and readings set for today which you may find useful.

The Collect

Almighty God,
who wonderfully created us in your own
image and yet more wonderfully restored
us through your Son Jesus Christ: grant
that, as he came to share in our
humanity, so we may share the life of
his divinity; who is alive and reigns with
you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Merry Christmas!



Reading from the Prophet Isaiah

The book of Ezekiel defines a true prophet in this way: one who repairs the wall and stands in the breach on behalf of the people (Ezekiel 22:30).¹ Based on this criterion, the author of Isaiah 61:10—62:3 is truly a prophet. He stands in the gap between God and Judah, decreeing a new age of freedom and restoration (Isaiah 61:1-3) and refusing to leave God in silence until Zion's vindication is manifest on earth as it is in heaven. Fundamentally, Isaiah 61:10—62:3 is about the profound transformation that occurs in Zion as a result of the prophet's spirit-anointed mission. So fundamental is this transformation that Zion has to be renamed (Isaiah 62:2).

Isaiah 61:10 – 62:3

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord,
my whole being shall exult in my God;
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.
For as the earth brings forth its shoots,

and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,
so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.
For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,
until her vindication shines out like the dawn,
and her salvation like a burning torch.
The nations shall see your vindication,
and all the kings your glory;
and you shall be called by a new name
that the mouth of the Lord will give.
You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord,
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Our Second reading from the letter to the Galatians

Galatians 4:4-7 contrasts our former status as slaves to the elemental spirits/ principles of the world with our current status as "sons of God" because of the redemptive work of Jesus Christ

Galatians 4: 4-7

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, 'Abba! Father!' So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel is today taken from Luke

Luke has drawn us into a story of unique characters who stand out in their context. Some are not named, but each represent very real lives and circumstances, very real sorrows and hopes. Names are powerful things! The angel has named Jesus as the one who accomplishes the glory of God. Jesus is of the house of David; he is Savior; he is Messiah; and he is Lord. Mary accepts this name and so this will be the message proclaimed for generations to follow. More than the sign of the promise of peace, God's salvation is made available to all humankind. The heritage of Israel, the one who restores wholeness to all the world, the long-expected anointed one who demonstrates the present in-breaking of the reign of God.

Luke 2:15-21

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

This is the Gospel of our Lord

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

Take some time to reflect on the readings set for today—what might they be saying to you? What might they be saying to us as a community?

Intercessions

Today you remind us creator God that day-by-day Jesus grew just like us – and understood what it is to be human and to have the gift of a name. So o in thankfulness we bring our human concerns before you....

Creator, your Son is the prince of peace: grant an abundance of peace to your world. We pray for places of conflict and injustice at this time – that your peace might be a reality.

Lord, in your mercy

hear our prayer.

Father, the Holy Family shared the life of the people of Nazareth: protect in your mercy our neighbours and families, together with the whole community of which we are part. We pray for all suffering as a result of the pandemic and all how are working to protect us or care for us.

Lord, in your mercy

hear our prayer.

Creator, your Son was rich, yet for our sakes he became poor: show your love for the poor and powerless. Bring homes to all who flee – help us to be generous to all those who have needs greater than our own. Help us to see each other as you see us.

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

Father, your son shows us the importance of listening for your voice, and trusting in your wisdom. Strengthen all who are on our hearts and minds at this time, amongst them Peter, Pearl, Yvonne, Rute, Patience, Ron, Evelyn, Linda, John, Josephine, John, Cecilia and Ruth....

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

Creator, you are the King of heaven, the hope of all who trust in you: give to Ed Anderson, Albert Beauchamp, Richard Killick and Gerry Clist and all the faithful departed the wonders of your salvation.

Rest Eternal, Grant unto them O Lord
And may light perpetual shine upon them.
May they rest in peace
And rise in Glory

Rejoicing in the fellowship of wise men, shepherds and angels, and of the Blessed Mary and Saint Joseph, we commend ourselves and all Christian people to your unfailing love as in a moment of stillness we offer our own prayers to God, , as we pray in the words you taught us:

**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**

Notices

Holiday Closure

From the 26th December until the 10th January 2021 the Church will be closed. Though there will be a service on Sunday 3rd January at 9.30am when we will celebrate Epiphany.



A Huge Thank you

Thank you to everyone who has assisted during Advent and Christmas from the little things, to the big things. The help we needed this year on many occasions was quite different, and most of it unseen—so thank you! Thank you for your generosity and care. Thank you too for all who contributed to our charities and support others in

their streets and networks with a hot meal on Christmas Day!!! You are amazing.

A personal Thank you from me (Mother Christine) too for the kind cards and gifts I was overwhelmed by your kindness.

Tier Four

As you know we are now living under Tier Four restrictions This means we must not socialise with anybody outside of our household or support bubble in any indoor setting, whether at home or in a public place. Despite this places of worship are allowed to remain open provided that they limit mixing of households AND we follow Covid Safety Guidance. We must:

- wear a mask at all times inside;
- sanitise or wash you hands as you enter;
- enter separately;
- not mingle while in church but rather move straight to our seat;
- keep our distance when receiving communion and
- leave carefully with a 2 meter gap between each person or household.
- While there is some heating, windows need to be open for ventilation so please wear warm clothes!
- Sign in on the Track and Trace Ap and sign- sheet

Once outside please keep a safe distance. We are not allowed congregational singing, you might hum along under your mask.

Even if you do not agree with the guidance PLEASE follow it so that we can respect each other and do the best we can for the whole of our community. *Please follow the guidance of the stewards. If you are using the NHS Track and Trace App—please use the code adjacent. We also ask that you ‘sign in’ as you enter the building for church. Please do not come to church is you have any symptoms.*

News from Laurence’s Larder and Sufra

As many of you know Laurence’s Larder will remain open providing a ‘takeaway’ hot meal every Thursday. If you would like to help out, please contact them first as they have to limit the number of volunteers at present

to ensure they can work within the parameters of the guidance. Please see their revamped website : <https://www.laurenceslarder.org.uk/> **They have also now launched their Christmas Appeal—please see their website! We are also sharing our food donations with Sufra.** You can read all about what they are doing during this period on their website <https://www.sufra-nwlondon.org.uk/> They are also looking for extra volunteer drivers.

Jane Cox shared the good experience she has had being part of the NHS Volunteer Responder scheme. This allows you to volunteer from home. They really need more! See <https://nhsvolunteerresponders.org.uk/> **We have some wonderful volunteers from St Anne’s supporting both Laurence’s Larder and Sufra.**

Daily Hope 24hour phonline

Daily Hope offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England at the end of a telephone line. The line – which is available 24 hours a day on **0800 804 8044.**



For our prayers Peter, Pearl, Yvonne, Rute, Patience, Ron, Evelyn, Linda, John, Josephine, John, Cecilia and Ruth and for those who have died recently including Mifley; and those whose anniversary of death falls at this time including Ed Anderson, Albert Beauchamp, Richard Killick and Gerry Clist.

Services this coming week starting **27th December 2020**

Sunday 27th—5pm Zoom Service only

Then there is then NO Services at St Anne’s until

Sunday 3rd January 2021—Epiphany
8.30am—Morning Prayer in Chapel and on Zoom
9am—Thought for the Day on Facebook
9.30am— Eucharist
5pm Zoom Service for the day

Love is born
With a dark and troubled face.
When hope is dead
And in the most unlikely place
Love is born.
Love is always born.

