



# Advent Sunday

Sunday, 28 November 2021

# THE SERVICE

## Greeting & Opening Prayer

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

Lift up your heads, O gates;  
**be lifted up, you everlasting doors;**  
and the King of glory shall come in,  
**and the King of glory shall come in.**

*Psalm 24:7*

## Lighting of the Advent Candle

*The first Advent candle on our wreath.*

Blessed are you, sovereign Lord, God of our ancestors:  
to you be praise and glory for ever.  
You called the patriarchs to live by the light of faith  
and to journey in the hope of your promised fulfilment.  
May we be obedient to your call  
and be ready and watchful to receive your Christ,  
a lamp to our feet and a light to our path;  
for you are our light and our salvation.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

## Song

Light of the world  
You stepped down into darkness  
Opened my eyes let me see  
Beauty that made  
This heart adore You  
Hope of a life spent with You

*So here I am to worship  
Here I am to bow down  
Here I am to say that You're my God  
And You're altogether loving  
Altogether worthy  
Altogether wonderful to me*

King of all days  
Oh so highly exalted  
Glorious in heaven above  
Humbly You came  
To the earth You created  
All for love's sake became poor

And I'll never know how much it cost  
To see my sin upon that cross  
And I'll never know how much it cost  
To see my sin upon that cross

*Words and Music: Time Hughes*

## **Confession & Absolution**

A voice cries out in the wilderness,  
'Make straight the way of the Lord.'  
So let us listen, and turn to the Lord in penitence and faith.

God, through Jesus Christ,  
will judge the secret thoughts of all:  
Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,'  
will enter the kingdom of heaven:  
Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Let anyone who has an ear  
listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches:  
Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

May the God of love and power  
forgive you and free you from your sins,  
heal and strengthen you by his Spirit,  
and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen**

### **The 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.**

## Song

Longing for light, we wait in darkness.  
Longing for truth, we turn to you.  
Make us your own, your holy people,  
light for the world to see.

*Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.  
Shine through the darkness. Christ, be our light!  
Shine in your church gathered today.*

Longing for peace, our world is troubled.  
Longing for hope, many despair.  
Your word alone has power to save us.  
Make us your living voice.

*Christ, be our light...*

Longing for food, many are hungry.  
Longing for water, many still thirst.  
Make us your bread, broken for others,  
shared until all are fed.

*Christ, be our light...*

Longing for shelter, many are homeless.  
Longing for warmth, many are cold.  
Make us your building, sheltering others,  
walls made of living stone.

*Christ, be our light...*

Many the gifts, many the people,  
many the hearts that yearn to belong.  
Let us be servants to one another,  
making your kingdom come.

*Christ, be our light...*

## **Gospel Reading**

*Luke 21:25-36 – end – read by Judith.*

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Address**

*Sue Vallente-Kerr*

## **The Apostles' Creed**

Let us declare our faith in God, Father Son, and Holy Spirit.

**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.**

## Prayers

*We pray for the coming of God's kingdom. Led by Nan.*

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray.

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever.  
Amen.**

## Song

Soon and very soon  
We are going to see the King  
Soon and very soon  
We are going to see the King  
Soon and very soon  
We are going to see the King  
*Hallelujah hallelujah  
We're going to see the King*

No more crying there  
We are going to see the King  
No more crying there  
We are going to see the King  
No more crying there  
We are going to see the King  
*Hallelujah hallelujah*  
*We're going to see the King*

No more dying there  
We are going to see the King  
No more dying there  
We are going to see the King  
No more dying there  
We are going to see the King  
*Hallelujah hallelujah*  
*We're going to see the King*

*Words and Music: Andraé Crouch*

## **The Blessing**

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 always.  
**Amen.**

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