

St Andrew's Church

Orford with Longford

**The Second Sunday of Advent**

**6th December 2020**

**Please wear a mask. Separate households must sit apart. Only the choir can sing. Keep social distances. Keep safe. At the end of the service please leave the building and talk outside.**

*All the responses will be said.*

*We welcome the Rev Pam Lovatt as our celebrant and preacher today*

**THE GATHERING**

**Introit hymn 32 ‘O come, O come Emmanuel’**

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

Priest: The Lord be with you

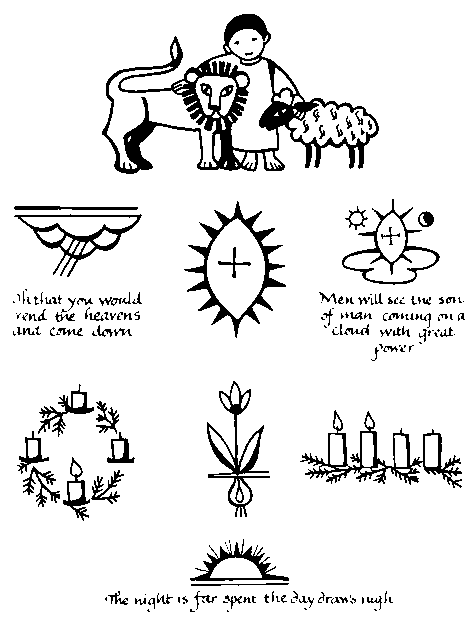
All: And also with you

All: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Lighting the Advent Wreath – the Prophets**:

Priest: Jesus said, ‘Do not think I have come to abolish the law and the prophets: I have not come to abolish them but to fulfil them.’

All: Amen. Come soon, Lord Jesus



The second candle is lit and this prayer is said:

Priest: Jesus is the light of the world

All: Lord Jesus, Light of the world,

the prophets said you would bring peace

and save your people in trouble.

Give peace in our hearts at Christmastide

and show all the world God’s love.

**Prayers of Penitence**

Priest: 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.

After a period for silent reflection:

All: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and against our neighbour in thought and word and deed, through negligence, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past, and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your name. Amen.

All : Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy,

Priest: Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Collect: O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us; your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and for ever. **Amen**

#### **THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah** *(Isa 40. 1–11)*

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord’s hand double for all her sins. A voice cries out: ‘In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.’ A voice says, ‘Cry out!’ And I said, ‘What shall I cry?’ All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, ‘Here is your God!’ See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

**Gradual hymn: 24 ‘Come thou long expected Jesus’**

##### THE GOSPEL

Priest: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight;

and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.

All: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark (*Mk 1. 1-8)*

All: Glory to you, O Lord

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, ‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: “Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,”’ John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, ‘The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.’

This is the gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

##### the sermon

Please stand to say the Nicene Creed:

Priest: We believe in one God,

**All: the Father, the almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Intercession *(please kneel)*

Priest: Watchful at all times, let us pray for strength to stand with confidence before our Maker and Redeemer.

The prayers are led by a member of our congregation. Each section ends:

Intercessor: Let us pray to the Lord *All reply:* **Lord, have mercy.**

Please remember in your prayers:

* **those who are sick:** **:**  Marion Greatorex, Pauline Smith, Michelle Smith, Michael Stringer, Joyce Crozier, Pete Harris, Eileen Whitehead, Lynn Shaw
* **those who have died:**
* **those whose year's mind falls at this time**:

***Tuesday:*** Robert Cade, Hilda Smith, Maureen McKean, Wendy Edwards

***Wednesday:*** Arthur Dearden ***Friday:*** Frank Delooze, Trent Tinsley-Wynn

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

**The Peace**   *(please stand)*

Priest: 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

**All: and also with you**

Priest: Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*Everyone is invited to share the peace with one another by waving or bowing or both*

Eucharistic Prayer A *(please kneel)*

Priest: The Lord is here.

All: **His Spirit is with us**.

Priest: Lift up your hearts.

All: **We lift them to the Lord**.

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give thanks and praise.

Priest: It is indeed right and good to give you thanks and praise, almighty God and everlasting Father, through Jesus Christ your Son. For when he humbled himself to come among us in human flesh, he fulfilled the plan you formed before the foundation of the world to open for us the way of salvation. Confident that your promise will be fulfilled, we now watch for the day when Christ our Lord will come again in glory. And so we join our voices with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven to proclaim your glory, for ever praising you and *saying:*

All: 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.

Priest: Accept our praises, heavenly Father, through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, and as we follow his example and obey his command, grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these gifts of bread and wine may be to us his body and his blood;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Therefore, heavenly Father, we remember his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross; we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; we look for the coming of your kingdom, and with this bread and this cup we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Christ is the bread of life:

All: When we eat this bread and drink this cup

we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus, until you come in glory.

Priest Accept through him, our great high priest, this our sacrifice of thanks and praise, and as we eat and drink these holy gifts in the presence of your divine majesty, renew us by your Spirit, inspire us with your love and unite us in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Through him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise*:*

All: Blessing and honour and glory and power be yours for ever and ever.

Amen.

Priest: Looking for the coming of the kingdom, let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

All: 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.

Priest: We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

**All: Though we are many, we are one body,**

**because we all share in one bread.**

All: 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.

Priest: Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

**All: Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,**

**but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

Holy Communion is administered at the front of Church. Everyone is warmly invited to receive Holy Communion at this Eucharist. Go up to the altar steps 3 at a time: to the right, to the middle and to the left. Return by either side and not down the middle.

*During the distribution of the Sacrament, the following hymn is sung:*

**220 ‘How beauteous are their feet’**

**After Communion:**

Reader: Let us pray: 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. Amen

All: Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.

Priest: 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

**Recessional Hymn:** **29 ‘Hills of the north, rejoice!’**

Priest: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: In the name of Christ. Amen

Services and Notices for the coming week:

Monday December 7th PCC Meeting at 7.00pm in Lady Chapel

**Next Sunday The Third Sunday of Advent**

**(13th Dec) 10.00am Eucharist**

Celebrant: The Ven. Simon Fisher, Archdeacon of St Helens & Warrington

Interviews for a Priest in charge of St. Andrew’s are to be held on December10th.

The position is for a period of 2 years. The three roles will be to help the parish recover from a year without a priest, to develop mission and growth and help the church to plan for its future.

Currently the deanery have 11 clergy supporting 13 parishes most of which have small congregations. We either grow ourselves out of the situation or shrink (buildings, clergy or both).

**Advent 2 6th December 2020**

Watchful at all times,

let us pray for strength to stand with confidence

before our Maker and Redeemer.

That God may bring in his kingdom with justice and mercy,

*(pause)*

let us pray to the Lord:

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

That God may establish among the nations

his sceptre of righteousness,

*(pause)*

let us pray to the Lord:

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

That we may seek Christ in the Scriptures

and recognize him in the breaking of the bread,

*(pause)*

let us pray to the Lord:

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

That God may bind up the brokenhearted,

restore the sick

and raise up all who have fallen,

*(pause)*

let us pray to the Lord:

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

That the light of God’s coming may dawn

on all who live in darkness and the shadow of death,

*(pause)*

let us pray to the Lord:

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

That, with all the saints in light,

we may shine forth as lights for the world,

*(pause)*

let us pray to the Lord:

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

We commend ourselves and all for whom we pray

to the mercy and protection of our heavenly Father:

We pray today for Marion Greatorex, Pauline Smith, Michelle Smith, Michael Stringer, Joyce Crozier, Pete Harris, Eileen Whitehead, Lynn Shaw Break into our lives, where we struggle with sickness and distress,

and set us free to serve you for ever.

*(pause)*

Let us pray to the Lord:

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: Come to us as shepherd and guardian of our souls.

We remember those who have died recently and also Robert Cade, Hilda Smith, Maureen McKean, Wendy Edwards, Arthur Dearden,

Frank Delooze and Trent Tinsley-Wynn whose anniversaries fall at this time.

Grant us, with all the faithful departed,

a share in your victory over evil and death.

*(pause)*

Let us pray to the Lord:

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: Come from heaven, Lord Jesus, with power and great glory.

Lift us up to meet you,

that with Saint Andrew and all your saints and angels

we may live and reign with you in your new creation.

*(pause)*

Let us pray to the Lord:

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

Come Lord Jesus, do not delay; give new courage to your people, who trust in your love. By your coming, raise us to share in the joy of your kingdom on earth as in heaven, where you live and reign with the Father and the Spirit, one God for ever and ever. **Amen**

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All: Thanks be to God.