

**ST ANDREW'S CHURCH
RUGBY**



Advent Carol Service

Advent Sunday
1st December 2024
6.00pm

Welcome to St Andrew's—may God's peace be with you.

Please ensure that all electronic devices are switched off.

The service sheet gives directions on when to stand, sit or kneel,
but please feel free to remain sitting if you prefer.

Toilets are available through the arch beside the main entrance.

We have a plate at the back of church for offerings; a link to
online giving is on the back of this service sheet.

Please remain seated in silence as the lights are dimmed.

CHOIR Advent Responory

G.P. da Palestrina

Please stand

HYMN

Choir O come, O come, Emmanuel,
redeem thy captive Israel,
that into exile drear is gone,
far from the face of God's dear Son.

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee O Israel*

**All O come, thou Branch of Jesse! draw
the quarry from the lion's claw;
from the dread caverns of the grave,
from nether hell, thy people save.**

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee O Israel*

**O come, O come, thou Dayspring bright!
pour on our souls thy healing light;
dispel the long night's ling'ring gloom,
and pierce the shadows of the tomb.**

***Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee O Israel***

**O come, thou Lord of David's key!
the royal door fling wide and free;
safeguard for us the heav'nward road,
and bar the way to death's abode.**

***Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee O Israel***

**O come, O come, Adonai,
who in thy glorious majesty,
from that high mountain clothed with awe
gavest thy folk the elder law.**

***Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee O Israel***

A candle is lit—a symbol of the Advent hope of Christ.

THE BIDDING PRAYER *The Rev'd Canon Edmund Newey*

Dear friends, we celebrate at this time the solemn season of Advent in which the Church bids us prepare to celebrate the coming of Christ; a coming that we recall in the Child of Bethlehem. Advent is a season of waiting, of preparation and expectation. As a mother prepares for the birth of a child, so we as a church prepare for the birth of the Son of God. We also wait in expectation and longing for Jesus' return.

And so in this holy season we reflect again on the coming of Christ who brings light into the world. We pray that we may leave behind the darkness of sin and walk in the light that shines on our path, renewing within ourselves the hope of glory to which he beckons. And as we turn towards the light, let us have on our hearts all those who see no light, for whom all is darkness and despair. Let us pray that they too may be illumined by Christ who is our light.

COLLECT FOR ADVENT SUNDAY

Almighty God,
give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness,
and put upon us the armour of light,
now in the time of this mortal life,
in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great
humility;
that in the last day,
when he shall come again in his glorious Majesty,
to judge both the quick and the dead,
we may rise to the life immortal;
through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy
Spirit, now and ever.

All Amen

Please sit

READING Zechariah 9:9-10

Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion!
Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!
Lo, your king comes to you;
triumphant and victorious is he,
humble and riding on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim
and the warhorse from Jerusalem;
and the battle-bow shall be cut off,
and he shall command peace to the nations;
his dominion shall be from sea to sea,
and from the River to the ends of the earth.

For the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

CHOIR There is no rose

John Joubert

Please stand

HYMN

**On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
announces that the Lord is nigh;
awake and hearken, for he brings
glad tidings from the King of kings.**

**Then cleansed be every breast from sin;
make straight the way for God within;
prepare we in our hearts a home,
where such a mighty guest may come.**

**For thou art our salvation, Lord,
our refuge and our great reward;
without thy grace we waste away,
like flowers that wither and decay.**

**To heal the sick stretch out thine hand,
and bid the fallen sinner stand;
shine forth, and let thy light restore
earth's own true loveliness once more.**

**All praise, eternal Son, to thee
whose advent sets thy people free,
whom with the Father we adore,
and Holy Ghost for evermore.**

Please sit

READING Psalm 118:19-29

Open to me the gates of righteousness,
that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord.
This is the gate of the Lord;
the righteous shall enter through it.
I thank you that you have answered me
and have become my salvation.
The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.
This is the Lord's doing;
it is marvellous in our eyes.
This is the day that the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.
Save us, we beseech you, O Lord!
O Lord, we beseech you, give us success!
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
We bless you from the house of the Lord.
The Lord is God, and he has given us light.
Bind the festal procession with branches,
up to the horns of the altar.
You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;
you are my God, I will extol you.
O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures for ever.

For the word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God.

Please stand

HYMN

**Hills of the north, rejoice;
river and mountain spring,
hark to the advent voice;
valley and lowland, sing;
though absent long, your Lord is nigh;
he judgment brings and victory.**

**Isles of the southern seas,
deep in your coral caves
pent be each warring breeze,
lulled be your restless waves:
he comes to reign with boundless sway,
and makes your wastes his great highway.**

**Lands of the East, arise,
he is your brightest morn,
greet him with joyous eyes,
praise shall his path adorn:
the God whom you have longed to know
in Christ draws near, and calls you now.**

**Shores of the utmost West,
lands of the setting sun,
welcome the heavenly guest
in whom the dawn has come:
he brings a never-ending light
who triumphs o'er our darkest night.**

**Shout, while ye journey home;
songs be in every mouth;
lo, from the North we come,
from East, and West, and South.
city of God, the bond are free,
we come to live and reign in thee!**

Please sit

READING Isaiah 9:2, 6, 7

The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness
on them light has shined.
For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders;
and he is named
Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
His authority shall grow continually,
and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.
He will establish and uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time onwards and for evermore.
The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

For the word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God.

CHOIR Tomorrow shall be my dancing day John Gardener

HYMN *Please stand*

**Come, thou long-expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us;
let us find our rest in thee.**

**Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.**

**Born thy people to deliver;
born a child and yet a king;
born to reign in us for ever;
now thy gracious kingdom bring.**

**By thy own eternal Spirit,
rule in all our hearts alone:
by thy all-sufficient merit,
raise us to thy glorious throne.**

Please sit

READING Isaiah 40:5-8

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.

For the word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God.

CHOIR And the glory of the Lord

GF Handel

HYMN *Please stand*

**Come, thou Redeemer of the earth,
and manifest thy virgin-birth:
let every age adoring fall;
such birth befits the God of all**

**Begotten of no human will,
but of the Spirit, thou art still
the Word of God, in flesh arrayed,
the Saviour, now to us displayed.**

**From God the Father he proceeds,
to God the Father back he speeds,
runs out his course to death and hell,
returns on God's high throne to dwell.**

**Thy cradle here shall glitter bright,
and darkness glow with new-born light,
no more shall night extinguish day,
where love's bright beams their power display.**

**O Jesu, virgin-born, to thee
eternal praise and glory be,
whom with the Father we adore
and Holy Spirit, evermore. Amen**

Please sit

READING Matthew 25:1-13

Jesus taught them, saying, ‘Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, ‘Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ But the wise replied, ‘No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.’ And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut.

Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I do not know you.’ Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.’

For the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

CHOIR Sleepers wake!

F. Mendelssohn

PRAYERS *Please sit or kneel*

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,
let us pray to the Lord:

All Lord, have mercy.

That God may establish among the nations
his sceptre of righteousness,
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,
let us pray to the Lord:

All Lord, have mercy.

That God may bind up the broken-hearted,
restore the sick
and raise up all who have fallen,
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,
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,
let us pray to the Lord:

All Lord, have mercy.

So let us commend ourselves
and all for whom we pray
to the mercy and protection of God:

Silence is kept

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.

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 you always.

All Amen.

Please stand

FINAL HYMN

**Lo! he comes with clouds descending,
once for favoured sinners slain;
thousand thousand saints attending
swell the triumph of his train:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
God appears on earth to reign.**

**Every eye shall now behold him
robed in dreadful majesty;
those who set at naught and sold him,
pierced and nailed him to the Tree,
deeply wailing, deeply wailing, deeply wailing,
shall the true Messiah see.**

**Those dear tokens of his passion
still his dazzling body bears,
cause of endless exultation
to his ransomed worshippers:
with what rapture, with what rapture, with what rapture
gaze we on those glorious scars!**

**Yea, Amen, let all adore thee,
high on thine eternal throne;
Saviour, take the power and glory,
claim the kingdom for thine own:
O come quickly! O come quickly! O come quickly!
Alleluia! Come, Lord, come!**

Organ Nun komm der Heiden Heiland BWV 661
J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

St Andrew's Parish Church Choir
Organist and Conductor: William Uglow

Join us this Christmas

Christmas Tree Festival

*Our very popular Festival is open
Monday - Friday 10am-1pm, Saturday 10-12pm*

Saturday 7th December 7pm The Manchester Carols

A magical re-telling of the Christmas story in words and music

Tuesday 10th December 7pm Rotary Tree of Light Service

A service of remembrance for loved ones

Saturday 14th December

10.30am Second Saturday Carols and Songs for Christmas

Drop-in to sing your favourite carols. Lantern making from 12noon

5.30pm Lantern Parade

followed by mulled wine, mince pie and carol singing

Sunday 22nd December

6pm Christmas Carol Service

Traditional service of readings and carols

Monday 23rd December 4pm Christingle Service

Supporting the work of The Children's Society

Christmas Eve Tuesday 24th December

4pm Christingle Service

11.30pm Midnight Mass

Christmas Day Wednesday 25th December

10.30am Sung Holy Communion

A Christmas Day celebration for all the family



*We wish you and those you love
a blessed Christmas*

**This link allows you to give to St Andrew's online:
givi.ng/1160223**



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