

**The Third Sunday of Advent
Sunday 17th December 2023
Parish Eucharist
St Anne's Mass – MacMillan**

The Advent Antiphon

sung by the choir

Processional Hymn

**Hills of the North, rejoice,
echoing songs arise,
hail with united voice
him who made earth and skies:
he comes in righteousness and love,
he brings salvation from above.**

**Isles of the Southern seas,
sing to the listening earth,
carry on every breeze
hope of a world's new birth:
in Christ shall all be made anew,
his word is sure, his promise true.**

**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 triumphed o'er our darkest night.**

**Shout, as you journey on,
songs be in every mouth,
lo, from the North they come,
from East and West and South:
in Jesus all shall find their rest,
in him the sons of earth be blest.**

Introduction

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

O Lord, we call to you: come to us quickly.
Hear us when we cry to you.

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

please sit

Lit by the children before they go out to Children's Church.

With love and compassion
come, Lord Jesus.

With judgement and mercy
come, Lord Jesus.

In power and glory
come, Lord Jesus.

In wisdom and truth
come, Lord Jesus.

The children leave for their groups.

Prayers of Penitence

introduced by the Deacon.

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.

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

Absolution

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

The Collect

O Lord Jesus Christ, who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare your way before you; grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight; for you are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

The Reading *Isaiah 61: 1-4. 8-end*

At the end the reader may say

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn

People, look east to see at last
hopes fulfilled from ages past:
now in the promise of the morning,
see, a brighter day is dawning,
rich with the visions long foretold,
prophets' dreams from days of old.

Now, with the coming of the light,
darkest fears are put to flight;
see how the clouds of gloom are clearing,
blown aside by hope's appearing,
Jesus, the Light of all our days,
comes and sets our hearts ablaze.

Born of our race, a child so small -
hail the promised Lord of all!
Nailed to a cross for our salvation,
he shall rule God's new creation.
Lift up your eyes, and look again:
see, he comes in power to reign!

Gospel Reading *John 1: 6-8. 19-28*

We all stand and turn to face the Deacon as they prepare to read the Gospel.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

A sentence from scripture is sung and then we respond singing

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to N.

Glory to you, O Lord.

At the end:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

please sit

The Creed

please stand

We believe in one God, 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.

Prayers of Intercession

please sit

During Advent this response is used:

Maranatha:

Come, Lord Jesus.

At the end:

Hasten, Lord, the day when people will come from east and west, from north and south, and sit at table in your kingdom and we shall see your Son in his glory.

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

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

The Peace

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.

The children invite us to share the peace:

'Let us offer one another a sign of peace'.

Offertory Hymn

A collection plate will be passed around if you would like to leave a cash donation. Alternatively please use our contactless card reader in the entrance lobby.

**Hark the glad sound! The Saviour comes
the Saviour promised long!
Let every heart prepare a throne,
and every voice a song.**

**He comes the prisoners to release
in Satan's bondage held;
the gates of brass before him burst,
the iron fetters yield.**

**He comes the broken heart to bind,
the bleeding soul to cure,
and with the treasures of his grace
enrich the humble poor.**

**Our glad hosannas, Prince of peace,
thy welcome shall proclaim,
and heaven's eternal arches ring
with thy beloved name.**

The president takes the bread and wine and says:

As the grain once scattered in the fields
and the grapes once dispersed on the hillside
are now reunited on this table in bread and wine,
so, Lord, may your whole Church soon be gathered together
from the corners of the earth into your kingdom.
Amen.

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

The president praises God for His mighty acts:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest,
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.**

The president recalls the last supper, and we use this acclamation:

Christ is the bread of life:

**When we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus,
until you come in glory.**

The prayer continues and ends with praise to God to which everyone responds:

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

please sit

Awaiting his coming in glory, 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.**

Breaking of the Bread

Every time we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes again.

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.*

Giving of Communion

The president offers the invitation to communion:

Jesus is the Lord 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.**

The Communion

If you would like to receive Communion you are very welcome to do so here. If you do not normally have Communion but would like a blessing, please come to the altar holding this service book as a sign. A sidesperson will show you when to come up.

During Advent there is an opportunity to receive a prayer for wholeness and healing after you have received Communion. This is available in the Lady Chapel.

Anthem *please sit*
I Saw Three Ships - Snyder

Prayer after Communion

Silence is kept.

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.

**We thank you, Lord,
that you have fed us in this sacrament,
united us with Christ,
and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet
prepared for all peoples. Amen.**

The Notices and Banns of Marriage *please sit*

The Blessing *please stand*

Christ the Son 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

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

Dismissal

As we await our coming Saviour,
go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

Organ Voluntary

Please stay and join us for refreshments!