

13th December 2020

Advent 3

Joint Benefice

Service Sheet

Welcome to our
09:30 Service of Holy Communion
with Rev'd Sarah Colver

A recording is available on YouTube :

Our Diocese Together - December

The December issue of "Our Diocese Together" is now [available to download](#) from the Diocese of Derby website or to view online [here](#).

"Inbetween" Deanery Newsletter

Our Deanery Newsletter is available to download from here:

<https://derby.anglican.org/en/about-us/deaneries/north-east-derbyshire-deanery/north-east-derbyshire-parishes.html>

National online services streaming dates

The C of E, in collaboration with a range of Christian charities and organisations, will produce online services throughout Advent and Christmas. This includes an online service for each Sunday of Advent, a Christingle with The Children's Society to which Bishop Libby contributes, nine lessons and carols and midnight services. Charities involved include Christian Aid, Church Army, Embrace and Marie Curie.

They will all be broadcast on the C of E YouTube and Facebook pages.

13 Dec, 9:00am - Third Sunday of Advent. A Christingle service with The Children's Society

20 Dec, 9:00am - Fourth Sunday of Advent with Marie Curie

22 Dec, 9:00am - A service of Lessons and Carols with Christian Aid

24 Dec, 11:30pm - Midnight Mass with the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Bishop of Dover

27 Dec, 9:00am - First Sunday of Christmas with Church Army

31 Dec, 9:00am - A service with the Archbishop of York on New Year's Eve

3 Jan, 9:00am - A service for Epiphany with Embrace the Middle East

Comfort
and Joy



Order of Service for Sunday 13th December 2020 - Advent 3

Gathering

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

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you
and also with you.



*In the recorded version of this service, the full
music and lyrics will be displayed to allow you to sing along at home.*

Hymn – On Jordan’s Bank

On Jordan’s bank the Baptist’s cry
announces that the Lord is nigh;
awake and hearken, for he brings
glad tidings of 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 doth thy people free;
whom with the Father we adore
and Holy Ghost for evermore.

Welcome and lighting of the Advent candles

Advent Candle Song

Winter’s here, we hardly see the sun
Cold damp days can make your spirits
glum;
Though it’s dark when school is done,
Advent tells us that the Lord will come
So through all December’s dark and dreary
days
Clap your hands and sing your Advent
praise

Candle “three” will speak to us of John
Who prepared the way for God’s own Son;
Preaching from his desert home
That the Saviour of the world will come
So through all December’s dark and dreary
days
Clap your hands and sing your Advent
praise

Prayer of Preparation

**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.**

Prayers of Penitence

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.

cf 1 Corinthians 4.5

Silence is kept

**Most merciful God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
we confess that we have sinned
in thought, word and deed.
We have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
In your mercy,
forgive what we have been,
help us to amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be;
that we may do justly, love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

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.

The Collect

Let us pray

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

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

New Testament Reading: 1 Thessalonians Chapter 5 verses 16-24

Rejoice always, ¹⁷pray without ceasing, ¹⁸give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. ¹⁹Do not quench the Spirit. ²⁰Do not despise the words of prophets, ²¹but test everything; hold fast to what is good; ²²abstain from every form of evil. ²³ May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

At the end of a reading, the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Psalm

A Song of Ascents. ¹ When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream. ² Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy; then it was said among the nations, 'The LORD has done great things for them.'³ The LORD has done great things for us, and we rejoiced. ⁴ Restore our fortunes, O LORD, like the watercourses in the Negeb. ⁵ May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy. ⁶ Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves.

Gospel Reading: John Chapter 1 verses 6 – 8 and 19 - 28

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ¹⁹ This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' ²⁰He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, 'I am not the Messiah.'²¹And they asked him, 'What then? Are you Elijah?' He said, 'I am not.'²²'Are you the prophet?' He answered, 'No.'²²Then they said to him, 'Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?' ²³He said, 'I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, "Make straight the way of the Lord"', as the prophet Isaiah said. ²⁴ Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. ²⁵They asked him, 'Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?' ²⁶John answered them, 'I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, ²⁷the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal.'²⁸This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Affirmation of Faith

**We believe that God is present
in the darkness before dawn;
where fear and courage join hands,
and the sun rises over barbed wire.**

**We believe in a with-us God
who sits down in our midst, sharing our humanity.
We affirm a faith
that takes us beyond the safe place,
into action, into vulnerability and into the streets.**

**We commit ourselves to work for change
and put ourselves on the line;
to bear responsibility, take risks,
live powerfully and face humiliation;
to stand with those on the edge;
to choose life and be used by the Spirit
for God's new community of hope.**

Maranatha, come Lord Jesus.

Prayers of Intercession

Prayer responses:

Christ is our hope
and the hope of the world

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

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. *cf Luke 1.78,79*

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Hymn: Hail to the Lord's anointed

(to sing along at home with the recorded version of this service)

Hail to the Lord's Anointed,
Great David's greater Son!
Hail in the time appointed,
His reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression,
To set the captive free;
To take away transgression,
And rule in equity.

He comes with succour speedy
To those who suffer wrong;
To help the poor and needy,
And bid the weak be strong;
To give them songs for sighing,
Their darkness turn to light,
Whose souls, condemned and dying,
Are precious in his sight.

He shall come down like showers
Upon the fruitful earth;
Love, joy, and hope, like flowers,
Spring in his path to birth.

Before him on the mountains,
Shall peace, the herald, go,
And righteousness, in fountains,
From hill to valley flow.

Kings shall fall down before Him,
And gold and incense bring;
All nations shall adore Him,
His praise all people sing;
For He shall have dominion
O'er river, sea and shore,
Far as the eagle's pinion
Or dove's light wing can soar.

O'er every foe victorious,
He on His throne shall rest;
From age to age more glorious,
All blessing and all blest.
The tide of time shall never
His covenant remove;
His Name shall stand forever,
His Name to us is Love.

Preparation of the Table

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.

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

**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.**

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
and according to your holy will,
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

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.

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died:
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.**

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world;
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,
we bring before you this bread and this cup
and we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we, in the company of St Peter, St Paul,
St Lawrence and all the saints,
may praise and glorify you for ever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,
for ever and ever.
Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has 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.**

Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

**Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

**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.**

Invitation to Communion

Jesus is the Lamb of God
who takes away the sins 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.**

After communion, a period of silence is kept

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray

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.

Amen.

Hymn – Thou whose almighty word

(to sing along at home with the recorded version of this service)

Thou, whose almighty word
Chaos and darkness heard,
And took their flight;
Hear us, we humbly pray,
And where the Gospel day
Sheds not its glorious ray,
Let there be light!

Thou, who didst come to bring
On Thy redeeming wing,
Healing and sight,
Health to the sick in mind,
Sight to the inly blind,
Oh, now to all mankind
Let there be light!

Spirit of Truth and Love,
Lifegiving, holy Dove,
Speed forth Thy flight;
Move on the water's face,
Bearing the lamp of grace,
And in earth's darkest place
Let there be light!

Holy and blessèd Three,
Glorious Trinity,
Wisdom, Love, Might!
Boundless as ocean's tide
Rolling in fullest pride,
Through the earth far and wide
Let there be light!

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 you always. **Amen.**



The Dismissal

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

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George's / Jocelyn's Reflection for the 3rd Sunday in Advent

The Old Testament reading set for today comes from the book of the prophet Isaiah and scholars generally agree that it was written after the return from exile when the country was, in effect, rebuilding itself and discovering a 'new normal'. In the NIV translation it is headed 'The year of the Lord's favour'.

It is all about things getting better; of injustices being corrected; of promises from God for a bright future. The thing that struck me on re-reading it were the opening lines 'The spirit of the Lord God is upon **me**, because the Lord has anointed **me** .. He has sent **me** ...' I have highlighted 'me' for a reason. The prophet is not just identifying things that have to be done or fixed but is saying that he has to do them.

Very often we moan about things and ask 'why don't they (whoever they are) do something about it?' We spend time in groups and meetings talking about things and coming up with ideas and suggestions – but having said all that what do we (individually or a group) do about it? If we do nothing then we are just ducking our responsibility for we (individually or a group) have, through the Spirit, been anointed and sent.

I realise, especially at this time of pandemic, it can seem difficult to do anything when so much social contact is missing and so many are involved in dealing with the immediate problems that are raised. However, we can identify those who are dealing with the oppressed; the broken-hearted; the captives; the prisoners that Isaiah identified and all those facing injustice and discrimination. We can support them with prayer; money or other resources. We can find out what they are doing and see if, even in a limited way, there is something we can do locally.

We can also look out for all those around us and, if we see problems find out who needs to know and make sure that they are told. As a church we have Safeguarding procedures for this, but often we think they apply to children and vulnerable adults – which they do, but depending on the circumstances anybody can be vulnerable and in need of support. Outside of church we can appeal to a number of proper authorities by phone, email, letter, petition (eg Local Authority; MP; doctor; neighbour; friend).

It is important that we do this not because we want to be a busybody; thought of as always complaining; being nosy. We are doing this because the spirit of the Lord is upon us and we have an individual responsibility to see that no child of God is mistreated or exploited and separated from love of God.

It will not be easy, but we should remember that, whatever happens, God is always with us.

George

Bishop Libby 's Updates

8th December

The Collect for last Sunday (Advent 2) begins:

'O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us'.

We don't use the word 'succour' very much nowadays, but it seems a good word for us now. It means to give aid or relief – and we feel the need for that at the moment, for ourselves, and to be able to offer it, for Christ's sake, to others.

The Readings set for Holy Communion last Sunday speak of God giving us comfort and encouragement: com – fort means 'with/strength', and encouragement 'give/heart'. This Advent we look to the coming of Jesus, Immanuel – 'God with us' to give us strength in our weariness, anxiety and isolation. And we yearn for a share of the immeasurable love of God, made known in the incarnation, that we might take heart, and so continue to extend that love to others.

Even in these darkest days (literally and metaphorically) we are people of hope because it is God who comes to succour us.

Be assured of my continuing prayers,

+Libby



An Advent Prayer

God our Father,
you spoke to the prophets of old
of a Saviour who would bring peace.
You helped them to spread the joyful message
of his coming kingdom.
Help us, as we prepare to celebrate his birth,
to share with those around us
the good news of your power and love.
We ask this through Jesus Christ,
the light who is coming into the world.
Amen.

Advent Hope

As we emerge from the second lockdown and enter Advent, we look for the coming of Christ and of his kingdom, and the hope that gives us. Between 30 November 2020 and 24 December 2020, Bishop Libby invites you to join her each week for an hour of prayer and reflection together based upon seasonal Bible passages and collects.

Advent Hope is open to all and will be held on Monday morning from 8am - 9am and repeated on Thursday evening from 8pm - 9pm. Do pass this invitation on to your communities and congregations. Please email halina.johnson@bishopofderby.org for the access link.

Be part of our Christmas Carol video

There's nothing quite like singing carols together at Christmas. Sadly, this year, we can't hold our usual carol services – so we're going to make a special version of "O Come, All Ye Faithful" to get us all singing as a diocese, in the spirit of hope and togetherness.

We'd love you to take part, by videoing yourself(elves) singing this most well-known of carols! How to take part (PDF) <https://anglican.us5.list-manage.com/track/click?u=a1b4c83c49eb41ec82649d64e&id=0e037f4c0f&e=194e035b06> . Download the audio track (mp3) <https://anglican.us5.list-manage.com/track/click?u=a1b4c83c49eb41ec82649d64e&id=62e26dfbac&e=194e035b06> . Download the words (PDF) <https://anglican.us5.list-manage.com/track/click?u=a1b4c83c49eb41ec82649d64e&id=ddecc75428&e=194e035b06>

Loundsley Green Services for Advent and Christmas

As confirmed by the Ecumenical Church Council:

December 13th. Advent 3 09.45 We will collect items for the Foodbank

December 19th. Carols at the shops 11.00

December 24th. Christmas Eve. 15.00 Holy Communion+

January 10th. Covenant Sunday Holy Communion 09.45 The Baptism of Christ

**The Church of
England's
Advent and
Christmas
Campaign
Image:**

**Comfort
and Joy**



Services Live and Recordings

A Recording of today's service is available on YouTube:

The previous live service recordings here:

26th July https://youtu.be/_c_mUoqB4qA, 2nd August <https://youtu.be/bVYNWxQa1Ys>,
9th August with Bishop Libby <https://youtu.be/UYZNkREIQm4>,
16th August <https://youtu.be/zFJdtsWVOVo>, 23rd August <https://youtu.be/3Fwvr6SgnhY>,
30th Aug. <https://youtu.be/QkLjupMz6Qg>, 6th Sept. <https://youtu.be/LQfcHwsgXN0>
13th Sept. <https://youtu.be/6GvFOIEm3-4> 27th Sept. <https://youtu.be/b68PPA9VELA>,
4th Oct.: <https://youtu.be/YJdMqvsAMOM> 18th Oct: <https://youtu.be/jIT7FcbqYY>
25th Oct. <https://youtu.be/J2mItfOYyMI> 1st Nov. <https://youtu.be/FCeikJf-UnQ>

Archdeacon Carol's services and reflections from previous weeks can be viewed here: <https://www.facebook.com/ArchChesterfield> - You don't need a Facebook account to view them.

Rev'd. Janet's and Kate's (home) recorded Services:

26th April - <https://youtu.be/KOTUVYOkFQg> 3rd May - https://youtu.be/1P_NmRB8IpI
17th May - https://youtu.be/RgYQ8uoji_E0 24th May - <https://youtu.be/jcs8Vcfakjo>
7th June - <https://youtu.be/4ABhUXuDf8I>, 14th June - <https://youtu.be/rQ3488skRoQ>
21st June - <https://youtu.be/dzYRLm95Qag>, 5th July <https://youtu.be/-JOqnHIBEvM>
12th July <https://youtu.be/ICcTh5eZzMA> 19th July https://youtu.be/o_vknM84B2g
20th Sept. <https://youtu.be/7Qv1Q13uXO4> 11th Oct.: <https://youtu.be/yXbOn0LrNzw>
15th Nov.: <https://youtu.be/P1yIK8an16k> 22nd Nov. <https://youtu.be/NkEn9A1r5no>
29th Nov.: <https://youtu.be/KdcfkN3Ze5k> 6th Dec. <https://youtu.be/SRfgoxu9Rak>
and 2nd April Compline service - <https://youtu.be/IJmg2bSaJvI>

And Remembrance Sunday 8th Nov. 2020 with Rev'd Adrian Murray-Leslie:
<https://youtu.be/8ubzO331R6U>

Other local services - The Crooked Spire's service(s) available here:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCDrGU56c59qfQeHsWOoy1g>
Newbold's service(s) available on their YouTube channel here:
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWT9vXrDSQZnnNVHFL4ITYA?view_as=subscriber

Diocese of Derby – Links to Online Services in the Diocese:

https://derby.anglican.org/en/news/events-and-training/parish-events/derbyshire-church-events.html?fbclid=IwAR2Y88YQLe4xABvKt5_R8T8Y-Wr0I5zh41-JWIhmGw5ZeOsdDE3JyDnN1KA

Advent Evenings

I'm hoping to hold a couple of Advent gatherings on Zoom. You'll be invited to settle down in your favourite armchair with some mulled wine or hot chocolate etc), and share with the group a favourite seasonal poem, piece of music or carol we can sing.

However, at the time of writing, my internet has been cut off and I don't know when it will be restored! So whilst I can provisionally offer the evenings of Thurs. 17th and Fri. 18th Dec., I'll have to confirm nearer the time.

Please let me know if you'd like to join me as places will be limited.

Sarah - 01246 203875 / 07975 689403