

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND IN
MELBOURNE, SMISBY
STANTON-BY-BRIDGE & TICKNALL



The First Sunday of Advent

Sunday 29th November 2020

10.30 am

Facebook page - Melbourne Parish Church

Thank you for joining us for this online act of worship

Happy New Year! In church speak, anyway as Advent marks the beginning of the new church year. Today marks the period not just looking ahead to the celebration of the Incarnation at Christmas but also looking ahead to the end of time when Jesus has promised to return. Here is one of the set prayers for Advent Sunday:

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.

Before the worship begins, you might like to prepare some bread and wine (or juice or something similar) to share when it comes time for the **receiving of communion. Technically speaking this won't be consecrated** bread and wine but it is still being set aside for the purposes of spiritual communion, what in times past early Christians would have called an **'agape' meal, a meal of love and thanksgiving.**

You'll see that our service today includes three hymns -please do join in with these at home! Please also join in with the words in bold type.

Welcome to the Melbourne Rectory Dining Room.

We Worship God Together

Hymn

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.*

O come, thou branch of Jesse! Draw
the quarry from the lion's claw;
from the dread cavern of the grave,
from nether hell, thy people save.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel...

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

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel...

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...

Words: tr. JOHN MASON NEALE (1818-66) Tune: VENI EMMANUEL Thomas Helmore (1811-90)

The Invocation

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

The Greeting

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

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. *cf John 1.23*

A time of quiet is kept.

Lord Jesus, you came to gather the nations
into the peace of your kingdom:

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

You come in word and sacrament
to strengthen us in holiness:

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

You will come in glory
with salvation for your people:

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

God's forgiveness is declared.

May God our Father ✠forgive you your sins,
and bring us to the eternal joy of his kingdom
where dust and ashes have no dominion.

Amen.

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

The first candle on the wreath is lit and then we sing

Advent candles tell their story

as we watch and pray;

longing for the Day of Glory,

'Come, Lord, soon,' we say.

Pain and sorrow, tears and sadness

changed for gladness on that Day.

Almighty God,
as your kingdom dawns,
turn us from the darkness of sin to the
light of holiness,
that we may be ready to meet you
in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.
Amen.

We Listen to God's Word

Gospel Reading
Mark 13.24-37

Alleluia, alleluia.

Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.

Alleluia.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark
Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'In those days, after that suffering,
the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light,
and the stars will be falling from heaven,
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

Then they will see "the Son of Man coming in clouds" with great power
and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the
four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.
From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender
and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you
see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates.
Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have
taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass
away.

'But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven,
nor the Son, but only the Father.

Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake – for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: **Keep awake.**

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Talk

We Pray

After each prayer petition, the following response is used:

Maranatha:
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

After a time of quiet,

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.

We Share Holy Communion

The Peace

May the God of peace make you completely holy,
ready for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.
The peace of Lord be always with you
and also with you.

The altar is prepared whilst the hymn is sung.

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.

Words: CHARLES COFFIN (1676-1749) Tune: WINCHESTER NEW Adapt. Hamburg Chorale

Prayer of Offering

Look upon us in mercy not in judgement;
draw us from hatred to love;
make the frailty of our praise
a dwelling place for your glory.
Amen.

The Eucharistic Prayer

This is the great prayer of thanksgiving where, like Jesus at the Last Supper, we offer our bread and wine to God.

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 right to praise you, Father, Lord of all creation;
in your love you made us for yourself.

When we turned away
you did not reject us,
but came to meet us in your Son.
You embraced us as your children
and welcomed us to sit and eat with you.

In Christ you shared our life
that we might live in him and he in us.
He opened his arms of love upon the cross
and made for all the perfect sacrifice for sin.

On the night he was betrayed,
at supper with his friends
he took bread, and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to them, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.
Father, we do this in remembrance of him:
his body is the bread of life.

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine,
he gave you thanks, and said:
Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins;
do this in remembrance of me.
Father, we do this in remembrance of him:
his blood is shed for all.



As we proclaim his death and celebrate his rising in glory,
send your Holy Spirit that this bread and this wine
may be to us the body and blood of your dear Son.
As we eat and drink these holy gifts
make us one in Christ, our risen Lord.

With your whole Church throughout the world
we offer you this sacrifice of praise
and lift our voice to join the eternal song of heaven:
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.

The Lord's Prayer

After a few moments of quiet, the priest introduces the Lord's Prayer

Awaiting his coming in glory,
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 the bread of life,
and that life is the light of the world.
God here among us,
light in the midst of us,
bring us to light and life.



Sharing of Communion

The priest invites us to share communion.

Jesus is the Lamb 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.

We share bread and wine whilst music is played.

We pray after Communion

The priest introduces the post communion prayer.

Let us pray
O Lord our God,
make us watchful and keep us faithful
as we await the coming of your Son our Lord;
that, when he shall appear,
he may not find us sleeping in sin but active in his service
and joyful in his praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

We receive God's Blessing

Hymn

Lo, he comes with clouds descending,
once for favoured sinners slain;
thousand thousand saints attending
swell the triumph of his train:
alleluia!
Christ 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,
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
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:
alleluia!
thou shalt reign, and thou alone.

Words: CHARLES WESLEY (1707-88) & JOHN CENNICK (1718-1755)

Tune: HELMSLEY ad from JOHN WESLEY'S Select Hymns and Tunes Annex, 1756

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

Our Lord says, 'I am coming soon.'
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

May the Lord, when he comes,
find us watching and waiting.
Amen.

*Thank you for being part of today's worship.
Stay safe and may God be with you.*

