

Service of Morning Worship –Sunday 6th December 2020

Advent 2.

Introduction

Grace and peace to us from God.
May he fill us with truth and joy.

We pray together:

Loving Lord,
fill us with your life-giving, joy-giving, peace-giving presence,
that we may praise you now with our lips, in our hearts
and all day long with our lives,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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.

Confession

The word of God is living and active. It judges the thoughts and intentions of the heart. All is laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we give account. And so, we confess our sins in penitence and faith, thankful of the assurance of God's forgiveness.

Our God, for love of you we desire to hate and forsake all sins
by which we have ever displeased you;
and we resolve by the help of your grace
to commit them no more;
and to avoid all opportunities of sin.
Help us to do this, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

May God who loved the world so much that he sent his Son to be our Saviour
forgive us our sins and make us holy to serve him in the world, through Jesus Christ our
Lord. Amen.



Readings

Mark 1: 1-8

The beginning of the good news about Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God, as it is written in Isaiah the prophet:

“I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way”

“a voice of one calling in the wilderness, ‘Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.’”

And so John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River. John wore clothing made of camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. And this was his message: “After me comes the one more powerful than I, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

Sermon

Thought for 2nd Sunday of Advent can be found on our website.

www.stjamesroundsgreen.com

Creed

Let us declare our faith in God:

We believe in God the Father, from whom every family in heaven and earth is named.

We believe in God the Son, who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love.

We believe in God the Holy Spirit, who strengthens us with power from on high.

We believe in one God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Intercessions

Advent 2

Lord Jesus, you are always ready to make a road through the wilderness and desolate places to meet us. Change our often-rebellious hearts, which are liable to resist any meeting with you, into hearts which embrace your presence in our lives and the promise of your redemption.



Give grace to your Church, whether large in numbers or small, to prepare your people in the ways of holiness and godliness for your coming among us. Bring a fresh revelation of the truth of your word and a new powerful anointing of your Holy Spirit upon all leaders who are given the task of teaching and modelling your glorious, yet sometimes hard to accept, Gospel.

Lord in your mercy, Hear our Prayer

Lord Jesus, everyone's moments are held in your eternity and the glory we create is like the passing of grass in a field.

Give to all leaders of nations wisdom and courage to face the longer vision, and grit to bring in your justice both now and in the future.

We especially pray for our government at this time, and the uncertain future we all face with the finalising of leaving the EU. Many things will be uncertain, and even frightening, as our leaders seek to move us forward into a new way of working and relating to countries which we have previously been so closely connected to.

Out of this messy tangle we pray that you will bring good and harmony to all, especially the poor and marginalised.

Lord in your mercy, Hear our Prayer

Lord Jesus, you honour your creation with your presence; and although it may not seem like it, your presence does reside on Lion Farm. We share in our community's joys and sorrows, rest and labour. May we be sensitive to the needs of those around this church, and willing to offer help, in whatever form, to those we meet who need it. Transform all our relationships to reflect your love and respect.

We pray especially for our Christmas Eve celebrations which will be very different this year. We pray that people will still come into this sacred space and be overwhelmed with a sense of your presence and love for them.

Lord in your mercy, Hear our Prayer

Lord Jesus, in our strength and our weakness your glory is made known. We pray that you will give patient hope to all who are ill, undergoing difficult treatment, or recovering from treatment. Reach out with your healing touch to all whom we name silently before you now.....Have mercy and restore them to health we pray.

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

Amen

Let us now continue in prayer using the words our Saviour taught us:

**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.

Blessing

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord
In the name of Christ. Amen.

