

# **Second Sunday of Advent**

## **Service of Holy Communion**

### **Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2021, 10.30am**

### **Theme: The Prophets**

*This sheet has the weekly additional material to go alongside our orders of service which can be found at [www.holytrinitypottenend.org.uk/worship](http://www.holytrinitypottenend.org.uk/worship).*

### **Lighting the Advent wreath**

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.

**All: Amen**

*Two candles on the Advent Wreath are lit*

**All: Lord Jesus, light of the world,  
the prophets said you would bring peace  
and save your people in trouble.  
Give peace in our hearts at Christmas  
and show all the world God's love.  
Amen.**

### **Musical Meditation – O Come, O come Emmanuel**

### **The Collect**

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power  
and come among us,  
and with great might succour us;  
that whereas, through our sins and wickedness  
we are grievously hindered  
in running the race that is set before us,  
your bountiful grace and mercy  
may speedily help and deliver us;

through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honour and glory, now and for ever.

**All Amen.**

## **Old Testament Reading – Baruch 5.1-9**

*(New Revised Standard Version)*

A reading from the Book of Baruch

**5** Take off the garment of your sorrow and affliction, O Jerusalem,  
and put on forever the beauty of the glory from God.

**2** Put on the robe of the righteousness that comes from God;  
put on your head the diadem of the glory of the Everlasting;

**3** for God will show your splendour everywhere under heaven.

**4** For God will give you evermore the name,  
“Righteous Peace, Godly Glory.”

**5** Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the height;  
look toward the east,

and see your children gathered from west and east  
at the word of the Holy One,  
rejoicing that God has remembered them.

**6** For they went out from you on foot,  
led away by their enemies;

but God will bring them back to you,  
carried in glory, as on a royal throne.

**7** For God has ordered that every high mountain and the everlasting hills be made  
low

and the valleys filled up, to make level ground,  
so that Israel may walk safely in the glory of God.

**8** The woods and every fragrant tree  
have shaded Israel at God’s command.

**9** For God will lead Israel with joy,  
in the light of his glory,  
with the mercy and righteousness that come from him.

This is the word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

## **Benedictus (The Song of Zechariah)**

*Luke 1.68–79*

**All Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel,  
who has come to his people and set them free.**

**He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour,  
born of the house of his servant David.**

**Through his holy prophets God promised of old  
to save us from our enemies,  
from the hands of all that hate us,**

**To show mercy to our ancestors,  
and to remember his holy covenant.**

**This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham:  
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,**

**Free to worship him without fear,  
holy and righteous in his sight  
all the days of our life.**

**And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,  
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,**

**To give his people knowledge of salvation  
by the forgiveness of all their sins.**

**In the tender compassion of our God  
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,**

**To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death,  
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

**Glory to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning is now  
and shall be forever. Amen.**

**Gradual Hymn** – *On Jordan's Bank the Baptists's cry (527)*

**All** **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 ev'ry breath 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 flowe'rs 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.

## Gospel Reading – Luke 3.1-6

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

**All** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

### John the Baptist Prepares the Way

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar—when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of Iturea and Traconitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene—<sup>2</sup> during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness.<sup>3</sup> He went into all the country around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.<sup>4</sup> As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet:

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

<sup>5</sup> Every valley shall be filled in,  
every mountain and hill made low.

The crooked roads shall become straight,  
the rough ways smooth.

<sup>6</sup> And all people will see God’s salvation.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**All** **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **Offertory hymn – *Crown Him with Many Crowns* (137)**

**All** Crown him with many crowns,  
the Lamb upon his throne;  
hark, how the heavenly anthem drowns  
all music but its own:  
awake, my soul, and sing  
of him who died for thee,  
and hail him as thy matchless King  
through all eternity.

Crown him the Virgin's Son,  
the God incarnate born,  
whose arm those crimson trophies won  
which now his brow adorn:  
Fruit of the mystic Rose,  
as of that Rose the Stem;  
the Root, whence mercy ever flows,  
the Babe of Bethlehem.

Crown him the Lord of love;  
behold his hands and side,  
those wounds, yet visible above  
in beauty glorified:  
no angel in the sky  
can fully bear that sight,  
but downward bends his burning eye  
at mysteries so bright.

Crown him the Lord of peace,  
whose power a sceptre sways  
from pole to pole, that wars may cease,  
absorbed in prayer and praise:  
his reign shall know no end,  
and round his piercèd feet  
fair flowers of paradise extend  
their fragrance ever sweet.

Crown him the Lord of years,  
the Potentate of time,  
Creator of the rolling spheres,  
ineffably sublime.  
All hail, Redeemer, hail!  
for thou hast died for me;  
thy praise shall never, never fail  
throughout eternity.

## Prayer after Communion

Father in heaven,  
who sent your Son to redeem the world  
and will send him again to be our judge:  
give us grace so to imitate him  
in the humility and purity of his first coming  
that, when he comes again,  
we may be ready to greet him  
with joyful love and firm faith;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All Amen.**

### **Final hymn – *Come thou Long Expected Jesus (128)***

**All 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 ev'ry nation,  
joy of ev'ry 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 thine all-sufficient merit,  
raise us to thy glorious throne.**

**Thank you for joining us in worship this morning.**

**If you would like to financially support the work of the church please click [HERE](#) or contact us about joining the Parish Giving Scheme.**