

St Mark's Church

Morning Worship Advent 2



Welcome

Opening Verse of Scripture

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 desert, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.'" *Mark 1:2,3*

Opening Words

Advent is a season of expectation and preparation, as the Church prepares to celebrate the coming (adventus) of Christ in his incarnation, and also looks ahead to his final advent as judge at the end of time. Our readings and liturgy not only direct us towards Christ's birth, they also challenge the modern reluctance to confront the theme of divine judgement: *Every eye shall now behold him robed in dreadful majesty. (Charles Wesley)*

Lighting of the Second Advent Candle

Hymn

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Confession

A voice cries out in the wilderness,

Turn to us again, O God our saviour,
and let your anger cease from us:
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Show us your compassion, O Lord,
and grant us your salvation:
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Your salvation is near for those that fear you,
that glory may dwell in our land:
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

The Minister will announce the words of forgiveness



The Offering

Thank you to those who have presented their gifts by standing order, through the bank. If you are a tax payer please use Gift Aid envelopes to enable us to reclaim tax. Please stand as the Offering is brought forward.

Loving God, you made everything that is, so we are giving back to you some of what is already yours. Bless what we have offered. May our offerings help the light of your love burn even more brightly in the year ahead.

We make this prayer through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hymn

Father God I wonder

Praise and Thanksgiving

**All Saviour eternal,
life of the world unending,
light everlasting
and our true redemption.**

**Taking our humanity
in your loving freedom,
you rescued our lost earth
and filled the world with joy.**

**By your first advent justify us,
by your second, set us free:
that when the great light dawns
and you come as judge of all,
we may be robed in immortality
and ready, Lord, to follow
in your footsteps blest, wherever they may lead.**

Salus Aeterna

The Collect Prayer and Bible Readings

You may follow the Bible readings in Partnership News

Almighty God, purify our hearts and minds, that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again as judge and saviour we may be ready to receive him, who is our Lord and our God. CW

Reader

This is the word of the Lord.

All

Thanks be to God.

Hymn

Long ago prophets knew

Sermon

Hymn

Come thou long expected Jesus

Affirmation of Faith

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?
All I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?
All I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?
All I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers

The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

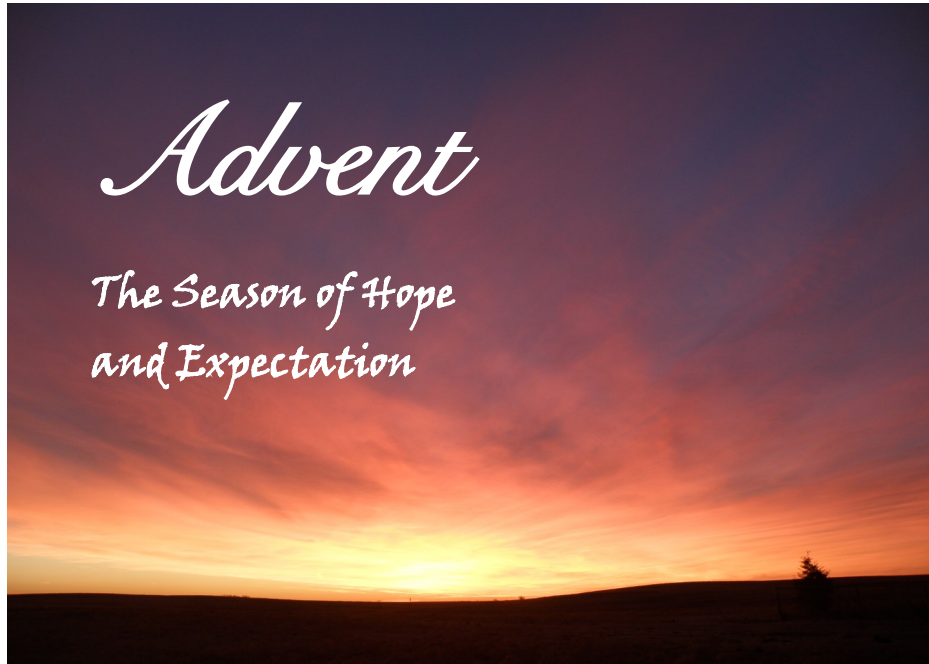
Hymn

Lo he comes with clouds descending

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, father, Son and Holy Spirit be upon
you and remain with you, this day and evermore. **Amen.**

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



*Thank you to all those who have helped prepare our
church or helped us in our worship this morning*



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

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