



Parish Mass for the Third Sunday of Advent

10am, Sunday 19th
December 2021



WELCOME!

St Werburgh's stands in the catholic tradition of the Church of England. Here we try to practise the generous Gospel of Jesus Christ. Together we are exploring a way of living which is inspired by joyful, ordered worship and takes seriously the interior life. We embrace the challenges of peace-making both globally and locally. Welcome to this community of healing. Our celebrant & preacher today is Fr Julian..

Some things you need to know:

- YOU ARE LEGALLY REQUIRED TO WEAR A MASK UNLESS EXEMPT
- Give your contact details or use the QR Code.
- Do not move around the church, but proceed to your seat as directed
- Please be polite to the welcomers and follow their instructions
- PLEASE LEAVE BY THE SOUTH DOORS IN THE BAPTISTRY
- Everybody is welcome here regardless of race, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, addictions or beliefs, single or partnered, we are all God's people
- Everybody is welcome to receive Holy Communion in this church of whatever age or wherever you are on the path of life – all of the bread is gluten free. NOBODY MUST RECEIVE. The Sacrament will be brought to you in your seat.
- We are not sharing the Chalice at present
- There are large print service books available; church always has lots of words, we try to be dyslexia friendly – if you need your book on a different colour paper or in a different font just ask a welcomer
- This church is fitted with a hearing loop, if you experience difficulty hearing the service, then please let a welcomer know
- FEEL FREE TO BREASTFEED, if you would prefer more privacy and a comfy sofa just use Fr J's vestry, one of the welcomers can show you.
- Don't worry about babies making a noise during the service, feel free to get up and walk about, ... there's no need ever to "Shush" kids.
- Toilets with baby changing facilities are located through the doors at the back.
- Adults who find kids an issue are free to go into the Tower Vestry, it has glass doors and a speaker so you can still hear the service. We aim for the Tower Chapel to be an 'autistic friendly' space, but please find wherever it is comfortable for you.



You can use this QR Code to make your gift today and why not join the Parish Giving Scheme? This makes a huge difference to us and ensures your gift each week as even if you cannot always be here.

The notices are given, we then keep a time of silence.

We stand to sing (46):

**On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
announces that the Lord is nigh.
Awake and harken, for he brings
glad tidings of the King of kings!**

**Then cleansed be every life from sin:
make straight the way for God within,
and let us all our hearts prepare
for Christ to come and enter there.**

**We hail you as our Saviour, Lord,
our refuge and our great reward.
Without your grace we waste away
like flowers that wither and decay.**

**Stretch forth your hand, our health restore,
and make us rise to fall no more.**

**O let your face upon us shine
and fill the world with love divine.**

*Once the procession has
entered, the children come to
the front to light the third
Advent candle.*

Uncontainable, irrepressible, bubbling up in an explosion of energy.

What the weary long for, what our children often embody, what makes the Divine smile – joy.

It cannot be paid for, but is a priceless treasure.

The third Advent Candle is lit...(THE PINK ONE!!!)

As we hope for your arrival, as we pray for peace in your living, as we wait and watch and wonder how you might reveal yourself to us, God give us joy in your Advent.

We light a candle for joy. May it light the way.

The children go to Children's Church and will return for the Eucharist.

**All praise to you, eternal Son,
whose advent has our freedom won,
whom with the Father we adore,
and Holy Spirit, evermore.**

Let us pray:

God for whom we watch and wait, you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son: give us courage to speak the truth, to hunger for justice, and to suffer for the cause of right, with Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

All sit for the first reading.

A reading from the Prophet Zephaniah (3:14-20)

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the Lord.

For the Word of God in Scripture,
For the Word of God among us,
For the Word of God within us.
Thanks be to God.

We sing the Gradual Hymn:

**Bright and clear as a trumpet blast, a herald shout goes out:
drive a path through the wilderness, a highway for our God;
hills and mountains to be laid low, the valley lifted high,
every nation and land shall see the glory of our God:**

***Come, Lord to a world of longing,
listen to creation's cry.***

***Answer nature's deepest yearning,
manifest God's reign.***

***Come Lord shining star of morning,
rise up scatter death's dark shade.***

Come Lord, mighty King eternal, Jesus, Emmanuel!

The Lord be with you
And also with you.

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you O Lord. (Luke 3:7-18)

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire." And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages."

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

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

**Take your stand on a lofty place, messenger of God,
Shout a shout with a voice of joy, cast all fear aside.
Say to all in Jerusalem, the city of the Lord:
'Look around you, the hour has come, see here is your God.'**

***Come, Lord to a world of longing,
listen to creation's cry.
Answer nature's deepest yearning,
manifest God's reign.
Come Lord shining star of morning,
rise up scatter death's dark shade.
Come Lord, mighty King eternal, Jesus, Emmanuel!***

All sit for the sermon.

We stand to sing:

**See, he comes in pow'r and might, Master of all things,
See, the Lord of Victories, he the King of Kings.
Shepherd like he will feed his flock and take them to his arms,
leading them to a place of rest, Saviour, King and God.**

***Come, Lord to a world of longing,
listen to creation's cry.
Answer nature's deepest yearning,
manifest God's reign.
Come Lord shining star of morning,
rise up scatter death's dark shade.
Come Lord, mighty King eternal, Jesus, Emmanuel!***

Let us affirm our faith:

Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures; he was buried; he was raised to life on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures; afterwards he appeared to his followers, and to all the apostles: this we have received, and this we believe. Amen.

We now sit or kneel for our intercessions... which end with:

**Loving God, meet us in this silence,
hear our prayer and fill us with your love. Amen.**

The Children return to join us and share what they have been doing in Children's Church.

We all stand for the peace:

**God's judgement is not vengeance, God's peace is not false.
The peace of God be always with you..
And also with you.**

We offer each other a sign of peace.

We sing the offertory hymn:

(678)

**In Christ alone my hope is found,
He is my light, my strength, my song
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease
My Comforter, my All in All
Here in the love of Christ I stand.**

**In Christ alone! - who took on flesh,
Fullness of God in helpless babe.
This gift of love and righteousness,
Scorned by the ones He came to save
Till on that cross as Jesus died,
And foolish love flowed from his side.
For every sin on Him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live.**

**There in the ground His body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain:
Then bursting forth in glorious day
Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ**

**No guilt in life, no fear in death,
This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell, no scheme of man,
Can ever pluck me from His hand
Till He returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.**

When all is ready we are called to solemn 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.

As the gifts of bread and wine are brought forward you may make your financial gift to support the ministry of this church.

Simply click on this QR code and follow the link:



Works with android and iPhones!

THANKYOU.

Mystery of winter skies, we thank you in the darkening hour for opening our eyes to see your starlit beauty; for parting the wide heavens to send your gentle light; for offering your word to take our mortal flesh.

He was promised by those who shared your dream of peace; John the Baptist cleared his way with words of desert fire; Mary and Joseph accepted his coming with tenderness and faith;

we know that he draws near again to show us who we really are with honesty and love. Now we take up the song of hope that we might awaken to his coming among us and the world be touched by the footfall of his glory:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of Power and God of might,
heav'n and earth, heav'n and earth
are full of your glory, your power and your might.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest heavens.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest heavens**

**Blessed, blessed is he who comes,
blessed, blessed is he who comes.
Blessed is he, blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest heavens
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest heavens**

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 all for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me. +

And so, all loving Creator, calling to mind Christ's death on the cross, Christ's perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world; rejoicing in Christ's mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for Christ's 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 Commonwealth all who share this one bread and one cup, so that we, in the company of Blessed Mary, the Mother of God, the patriarch and matriarchs of old and all your unlikely 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, God of all blessing, for ever and ever.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest heavens!
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest heavens!

All sit:

As our Saviour taught so we pray:

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 forever and ever. Amen.

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.**

Receive what you are the Body of Christ.

All are welcome to receive Communion, which will be brought to you at your seat.

Please keep your mask on until the minister has placed the Sacrament in your hand and moved to the next person.

All of our bread is gluten free.

**Jesus, Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
Have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, Bread of Life, you take away the sins of the world,
Have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, Prince of Peace, you take away the sins of the world,
Have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
Grant us your peace.**

My song is love unknown,
my Saviour's love to me,
love to the loveless shown
that they might lovely be.
Oh, who am I, that for my sake
my Lord should take frail flesh and die?
He came from his blest throne
salvation to bestow,
but such disdain! So few
the longed-for Christ would know!
But oh, my friend, my friend indeed,
who at my need his life did spend!
Sometimes they crowd his way
and his sweet praises sing,
resounding all the day
hosannas to their King.
Then "Crucify!" is all their breath,
and for his death they thirst and cry.
Why? What has my Lord done?
What makes this rage and spite?
He made the lame to run,
he gave the blind their sight.
Sweet injuries! Yet they at these
themselves displease and 'gainst him rise.
They rise and needs will have
my dear Lord made away.
A murderer they save,
the Prince of life they slay.
Yet cheerful he to suffering goes
that he his foes from death might free.
In life, no house, no home
my Lord on earth might have;
in death, no friendly tomb,
but what a stranger gave.
What may I say? Heav'n was his home
but mine the tomb wherein he lay.
Here might I stay and sing;
no story so divine,
never was love, dear King,
never was grief like thine.
This is my friend, in whose sweet praise
I all my days could gladly spend!

When all have received Holy Communion and the altar has been cleared we pray:

Eternal God, we thank you that in Christ you give yourself into our hands: may we who have tasted life proclaim the coming feast when many will come from east and west, from north and south to greet the Lord of all; we ask his in his name. Amen.

All stand for the blessing:

God be with you
and also with you.

May the God who brings heaven close to earth give truth to our judgement and flame to our longing that our hearts might be ready to be born again in love. And the blessing of God, Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer be among you this day and always. **Amen.**

All sing our final hymn:

(394)

**Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!
Unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice;
Tender to me the promise of His Word;
In God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.**

**Tell out, my soul, the greatness of His name!
Make known His might, the deeds His arm has done;
His mercy sure, from age to age the same;
His holy Name, the Lord, the mighty One.**

**Tell out, my soul, the greatness of His might!
Powers and dominions lay their glory by;
Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight;
The hungry fed, the humble lifted high.**

**Tell out, my soul, the glories of His Word!
Firm is His promise, and His mercy sure.
Tell out my soul, the greatness of the Lord
To children's children and forevermore!**

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

Using the QR Code to make your offering is easy:



...and you don't have to wait until the Offertory - the code will work anytime!

REMEMBER NINE LESSONS AND
CAROLS NEXT SUNDAY IS
TICKET ONLY FOR ADULTS.

(Kids don't need to book a ticket)

Words reproduced under CCLA copyright licence number 38765 Texts from Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England (2000) Setting : Mass: Sanctus Gathering Mass by Paul Inwood. Agnus Dei Words Michael Forster (c) Kevin Mayhew Ltd