

# WORSHIP - 2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT - 5 DECEMBER 2021

*Today we have services in both churches at 10 am, and the Advent Procession at St Edmund's at 6 pm (having been snowed off last week). Peter is leading the Zoom service, and preaching.*

*In our churches we will light the second of the Advent Candles, and use this prayer. You may like to light a candle.*

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. Amen.

When the Lord comes, he will bring to light things now hidden in darkness,  
and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Therefore in the light of Christ let us confess our sins.

Most merciful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
we confess that we have sinned in thought and word and deed.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart.  
We have not loved our neighbour as ourselves.  
In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be;  
that we may do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.

Kyrie Eleison – Mass of St Thomas, David Thorne - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ns-1y2agLOs>

Lord, have mercy upon us, Christ, have mercy upon us, Lord, have mercy upon us.

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you,  
pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,  
and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## The Advent 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. Amen.

Old Testament lesson - Malachi 3.1-4 - *this is printed on the blue noticesheet*

Hymn - Christ, be our light - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JhQ0\\_XMUtvQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JhQ0_XMUtvQ)

Gospel - Luke 21.25-36.1-6

Address - *a sermon from Peter is on the website*

## The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.  
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,

begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;  
He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.  
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

**Anthem** - This is the record of John, *Orlando Gibbons* - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gP2mQp0EmmE>

This is the record of John, when the Jews sent priests  
and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, Who art thou?  
And he confessed and denied not, and said plainly,  
I am not the Christ.  
And they asked him, What art thou then? Art thou Elias?  
And he said, I am not.  
Art thou the prophet? And he answered, No.  
Then said they unto him,  
What art thou? that we may give an answer unto them that sent us.  
What sayest thou of thyself?  
And he said, I am the voice of him that crieth in the wilderness,  
Make straight the way of the Lord.

### **Prayers of Intercession**

From the very beginning was	<b>Your Word,</b>
which spoke this world into being,	<b>Your Word,</b>
which thunders from the skies,	<b>Your Word,</b>
which flows like mountain streams,	<b>Your Word,</b>
which whispers in morning breeze,	<b>Your Word,</b>
revealed through kings and prophets,	<b>Your Word,</b>
revealed through Angels' praise,	<b>Your Word,</b>
revealed in humble service,	<b>Your Word,</b>
revealed through a tiny child,	<b>Your Word,</b>
alive from the beginning of all things and to eternity.	

Lord, we stand with Your Word, and ask your blessing. Help us on our continuing journey, as we seek to be your people. Help us to hold onto your word as we journey through Advent, as we prepare for the coming of your Kingdom, as we celebrate Christmas together. We know, Lord, that whatever happens, Christmas does not need "saving" - but we do ask Lord for wisdom and safety as we make our plans and celebrate together.  
Maranatha, **Come, Lord Jesus.**

We pray for our world. It feels a world of darkness, confusion and chaos - but we know your light is brighter than all the darkness. We pray for our government, the opposition, and all in authority. For our relationship with Europe, for National and Local Government, for those leading industry, education, the health service, all the aspects of our life. For wisdom, determination, and the sense to work together.  
Maranatha, **Come, Lord Jesus.**

We pray all those who are fighting Covid. For doctors, nurses and hospital staff. We those working long hours dressed in PPE. For those who are tired, and frightened they can take no more. For those who are ill,

and for their families, especially those who are unable to be with their loved ones. For all administering vaccinations – we give thanks for the work of science, and pray for the practicalities of distribution and immunization. For people needing treatment for other illnesses, those whose treatment is delay or cancelled - all who are frightened and confused.

**Maranatha, Come, Lord Jesus.**

We remember those who have died. At this time of festival, we remember those special to us. We ask for faith, for your healing power, and for your love. Thank you for the journey we have been on together.

**Maranatha, Come, Lord Jesus.**

We bring our prayers together as we pray the prayer that Jesus 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.**

Hymn - Long ago, prophets knew - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OeLA1LhqFA4>

### **The Blessing**

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon us,  
scatter the darkness from before our path,  
and make us 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 us and remain with us always. **Amen.**

**Advent God, we journey with you, to Bethlehem's stable and a new-born King,  
ears attuned to the song of angels, eyes alert for Bethlehem's star.  
Forgive us if on our journey we are distracted and weighed down by the things of this world.  
Keep our hearts aflame with the hope of Christmas, and the promise of our Saviour. Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

Final music - Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme, J.S. Bach, BWV 645 -  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bJU45riF-D0>

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