

Welcome to the Parish Church of St Mark
Serving the people of Broomhill & Broomhall
Living Thinking Loving Faith

The Parish Eucharist Advent 3

Sunday 17 December
at 10.00 am

www.stmarkssheffield.co.uk

Gathering

Wait ...

without expectation
which might focus
attention too narrowly,
so that we miss the coming.

Wait with expectancy, alert,
hearts, minds, hands, ears
open to receive the gift.

Ann Lewin



Welcome

Welcome

The President is Revd Dr Beth Keith

The Deacon is Revd Sue Hammersley

The Preacher is Revd Dr Mark Newitt

Introit:

Wachet Auf

JS Bach (1685 - 1750)

Welcome

Followed by a time of quiet preparation



Gathering

Opening Hymn with procession

Hark! a herald voice is calling:
'Christ is nigh!' it seems to say;
'Cast away the dreams of darkness,
O ye children of the day!'

Startled at the solemn warning,
let the earth-bound soul arise;
Christ, her sun, all sloth dispelling,
shines upon the morning skies.

Lo, the Lamb, so long expected,
comes with pardon down from heav'n;
let us haste, with tears of sorrow,
one and all to be forgiv'n.

So when next he comes with glory,
wrapping all the earth in fear,
may he then, as our defender,
on the clouds of heav'n appear.

Honour, glory, virtue, merit,
to the Father and the Son,
with the co-eternal Spirit,
while unending ages run.

*Edward Caswall (1814 - 1878),
William Henry Monk (1823 - 89)
Tune: Merton*

Lighting the Advent Wreath

Remain standing while the Advent candles are lit.

A cantor sings:

Mary, she was willing to raise God's little boy

Don't be afraid, the angels say

Through the years he brought her

sorrow and great joy

Don't be afraid, the angels say



ALL: Hallelujah, hallelujah, you're not alone, the angels say. x2

The image displays a musical score for a song, consisting of three staves of music. The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#), and the time signature is 4/4. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of two sharps, and a 4/4 time signature. It features a repeat sign followed by a melody of eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics 'Hal-le-lu - jah,' are written below the first staff. The second staff continues the melody with a quarter rest, followed by a quarter note, and then a half note. The lyrics '- jah you're not a-lone' are written below the second staff. The third staff continues the melody with a quarter rest, followed by a quarter note, and then a half note. The lyrics 'the ang - gels say' are written below the third staff. The music ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Hal-le-lu - jah, hal-le-lu-

- jah you're not a-lone

the ang - gels say

Advent Prayer

We are pilgrims always journeying homewards.
May God walk with us along the roads.

We look for peace and we cry for justice.
May God make us peacemakers all our days.

We wait and long for the coming of Jesus.
May God fill us with great hope.

Journeying Together in Faith

As we prepare to explore God's word,
let us pray together:

**May God guide each of us
in the way of Christ,
whatever our age or experience.
The love of God be with us all.
Amen**

Children go into their groups



**Journeying
in faith**

Prayers of Approach

May God be with you:
and also with you.

People of God: awake!

The day is coming when we shall see God face to face.

God calls us out of darkness
to walk in the light of eternity.

We are God's children.

**Make us one in Christ
today and for ever. Amen.**



Prayers of
Approach &
Penitence

Prayers of Penitence

Jesus said, above all, strive for justice and peace.

cf Matthew 6.33

Within these fragmented days,
a gentle invitation threads through our lives,
reminding us that all is sacred
and rooted in a love that knows no bounds.

Peter Millar


Silence for preparation



SPIRIT OF COMPASSION,
when our hearts are hardened to the call of Christ,
or to the cries of the needy;
when our words and actions
cause division or disrupt the pursuit of peace;
when we choose to do nothing
rather than speak out against that which is wrong;
by your grace free us from wrongdoing
and liberate us to serve one another
in Jesus' name. Amen.


Kyrie – Bridget setting (Iona)

Cantor Congregation



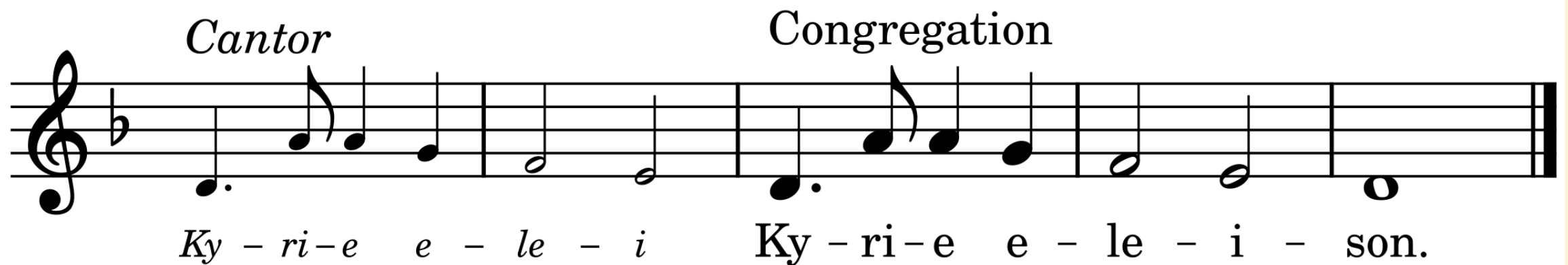
Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. *Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.*

Cantor Congregation



Chris - te e - lei - son *Chris - te e - lei - son*

Cantor Congregation



Ky - ri - e e - le - i *Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.*

Knowing that we are forgiven
and always given the chance to begin again:

May God forgive you,
Christ renew you
and the Spirit enable you
to grow in love. **Amen.**

The Collect

God of impossible love,
you needed Mary to give consent
to bear the scandal, to carry your word within herself:
may her courage give hope
to all those who yearn to sing new songs of justice
and find the world a dwelling place for God;
through Jesus Christ, the one who is to come.
Amen

Steven Shakespeare

Attending

First Reading: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

Read by Frances Gray

At the end the reader says:

How is this God's word of life for us today?

After the reading we share a time of quiet



Reading

The Benedictus

Now bless the God of Israel,
who comes to set us free
by raising up a Saviour
to bring us liberty;
from David's line descended,
he comes to bring release
from all our foes who hate us,
and so establish peace.

As promised to our forebears,
he comes in truth and grace
to keep the holy covenant
once made with Abraham's race.
He sets us free to worship,
and banishes our fears,
and calls us to be faithful
throughout the coming years.

The prophet of the Highest
shall go before the Lord,
preparing for his coming,
obedient to His Word.
He promises the sinner
forgiveness from above,
and lightens earthly darkness
with holy, Heavenly love.

Graham D S Deans (b. 1953)
Tune: Cruger

Gospel Luke 1.26-38 & 46-55

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Luke

Glory to you, O Lord.

At the end:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.



Gospel Reading

Sermon

Preacher: Revd Dr Mark Newitt

Affirmation of Faith

**WE BELIEVE that God is present
in the darkness before dawn;
where fear and courage join hands,
and the sun rises over barbed wire.
We believe in a God who sits down in our midst,
sharing our humanity.**

**We affirm a faith that takes us beyond
the safe place, into action, into vulnerability
and into the streets.**

**We commit ourselves to work for change
to stand with those on the edge;
to choose life and be used by the Spirit
for God's new community of hope.**

Maranatha, come Lord Jesus.

Prayers of the People

led by Boyd Morgan

Maranatha,
Come Lord Jesus.

At the end
Amen



**Prayers of
the people**

Greeting of Peace

In the tender mercy of our God,
the dawn from on high will break upon us,
to give light to those who sit in darkness
and the shadow of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.
We meet in Christ's name and share his peace.

Luke 1.78-79

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.



Sharing Peace

Offertory Hymn

For everyone born a place at the table,
for everyone born, clean water and bread,
a shelter, a space, a safe place for growing,
for everyone born, a star overhead.

*And God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy:
yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice,
justice and joy!*

Regardless of gender, a place at the table,
revising the roles, deciding the share,
with wisdom and grace, dividing the power,
regardless of gender, a system that's fair.

*And God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy:
yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice,
justice and joy!*

For young and for old, a place at the table,
a voice to be heard, a part in the song,
the hands of a child in hands that are wrinkled,
for young and for old, the right to belong.

*And God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy:
yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice,
justice and joy!*

For just and unjust a place at the table,
abuser, abused with need to forgive,
in anger, in hurt, a mind-set of mercy,
for just and unjust a new way to live.

*And God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy:
yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice,
justice and joy!*

For everyone born, a place at the table,
to live without fear, and simply to be,
to work, to speak out, to witness and worship,
for everyone born, the right to be free.

*And God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy:
yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice,
justice and joy!*

*Text: Shirley Erena Murray (1931 - 2020),
Tune: A place at the table*

Abiding

Preparation

Blessed are you, O God;
through your goodness
we have this bread and wine to offer,
which earth has given
and human hands have made.
May they be for us
the foretaste of your kingdom.

Blessed be God for ever.

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Let us pray

May God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to God.

Let us give thanks to our gracious God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.



Prayer of
Thanksgiving

God of our longing,
God of our hoping,
it is good and right to praise you.

From the time of our forebears
you have journeyed with those who seek you
in openness and trust.

You inspired prophets to pursue justice –
to challenge the mighty
and liberate the oppressed.

Through John the baptiser
you taught us to lament our wrongdoings
and return to the way of forgiveness.

In Mary, the mother of faith,
you draw us into your passion
and reveal your peace.

It is, indeed, good and right to praise you, saying:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of truth and love.**

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Above all, we give you thanks
for revealing your salvation in Jesus Christ.
In him, we see the person you long for us to be,
through him, we feed on your wisdom and truth,
with him, we embrace your kingdom causes.

And now, in obedience to his command,
it is our duty and our joy,
to remember the night he gave himself up
and was handed over to death.

In the company of his friends,
Jesus took bread,
blessed it in God's holy name,
broke it and gave it to them, saying,
This is my body, which is given for you.
Do this to remember me.

Later, he took a cup of wine,
gave thanks, and offered it to them, saying,
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
Do this to remember me.

God of our longing,
God of our hoping,
breathe your life-giving Spirit
into this bread and wine
that all who partake of this communion
may feed on Christ and taste his sacred hunger
for a world renewed by your promises
and fulfilled through your love.
Amen.

Ian Wallis (adapted)

Lord's Prayer & Communion

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.**



Lord's Prayer

The bread is broken

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.**

Cantor
Congregation

Lamb of God you

Lamb of God you take a-way the
 Lamb of God you take a-way the
 Lamb of God you take a-way the

sins of the world, have mer-cy on us
 sins of the world, have mer-cy on us
 sins of the world, grant us your peace.

Grant us your peace. Grant us your peace

Words of invitation follow

Come, all who are weary and heavy-laden;
come, all who are dancing with joy;
come to the table
where sorrow and celebration belong together.

During Communion the congregation is invited to sing:

Wait for the Lord whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord: keep watch, take heart.

And the Choir sings the anthem:

A hymn to the Virgin by Benjamin Britten (1913 - 1976)

Prayer of Commitment

**EVER-PRESENT God,
give us grace to respond to your call
with compassion, justice and peace.
May what we hope for, long for, strive for,
come a little closer,
bringing healing in its wings;
through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.**



**Prayer of
Commitment**

Announcements

*The **NOTICES** section on our website is updated weekly*

To support our ministry and outreach financially please use the card reader or visit the website for more options.

St Mark's is celebrating 60 years!

Check the website

www.stmarkssheffield.co.uk

for details of events.



Licensing Beth (again!)

Following the decision of the PCC to increase the hours of our Liberal Theologian to full time we also decided to change the title of the post, recognising the extra parish duties which Beth will pick up.

The change of title has resulted in a change of Licence, and the Bishop has asked Sue to delegate for him on this occasion.

Blessing

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, saviour, spirit of peace
rest upon you, and all whom you love,
both living and departed, now and always.

Amen.

Steven Shakespeare



Blessing

Final 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 valleys lifted high,
ev'ry nation and land shall see
the glory of our God.



Final Hymn

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, gracious King Eternal!
Jesus Emmanuel!

Take your stand on a lofty place,
Messenger of God.
Shout, O shout with a voice of joy,
cast all fear aside.
Say to all in Jerusalem,
and all the lands around:
'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, gracious King Eternal!
Jesus Emmanuel!

See, he comes with peace and love,
Saviour of all things.

See, the God of everyone,
he is 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, gracious King Eternal!
Jesus Emmanuel!

Peter McGrail (b. 1959) adapted

Commission (from the back of church)

God of our longing,
God of our hoping:
Eagerly we seek you.

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

Voluntary

Prelude in B Minor BWV 544

JS Bach (1685 - 1750)

Friendship Time

*Refreshments are served at the end of the service,
please stay if you can.*

*For those on Zoom, we hold a breakout group after
the voluntary to which you are welcome.*



Friendship Time

St Mark's Midnight Mass

Next Sunday,
24 December
at 11.30pm

Invite your friends
and neighbours!

