



Worship for Sunday 13th December 2020- Advent 3

Welcome

Good morning and welcome to our service this morning on this the third Sunday of Advent. It is lovely to have you with us this morning whether you are joining us in church, on Zoom or following the service at home. As we prepare for worship this morning let us take a moment to be still in the presence of God.

Call to worship

In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**
The Lord be with you **and also with you.**

Lord, as you spoke through John the Baptist, and through the prophets before him, speak now through this time of worship. Behind the voices we hear, the words we read and the messages we listen to may we hear your voice, calling, confronting, leading, loving, enthusing, and enabling. Open our ears, our minds, and our souls to your word of truth, the word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Hymn: Hail to the Lord's anointed

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayers of Penitence

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

Christ came in humility to share our lives: forgive our pride. **Lord, have mercy.**
Christ came with good news for all people: forgive our silence. **Christ, have mercy.**
Christ came in love to a world of suffering: forgive our self-centredness. **Lord, have mercy.**

May the God of all healing and forgiveness draw us to himself, and cleanse us from all our sins that we may behold the glory of his son, the word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Collect for the 3rd Sunday in Advent

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**

Reading: Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-end

My soul is waiting for you, O Lord: in your word is my hope.
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There is forgiveness with you, so that you shall be feared.
In your word is my hope.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.
My soul is waiting for you, O Lord: in your word is my hope.

Hymn: On Jordan's bank the Baptist cries

Reading: John 1: 6-8, 19-28

Talk

I have made a video of the talk

Creed

**We believe in God the Father, from whom every family in heaven and earth is named.
We believe in God the Son, who lives in our hearts through faith and fills us with his love.
We believe in God the Holy Spirit, who strengthens us with power from on high.
We believe in one God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen**

Hymn: Be thou my vision

Prayers

I have made a video of the prayers

Let us by prayer and intercession with thanksgiving bring our prayers to God. Let us pray.

Gracious God, we pray for peace, justice, and reconciliation throughout the world. We pray for the honouring of human rights and for relief of the oppressed. We pray for the leaders of the nations and all those in authority under them, fill them with your wisdom and grace. We give thank for all that is gracious in the lives of men, women, and children. Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Gracious God, we pray for the renewal of the Church in faith, love, and service. We pray for our archbishops Justin and Stephen, our bishops Rachel and Robert and for the life of our Benefice. We give thanks for the gift of your word, the grace of the sacraments and the fellowship of your people. In this season of Advent help us to get ready to welcome you at Christmas and to share your love and light in the world through our words and deeds. Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Gracious God, we pray for this local community and for all people in their daily life and work. We pray for the young and the elderly, for families, and all who are alone. We pray for our local schools this last week of term, may the Christmas holiday bring rest and refreshment for staff and pupils. We give thanks for human skill and creativity, for the love and friendship we have received that enriches our daily lives. Make us more aware of the needs around us and give us the grace and courage to respond. We give thanks for local charities that bring much needed kindness and support to those in need, bless them with the resources they need to continue their good work. Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer**

Gracious God stretch out your hand to bring comfort, wholeness, and peace to all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit and in a moment of silence we bring any know to us before you. *Silence.* We give thanks for all those who bring comfort, care and healing remembering especially those who work in the NHS Hospices and care and nursing homes. Fill us with your compassion, that we may be channels of your healing love. Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Gracious God, we give thanks for the lives of all those who have recently died. We pray for all those who are grieving at this time, especially those who find this time of year particularly difficult, surround them with your comfort, love, and hope. Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

In a moment of silence, we offer our own prayers to God. *Silence.*

Merciful father, **accept these prayers for the sake of your Son our saviour Jesus Christ. Amen**

The Lord's Prayer

The peace

Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord. Peace in heaven and glory in the highest. The peace of the Lord be always with you **and also with you**. Let us offer one another a sign of God's peace.

I know that we are not together physically today and not able to share the peace in our normal way. However, this does not mean that we are not able to share the peace. Bring to mind members of our church family and as you do wish them God's peace. "..... (the name of a member of our church family) God's peace be with you.

Hymn: Go forth and tell

We go out

May your heart be at peace, and may your mind be at rest, may you be confident in who you are, and share God's gifts of light, hope and grace with those who meet and those you meet and those you pray for. **Amen**

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 the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen**.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

Material for this service is taken from Common Worship: Services and prayers for the Church of England and New Patterns for Worship © The Archbishops' Council 2000, 2002, Common Worship: Daily Prayer, Church House Publishing, 2025, The Bumper Book of Resources: Advent, Christmas and Epiphany, Edited by John Cox Kevin Mayhew 2015 and Prayers of intercession for Common Worship by Susan Sayers, 1999 Kevin Mayhew.