



Worship for Sunday 20th December 2020

Welcome

Good morning and welcome to our service this on this the fourth 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 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.**

Jesus, Word made flesh. **Maranatha.**

Come, Lord, dwell among us. Jesus, born of the house of David. **Maranatha.**

Come, lord, dwell among us. Jesus, born of the blessed Virgin Mary. **Maranatha.**

Come, Lord, dwell among us. Jesus, from the realm of glory. **Maranatha.**

Come, Lord, dwell among us. **Maranatha.**

Lord Jesus Christ, born of Mary, coming to our world through her, be born afresh in us that we might be born again through you. Touch now this time of worship that the message of your birth, so familiar and well loved, will speak afresh with new power and clarity, thrilling us with joy, and gratitude. Draw close to us now, that through welcoming you into our lives and opening ourselves once more to your renewing power you may reach out through us to the world, bringing hope and healing, light, and life, to the glory of your name. **Amen**

Hymn: At the name of Jesus

A Prayer

God, we thank you for the obedience of Mary and for all who help to bring in your kingdom by seeking to do your will. We give thanks for your faithful people throughout all ages. Lord, guide your Church that it may know your will and serve you faithfully. **Amen**

Prayers of penitence

A voice cries out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord.' So, let us listen, and turn to the Lord in penitence and faith.

God of mercy, we acknowledge that we are all sinners. We turn from the wrong that we have thought and said and done and are mindful of all that we have failed to do. Forgive us all that is past and help us to live each day in the light of Christ our Lord. Amen

May the God of love bring us back to himself, forgive us our sins, and assure us of his eternal love in Jesus Christ our lord. **Amen**

Collect for the 4th Sunday of Advent

Eternal God, as Mary waited for the birth of your Son, so we wait for his coming in glory; bring us through the birth pangs of this present age to see, with her, our great salvation in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Reading: Romans 16:25-end

Hymn: The angel Gabriel

Reading: Luke 1:26-38

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: like a candle flame

Prayers

I have made a video of the prayers the link.

Gathered as the Church of God in this place, let us pray together for the coming of the kingdom.

Lord of heaven may the Church be quiet enough to hear your voice, humble enough to move your way, and excited enough to spread the good news. In this season of Advent help us to prepare to welcome you afresh into our hearts and lives and to share your joy, light, hope and love with the world around us as we work together to build a better world. Give us strength and courage to follow your call. Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Lord of heaven bless all who lead with your integrity and a respect of other; bless all in positions of authority with humility and a sense of right; may unjust practices be changed for good and conflicts of great tension be peacefully resolved. We continue our prayers for all those affected by the Coronavirus, for the sick, those in recover, the bereaved, the anxious, the fearful, the lonely, all who are worried about the future and all those dealing with the economic effects of the virus. We give thanks for all those involved in medical research into the virus and for the hope their work has brought. Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Lord of heaven make our homes places of loving acceptance and developing faith; teach us in all our friendships to grow in generosity of spirit. We pray for our local communities, for each home and person in their daily life and work. We remember especially those who have found this week difficult and ask that you bring into their lives the support, kindness, love, and peace they need. Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Lord of heaven give patience and courage to all who have to wait, when the waiting is long and painful; bring healing to all who are wounded, whether physically or emotionally, and give them assurance of your presence. We pray for all those who are suffering whether in body, mind, or spirit and in a moment of silence we name any known to us before you. *Silence.* Surround them and those who love and care for them with your healing, comfort, and love. We give thanks for all those who care for the sick and the dying and ask that you fill them with strength and hope. Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Lord of heaven, we give thanks for the lives of those who have recently died and for the many ways they enriched the lives of those who knew and loved them. Comfort those who mourn them and reach into their pain and loss with your love. Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

In a moment of silence, we offer our own prayers to God. *Silence.* Lord of heaven, we thank you for your faithful promise to us, fulfilled in the coming of Jesus. We welcome his kingship in our lives. 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: Tell out my soul

We go out

With love and compassion. **Come, lord Jesus.**

With hope and mercy. **Come, lord Jesus.**

In power and glory. **Come, lord Jesus.**

In wisdom and truth. **Come, lord Jesus.**

May the love of the Father strengthen you, the love of Jesus surround you, the love of the Spirit guide you, and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, the Holy Spirit be upon you and your loved ones this day and for always. **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, The Bumper Book of Resources: Advent, Christmas and Epiphany, Edited by John Cox Kevin Mayhew 2015 and Prayers of Intercessions for common Worship by Susan Sayers, Kevin Mayhew 2002.