

Morning Prayer
1st December - Advent Sunday
(We will be following this in our own homes at 10.30am)

Please read these words out loud, or in your heart.

Preparation

O Lord, open our lips and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Alleluia, alleluia.

Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.

Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord.
Peace in heaven and glory in the highest heaven.
You, Christ, are the King of glory, the eternal Son of the Father.
Alleluia.

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us;
let us pray with one heart and mind.

*Silence may be kept, to ask forgiveness of our sins
and to seek God's strength for our life of service.*

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day,
so may the light of your presence, O God,
set our hearts on fire with love for you;
now and for ever.
Amen.

The Word of God

Old Testament Reading: Jeremiah 33:14-16

¹⁴ "The days are coming," declares the LORD,
"when I will fulfil the good promise I made
to the people of Israel and Judah.

¹⁵ "In those days and at that time
I will make a righteous Branch sprout from David's line;
he will do what is just and right in the land.

¹⁶ In those days Judah will be saved
and Jerusalem will live in safety.

This is the name by which it will be called:
The LORD Our Righteous Saviour."

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

New Testament reading: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

⁹ How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy we have in the presence of our God because of you? ¹⁰ Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you again and supply what is lacking in your faith.

¹¹ Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus clear the way for us to come to you. ¹² May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you. ¹³ May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

A Song of the Wilderness

- 1 The wilderness and the dry land shall rejoice,
the desert shall blossom and burst into song.
- 2 They shall see the glory of the Lord,
the majesty of our God.
- 3 Strengthen the weary hands,
and make firm the feeble knees.
- 4 Say to the anxious, 'Be strong, fear not,
your God is coming with judgement,
coming with judgement to save you.'
- 5 Then shall the eyes of the blind be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
- 6 Then shall the lame leap like a hart,
and the tongue of the dumb sing for joy.
- 7 For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;
- 8 The ransomed of the Lord shall return with singing,
with everlasting joy upon their heads.
- 9 Joy and gladness shall be theirs,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Isaiah 35.1,2b-4a,4c-6,10

Glory to the Father
and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now and shall be for ever.
Amen.

Prayers

Please offer your own prayers following these suggestions, if you wish, with the response below:

- ¶ *for the day and its tasks*
- ¶ *for the world and its needs*
- ¶ *for the Church and her life*
- ¶ *for all medical workers and charities who seek to restore sight to the blind*

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Silence may be kept.

Keep us, O Lord, while we tarry on this earth,
in a serious seeking after you,
and in an affectionate walking with you,
every day of our lives;
that when you come,
we may be found not hiding our talent,
nor serving the flesh,
nor yet asleep with our lamp unfurnished,
but waiting and longing for our Lord,
our glorious God for ever.
Amen.

Richard Baxter

Collect

Almighty God,
give us grace to cast away the works of darkness
and to put on the armour of light,
now in the time of this mortal life,
in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility;
that on the last day,
when he shall come again in his glorious majesty
to judge the living and the dead,
we may rise to the life immortal;
through him who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

Trusting in the compassion of God,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us
"Our Father, who art in heaven ..."
The Lord's Prayer is said

The Conclusion

O Lord our God,
make us watchful and keep us faithful
as we await the coming of your Son our Lord;
that, when he shall appear,
he may not find us sleeping in sin
but active in his service
and joyful in his praise;
through Jesus Christ our Lord..

Let us go in the peace of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

*Our services take place today at:
Mickley (BCP Holy Communion) at 9.00 am;
Grewelthorpe (Holy Communion), Kirkby Malzeard (Morning Worship)
and Winksley (Holy Communion) at 10.30 am;
Aldfield (candlelit Advent Carol Service) at 6.00 pm.*

Everyone from across the benefice (and beyond) is welcome at all services.