

# St Paul's Church, Egham Hythe

**Zoom Gathering 20th December 2020  
4th Sunday of Advent**

## Introduction and opening prayer

Lord, speak to us  
**that we may hear your word.**  
Move among us  
**that we may behold your glory.**  
Receive our prayers  
**that we may learn to trust you. Amen.**



## The lighting of the Advent candles

*As we light our fourth Advent candle Annie sings:*

Come now O prince of peace,  
make us one body  
Come O Lord Jesus,  
reconcile your people.

Come now and set us free,  
O God, our Saviour,  
Come, O Lord Jesus,  
Reconcile all nations

Come now, O God of love,  
Make us one body,  
Come, O Lord Jesus,  
Reconcile your people.

Come, Hope of Unity,  
Make us one body,  
Come, O Lord Jesus,  
Reconcile all nations.

## Hymn: Tell out my soul

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!  
Unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice;  
tender to me the promise of his word;  
in God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his Name!  
Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;  
his mercy sure, from age to age to come;  
his holy Name--the Lord, the Mighty One.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might!  
Powers and dominions lay their glory by.  
Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,  
the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.

Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word!  
Firm is his promise, and his mercy sure.  
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord  
to children's children and for evermore!

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### **Prayer of Penitence (*a time to say sorry to God*)**

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.

Christ came in humility to share our lives: forgive our pride.  
**Lord, have mercy.**                           **Lord, have mercy.**

Christ came with good news for all people: forgive our silence.  
**Christ, have mercy.**                           **Christ, have mercy.**

Christ came in love to a world of suffering: forgive our self-centredness.  
**Lord, have mercy**                           **Lord, have mercy.**

### **Absolution**

May Almighty God, who sent his Son into the world to save sinners, bring you his pardon and peace, now and forever. **Amen.**

### **Collect (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: Luke 1: 26-38 – Jesus' birth is foretold**

<sup>26</sup>In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, <sup>27</sup>to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup>And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you." <sup>29</sup>But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup>The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. <sup>31</sup>And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. <sup>32</sup>He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. <sup>33</sup>He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." <sup>34</sup>Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" <sup>35</sup>The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of

the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God.<sup>36</sup> And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren.<sup>37</sup> For nothing will be impossible with God.”<sup>38</sup> Then Mary said, “Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.” Then the angel departed from her.

## Reflection

### Hymn: Spirit of the Living God

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me,  
Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me,  
Melt me, mould me, fill me, use me,  
Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on us,  
Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on us,  
Melt us, mould us, fill us, use us,  
Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on us.



## The Creed

Let us declare our faith and trust in God.

**We believe in God the Father,  
from whom every family in heaven and on 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.**

## Prayers

### The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

## We share the Peace

In the tender mercy of our God, the dayspring from on high shall break upon us, to give light to those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

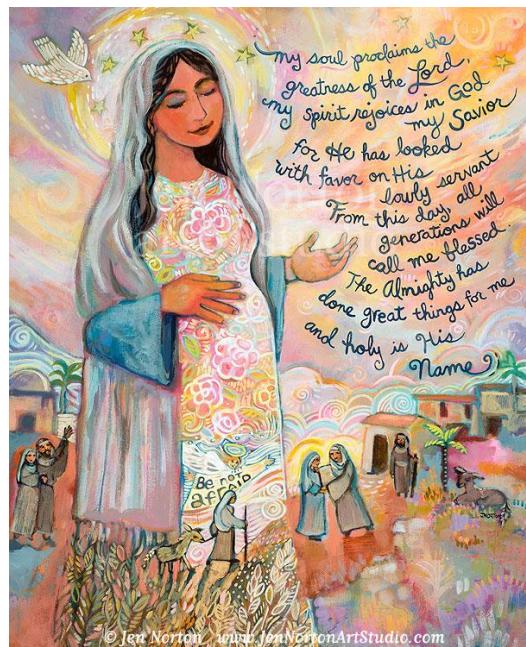
The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**And also with you.**

### Hymn: Teach me to dance to the beat of your heart (Graham Kendrick)

Teach me to dance to the beat of your heart  
Teach me to move in the power of your Spirit  
Teach me to walk in the light of your presence  
Teach me to dance to the beat of your heart  
Teach me to love with your heart of compassion  
Teach me to trust in the word of your promise  
Teach me to hope in the day of your coming  
Teach me to dance to the beat of your heart

You wrote the rhythm of life  
Created heaven and earth  
In You is joy without measure  
So, like a child in your sight  
I dance to see your delight  
For I was made for your pleasure, pleasure.  
*Teach me to dance...*

Let all my movements express  
A heart that loves to say 'yes'  
A will that leaps to obey you  
Let all my energy blaze  
To see the joy in your face  
Let my whole being praise you, praise you.  
*Teach me to dance...*



## The Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you; The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be with you and all those you love today and always **Amen**