



**GROWING
YOUR FAITH:
THE POWER
OF
PARTNERSHIP**



Advent 2

*A voice of one calling in the wilderness,
"Prepare the way for the Lord".*
Luke 3:4



Sunday 8th December Sung Eucharist **11.00 am**

Please don't take photos or videos during the service unless you have consent.
Please be aware that this service may be live-streamed

Collect for Today

**Almighty God,
purify our hearts and minds,
that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again
as
judge and saviour
we may be ready to receive him,
who is our Lord and our God.**

Amen

Post Communion Collect

**Father in heaven,
who sent your Son to redeem the
world
and will send him again to be our
judge:
give us grace so to imitate him
in the humility and purity of his first
coming
that, when he comes again,
we may be ready to greet him
with joyful love and firm faith;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Amen

Philippians 1: 3 - 11

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defence and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that on the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

Luke 3: 1 - 6

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah:

‘The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
“Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.
Every valley shall be filled,
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,
and the crooked shall be made straight,
and the rough ways made smooth;
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.”’

We pray for all those who are sick in body, mind or spirit and by name:

Keith and Dorothy
Josie and Pat
Gina
Jason and his Family
Graham
Arthur and Pauline
Colin and Judy



Joshua Manning
Penny and Mike
Derek and Jo
Sheila Vince
Alan
Carole
Helen and her Family



The Benedictus

1 Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel, ♦
who has come to his people and set them free.

2 He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour, ♦
born of the house of his servant David.

3 Through his holy prophets God promised of old ♦
to save us from our enemies,
from the hands of all that hate us,

4 To show mercy to our ancestors, ♦
and to remember his holy covenant.

5 This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham: ♦
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

6 Free to worship him without fear, ♦
holy and righteous in his sight
all the days of our life.

7 And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, ♦
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,

8 To give his people knowledge of salvation ♦
by the forgiveness of all their sins.

9 In the tender compassion of our God ♦
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

10 To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, ♦
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Important collections

“Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are my brothers and sisters you did it to me.”

1. Babystuff Braintree

0 - 5 clothing and toiletries. See
Susan Pedder for more details.

Toothbrushes and tooth paste go
very quickly

2. The Wethersfield collection

Clothing for men and boys

Please find boxes in the porch for donations

Holy Communion

Wafers will be offered and the common cup. If you feel uncomfortable about sharing the chalice, receiving the bread alone is not a lesser action.

If you would like a Blessing only, please bring your service booklet to the Altar rail. During this time the choir will be singing. Please do wear a mask if that would make you feel more comfortable.

Protocol concerning the dipping of wafers in the wine: The recommendation from the Church is that we should not dip the wafer as a matter of hygiene. If this at all worries you, please do not hesitate to discuss it with a member of the Clergy.

The Coming Week

[Morning Prayer](#) There will be Morning Prayer this week at **9.00am**

Zoom Meeting ID 884 8189 2518 Passcode cJ7500 **New**

Morning Prayer [in Church](#) Please refer to the [Newsletter](#)



Other sites for personal prayer are available at:

- <https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer>
- [Pray-as-You-Go App](#) (free)
- [Northumbria Community Prayers](#)
- [Everyday Faith](#) is the new daily devotional app (free) from the Church of England

Sunday December 15th Sung Eucharist **9.30 am** Advent 3

Readings: Isaiah 12 - end; Philippians 4: 4 - 7; Luke 3: 7 - 18

God of Mission, Who alone brings
growth to your Church, Send your Holy
Spirit to give Vision to our planning,
Wisdom to our actions, Joy to our
worship, And power to our witness.
Help our church to grow in numbers, In
spiritual commitment to you, And in
service to our local community,
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



To Contact Clergy:



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Revd. Nikki Horsley revnikkihorsley@gmail.com
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Revd. David Sebley (URC)
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Children and Families Co-Ordinator



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Administration



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Please see the Website and Newsletter for more information