

# Advent Sunday, 29 November 2020

*All Saints', Newtown Linford*

## Preparation

*Holy suspense*

© Engage Worship

Welcome in the name of Christ.  
God's grace, mercy and peace be with you  
**and also with you.**

**Loving God, we have come to worship you.  
Help us to pray to you in faith,  
to sing your praise with gratitude,  
and to listen to your word with eagerness;  
through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

## **Hymn: Come, people of the risen King**

*Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, Stuart Townend © 2007 Thankyou Music*

## *Confession and lighting of first Advent Candle*

Jesus says, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.'  
So let us turn away from sin and turn to Christ,  
confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

*cf Matthew 4.17*

Heavenly Father, you have created a universe of light:  
forgive us when we return to darkness.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you are the light of the world:  
cleanse and heal our blinded sight.  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

Holy Spirit, you give us light in our hearts:  
renew us in faith and love.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

May almighty God,  
who sent his Son into the world to save sinners,  
bring us his pardon and peace, now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

## The Word of God

### Psalm 25

**Song: We wait with great expectancy** © Sam Hargreaves, admin. Jubilate Hymns Ltd.

### Scripture Reading: Mark 13.24-37

<sup>24</sup> ‘But in those days, following that distress,

“the sun will be darkened,

and the moon will not give its light;

<sup>25</sup> the stars will fall from the sky,

and the heavenly bodies will be shaken.”

<sup>26</sup> ‘At that time people will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory.

<sup>27</sup> And he will send his angels and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of the heavens.

<sup>28</sup> ‘Now learn this lesson from the fig-tree: as soon as its twigs get tender and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. <sup>29</sup> Even so, when you see these things happening, you know that it is near, right at the door. <sup>30</sup> Truly I tell you, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened. <sup>31</sup> Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.

<sup>32</sup> ‘But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>33</sup> Be on guard! Be alert! You do not know when that time will come. <sup>34</sup> It’s like a man going away: he leaves his house and puts his servants in charge, each with their assigned task, and tells the one at the door to keep watch.

<sup>35</sup> ‘Therefore keep watch because you do not know when the owner of the house will come back – whether in the evening, or at midnight, or when the cock crows, or at dawn. <sup>36</sup> If he comes suddenly, do not let him find you sleeping. <sup>37</sup> What I say to you, I say to everyone: “Watch!”

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Address

**Song: How great is our God** Chris Tomlin, Ed Cash, Jesse Reeves © 2004 sixsteps Music

## *The Creed*

**I believe in God,  
the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ,  
his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.  
Amen.**

## Prayers

### *Intercessions*

*After each phrase*

**How long, Lord, how long?**

Lord, come to us,  
**live in us now.**

### *The Lord's Prayer*

Let us pray for the coming of God's Kingdom  
in the words our Saviour taught us;

**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.**

### *The Collect of the Day*

**Almighty God,  
as your kingdom dawns,  
turn us from the darkness of sin  
to the light of holiness,  
that we may be ready to meet you  
in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.  
Amen.**

***Hymn: Forth in the peace of Christ we go***

*James Quinn © 1969, 1987 OCP Publications*

## **The Conclusion**

### **What time is it?**

The hour has come to wake from your slumber!

### **What time is it?**

The night is nearly over; the day is almost here.

### **What time is it?**

Time to put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armour of light.

### **What time is it?**

Time to go out, clothed in Christ.

**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.**

## *The Grace*

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
and the love of God,  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,  
be with us all evermore.**

**Amen.**

*Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England (2000)  
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