

Advent Sunday service sheet 2020

(You may like to have a dry leaf, a sprig of evergreen and a candle for this service)

Opening Prayer (lead by Maggie Patchett) *Pick up your dead leaf*

Lord, when we lose sight of you,

we all fade like a leaf.

When we lose our way,

we all fade like a leaf.

When we lose hope for the world,

we all fade like a leaf.

Pause; pick up your evergreen.

But the love of God is ever green, always bringing light to the world

Come, let us walk in the light of the Lord.

Today and tomorrow

come, let us walk in the light of the Lord.

In joy and in disaster

come, let us walk in the light of the Lord.

Hymn: Lo he comes with cloud descending <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0cHmPHCljY8>

Confession (Jane Natrass)

In the light of the ever – greenness of God’s love, we confess our sins.

For the times we have forgotten you,

Lord have mercy

Lord have mercy

For the times we have been asleep to the needs of others,

Christ have mercy

Christ have mercy

For the times we have not lived as your friends,

Lord have mercy

Lord have mercy

Absolution and Collect (John Dixon)

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.**

First Reading: Genesis 1.1-5 and God said – ‘Let there be light’ (David Robbins)

Second Reading: Isaiah 9.2,3,6,7 – The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light (Andrew + Kath Dodd)

Hymn: Restore O lord <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nkYRNs4C9OA>

Third Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5.1-11,23,24 – You are not in darkness but you are children of light (John Biggs)

Fourth Reading: John 3:16 – 21 – ‘I am the light of the world’ (Rob Ashworth)

A gathering thought - Pasada and Pilgrimage (Beverley Lock)

Heavenly Father, as crib figures are welcomed into our homes this Advent, may we welcome Jesus into our hearts this Christmas. Give us grace to make the same journey in heart and mind, that we too may find at the manger our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

Prayers (Brian Lock)

With all those who suffer
we watch and wait and pray.

With all those who are afraid
we watch and wait and pray.

With all those who mourn
we watch and wait and pray.

With all those who have given up hope.
we watch and wait and pray.

With all those who long for change
we watch and wait and pray.

The Lord's Prayer

The people who walked in darkness (Nick Hallam)

have seen a great light.

For to us a child is born:

To us a Son is given.

His name will be called wonderful, counsellor, mighty God:

the everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.

Glory be to God in the highest

and peace to his people on earth.

(The lighting of the first candle on the Advent Ring.) (Beverley Lock)

Blessed are you, Lord, God of our ancestors:

To you be praise and glory for ever.

You called the patriarchs to live by the light of faith

And to journey in the hope of your promised fulfilment.

May we be obedient to your call

And be ready and watchful to receive your Christ,

A lamp to our feet and a light to our path;

For you are our light and our salvation.

Blessed be God for ever. Amen.

Hymn: Make way, make way <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tK6XuYhL7JI>

Blessing: (John Dixon)

May God the Father, judge all-merciful,
make us worthy of a place in his kingdom.

Amen.

May God the Son, coming among us in power,
reveal in our midst the promise of glory.

Amen.

May God the Holy Spirit make us steadfast in faith,
joyful in hope and constant in love.

AmenAnd may the blessing....