



the **Church**
of **St Peter** and
St Simon-the-Apostle

A Service of Lessons and Carols on Advent Sunday

Sunday, December 1, 2024 at 4.00 pm



*Welcome to the Church of St Peter and St Simon-the-Apostle.
Please join us for a reception in the Parish Hall following the service.*

Clergy: The Reverend Canon Geoffrey Sangwine – Incumbent
The Reverend Abraham Thomas – Assistant Curate
The Reverend canon Michael Burgess – Honorary Assistant
Robin Davis - Director of Music / Alison Jane - Organist

Prelude *Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme, BWV 645* Nancy Nourse – Flute

J.S. BACH

Introit *Advent Responsory*

PHILLIP LEDGER

V: I look from afar;

R: And lo, I see the power of God coming, and a cloud covering the whole earth.

V: Go ye out to meet him and say:

R: Tell us, art thou he that should come to reign over thy people Israel?

V: High and low, rich and poor, one with another,

R: Go ye out to meet him and say:

V: Hear, O thou shepherd of Israel, thou that leadest Joseph like a sheep.

R: Tell us, art thou he that should come?

V: Stir up thy strength, O Lord, and come

R: To reign over thy people Israel.

V: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

R: I look from afar: and lo, I see the power of God coming,
and a cloud covering the whole earth.

V: Go ye out to meet him and say:

R: Tell us, art thou he that should come to reign over thy people Israel?

Hymn *Come, Thou Redeemer (New English Hymnal #19)*

Tune: PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

Choir

Come, thou Redeemer of the earth
and manifest thy virgin-birth:
Let every age adoring fall;
such birth befits the God of all. *The procession moves forward on verse 2.*

All

Forth from his chamber goeth he
that royal home of purity,
A giant in twofold substance one,
rejoicing now his course to run.

All

O equal to thy Father, thou!
Gird on thy fleshly mantle now;
The weakness of our mortal state
with deathless might invigorate.

All

Thy cradle here shall glitter bright,
and darkness glow with new-born light,
No more shall night extinguish day,
where love's bright beams their powr's display.

All

All laud to God the Father be, all praise, eternal Son, to thee:
All glory, as is ever meet, to God the Holy Paraclete.

Text: Saint Ambrose, transl. J.M. Neale et al.

Bidding Prayer – *Remain Standing.*

Officiant Dear friends in Christ, we are gathered together to proclaim and receive in our hearts the good news of the coming of God’s Kingdom, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate with confidence and joy the birth of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. We pray that we may respond in penitence and faith to the glory of his Kingdom, its works of justice and its promise of peace, its blessing and its hope. As we seek to renew our allegiance to God’s loving purpose, we pray for all who at this time especially need his love and protection: the sick in body, mind or spirit; those who suffer from loss of dignity or loss of hope; those who face the future with fear, or walk in the shadow of death. May God, of his grace and mercy, grant to all his people a new trust in his good providence and a new obedience to his sovereign word, for to him is most justly due all glory, honour, worship and praise, world without end. Finally let us offer up our prayers for the coming of Christ’s Kingdom, in the words Jesus himself has taught us, saying:

All **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 them that 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.**

Officiant May the Lord when he comes find us watching and waiting,
now and at all times. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

First Reading: Isaiah 9.2b-7

Read by Carol Peck

The Prophet Isaiah proclaims the righteous reign of the coming king.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onwards and for evermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

***All* Thanks be to God.**

Choir *Remember O Thou Man*

THOMAS RAVENSCROFT

Remember, O thou man,
O thou man, O thou man,
Remember O thou man,
Thy time is spent.
Remember, O thou man,
How thou came'st to me then,
And I did what I can,
Therefore repent.

Remember Adam's fall,
O thou man, O thou man!
Remember Adam's fall
From heaven to hell!
Remember Adam's fall,
How we were condemned all
To hell perpetual,
There for to dwell.

Remember God's goodness,
O thou man, O thou man!
Remember God's goodness,
And promise made!
Remember God's goodness,
How His only Son He sent
Our sins for to redress,
Be not afraid.

Give thanks to God always,
O thou man, O thou man!
Give thanks to God always,
With heart most joyfully
Give thanks to God always,
Upon this blessed day,
Let all men sing and say:
"Holy, holy!"

Second Reading: Isaiah 35.1-6

Read by The Reverend Canon Michael Burgess

The Prophet foretells the glory of the Kingdom of God.

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, 'Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you. Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert.

All Thanks be to God.

Hymn 98 *Hark the Glad Sound*

Tune: RICHMOND

Hark the glad sound! The Saviour comes, the Saviour promised long;
Let every heart prepare a throne, and every voice a song!

Christ comes the prisoners to release in Satan's bondage held;
The gates of brass before Him burst, the iron fetters yield.

Christ comes the broken heart to bind, the bleeding soul to cure;
And from the treasuries of grace to bless the humble poor.

Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace, Thy welcome shall proclaim;
and heaven's eternal arches ring with thy beloved name.

Third Reading: Isaiah 40.1-11

Read by Diane Way

The Prophet proclaims good news to a people in exile.

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. A voice cries out: 'In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.' A voice says, 'Cry out!' And I said, 'What shall I cry?' All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, 'Here is your God!' See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

All Thanks be to God.

Hymn 103 *On Jordan's Bank*

Tune: WINCHESTER NEW

On Jordan's bank, the Baptist's cry announces that the Lord is nigh;
Awake and hearken, for he brings glad tidings of the King of kings.

Then cleansed be every breast from sin; make straight the way for God within.
Prepare we in our hearts a home, where such a mighty guest may come.

For thou art our salvation, Lord, our refuge and our great reward;
Without thy grace we waste away, like flowers that wither and decay.

To heal the sick stretch out thine hand, and bid the fallen sinner stand;
Shine forth, and let thy light restore earth's own true loveliness once more.

All praise, eternal Son, to thee whose advent doth thy people free,
whom with the Father we adore and Holy Ghost for evermore.

Little lamb who made thee?
Dost thou know who made thee?
Gave thee life and bid thee feed
By the stream and o'er the mead?
Gave thee clothing of delight
Softest clothing wooly bright?
Gave thee such a tender voice
Making all the vales rejoice!
Little Lamb who made thee?
Dost thou know who made thee?

Little Lamb I'll tell thee
Little Lamb I'll tell thee!
He is called by thy name
For he calls himself a lamb
He is meek and he is mild
He became a little child
I a child and thou a lamb
We are called by his name
Little Lamb God bless thee
Little Lamb God bless thee

Fourth Reading: *Ephesians 5.6-14*

Read by The Reverend Abraham Thomas

St Paul exhorts a waiting Church to watch for the light of Christ.

Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes on those who are disobedient. Therefore, do not be associated with them. For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, 'Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.'

All Thanks be to God.

Hymn 91 *People Look East*

Tune: BESANÇON

People, look east! The time is near of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table.
People, look east and sing today: Love, the guest, is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch: when night is dim, one more light the bowl shall brim,
Shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together.
People, look east and sing today: Love, the star, is on the way.

Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth.
Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming.
People, look east and sing today: Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Poem

Advent Sunday by Christina Rossetti

Read by the Reverend Canon Michael Burgess

BEHOLD, the Bridegroom cometh: go ye out
With lighted lamps and garlands round about
To meet Him in a rapture with a shout.
It may be at the midnight, black as pitch,
Earth shall cast up her poor, cast up her rich.
It may be at the crowing of the cock
Earth shall upheave her depth, uproot her rock.
For lo, the Bridegroom fetcheth home the Bride:
His Hands are Hands she knows, she knows His Side.
Like pure Rebekah at the appointed place,
Veiled, she unveils her face to meet His Face.
Like great Queen Esther in her triumphing,
She triumphs in the Presence of her King.
His Eyes are as a Dove's, and she's Dove-eyed;
He knows His lovely mirror, sister, Bride.
He speaks with Dove-voice of exceeding love,
And she with love-voice of an answering Dove.
Behold, the Bridegroom cometh: go we out
With lamps ablaze and garlands round about
To meet Him in a rapture with a shout.

Choir *A Hymn to the Virgin*

BENJAMIN BRITTEN

*Of one who is so fair and bright
Velut maris stella, [Like a star of the sea]
Brighter than the day is light,
Parens et puella: [Both mother and maiden]
I cry to thee, thou see to me,
Lady, pray thy Son for me,
Tam pia, [so pure]
That I may come to thee.
Maria! [Mary]
All this world was forlorn,
Eva peccatrice, [because of Eve, a sinner]
Till our Lord was yborn,
De te genetrix. [through you, his mother]
With ave it went away,*

*Darkest night, and comes the day
Salutis; [of salvation]
The well springeth out of thee.
Virtutis. [of virtue]
Lady, flower of everything,
Rosa sine spina, [Rose without thorn]
Thou bare Jesu, heaven's king,
Gratia divina: [by divine grace]
Of all thou bearest the prize,
Lady, queen of paradise
Electa: [chosen]
Maid mild, mother
es effecta. [you are made]*

Gospel of the Salutation: Luke 1:26-38

Read by Isabelle Robinson

The Angel Gabriel Salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.' But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. 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. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I am a virgin?' 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. 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. For nothing will be impossible with God.' 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.

All Thanks be to God.

- All* Creator of the starry height, thy people's everlasting Light,
Jesu, Redeemer, of us all, hear thou thy servants when they call.
- Women* Thou, sorrowing at the helpless cry of all creation doomed to die,
didst save our lost and guilty race by healing gifts of heavenly grace.
- Men* Thou cam'st, the Bridegroom of the bride, as drew the world to eventide;
proceeding from a virgin-shrine, the spotless Victim all divine.
- Women* At thy great Name, exalted now, all knees in lowly homage bow;
all things in heaven and earth adore, and own thee King for evermore.
- Men* To thee, O Holy One, we pray, our Judge in that tremendous day,
ward off, while yet we dwell below, the weapons of our crafty foe.
- All* To God the Father, God the Son, and God the Spirit, Three in One,
Praise, honour, might, and glory be from age to age eternally. Amen.

Please remain standing.

Gospel of the Advent: Matthew 21:1-11

Read by The Reverend Canon Geoffrey Sangwine

Jesus the Messiah enters the Holy City, Jerusalem.

When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, 'Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, "The Lord needs them." And he will send them immediately.' This took place to fulfil what had been spoken through the prophet, saying, 'Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.' The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting, 'Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!' When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, 'Who is this?' The crowds were saying, 'This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.'

All Thanks be to God.

Tomorrow shall be my dancing day; I would my true love did so chance
To see the legend of my play, To call my true love to my dance;
Sing, oh! my love, oh! my love, my love, my love, This have I done for my true love.

Then was I born of a virgin pure, Of her I took fleshly substance
Thus was I knit to man's nature To call my true love to my dance. *Chorus*

In a manger laid, and wrapped I was So very poor, this was my chance
Betwixt an ox and a silly poor ass To call my true love to my dance. *Chorus*

Then afterwards baptized I was; The Holy Ghost on me did glance,
My Father's voice heard I from above, To call my true love to my dance. *Chorus*

Hymn 89 *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (vv 1-5)*

Tune: VENI EMMANUEL

*Your offering helps to support the ministries of this parish.
We are grateful for your generosity.*

All O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
Refrain Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

Women O come, O Wisdom from on high, who orders all things mightily;
to us the path of knowledge show, and teach us in her ways to go. *Refrain*

Men O come, O come, great Lord of might, who to your tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times once gave the law, in cloud and majesty and awe. *Refrain*

All O come, O Rod of Jesse's stem, from every foe deliver them
that trust your mighty power to save, and give them victory o'er the grave. *Refrain*

All O come, O key of David, come and open wide your heavenly home,
Make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery. *Refrain*

Concluding Prayers *Please kneel or be seated*

Officiant We wait for thy loving kindness, O Lord.

All **In the midst of Thy temple.**

Officiant Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious Majesty, to judge both the quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, now and ever. **Amen.**

Officiant O God, who makest us glad with the yearly expectation of thy coming, Grant that we, who with joy receive thine only begotten Son as our Redeemer, may without fear behold him when he shall come to be our Judge, even thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end.
Amen.

Choir *Vesper Responsory*

PHILLIP LEDGER

V: Judah and Jerusalem, fear not, nor be dismayed;
R; Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, he will be with you.
V: Stand ye still, and ye shall see the salvation of the Lord.
R; Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, he will be with you.
V: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
R; Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, he will be with you.

The Blessing

Officiant Go forth into the world in peace; be of good courage; hold fast that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honour all; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you, and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

Hymn 114 *Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending*

Tune: HELMSLEY

Lo, he comes with clouds descending, once for favoured sinners slain;
thousand thousand saints attending swell the triumph of his train:
hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah! God appears on earth to reign.

Every eye shall now behold him, robed in dreadful majesty;
all who set at nought and sold him, pierced, and nailed him to the tree,
deeply grieving, deeply grieving, deeply grieving, shall the true Messiah see.

Now redemption, long expected, see in solemn pomp appear;
all his saints, on earth rejected, thrill the trumpet sound to hear:
hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah! See the day of God appear!

Yea, amen, let all adore thee, high on thine eternal throne;
Saviour, take the power and glory; claim the kingdom for thine own:
O come quickly! O come quickly! O come quickly! Hallelujah! Come, Lord, come!

Postlude *Rhapsody on Helmsley*
Organist – Robin Davis

WILLIAM LLOYD WEBBER

*Thank you to our Choir, Organist, Music Director, Clergy, Readers and Servers
for crafting and leading this carol service
as we prepare again for a holy and blessed celebration of the Incarnation.*

Please join us for a reception after the service.

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SERVICES at SPSS

Sunday, December 8 – Advent 2

Morning services as usual at 9.00 and 10.30 am. (Choral Matins)

Sunday, December 15 – Advent 3

Morning services as usual at 9.00 and 10.30 am.

1.00 pm *Children's Christmas Musical – "Once Upon a Starry Night"*

Wednesday, December 18 – Advent Ember Day

6.30 pm – *Blue Christmas Service and Reception*

Sunday, December 22 – Advent 4

Morning services as usual at 9.00 and 10.30 am.

**Our area Bishop, The Right Reverend Kevin Robertson
will celebrate and preach at 10.30 am.**

4.00 pm *Festival of Lessons and Carols for Christmas*

Tuesday, December 24 - Christmas Eve

5.00 pm – *Family Eucharist with the Christmas Story*

10.00 pm – *Festal Eucharist*

Wednesday, December 25 - Christmas Day

10.30 am – *Sung Eucharist with Carols*

Sunday, December 29 – Christmas I

9.00 am – Holy Eucharist in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit.

10.30 am – Choral Eucharist.

The Church of St. Peter and St. Simon-the-Apostle

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