

Advent Sunday 2020 10am Service

Welcome in the name of Christ.

If you are joining us this morning from Newick, Chailey or further away
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

The Advent Wreath

First Candle - The Candle of Hope for the Patriarchs, Abraham, the Old
Testament Ancestors of Jesus.

Today is the First Sunday of Advent, in which recall the hope we have in
Christ

God told Abraham that through him all the nations of the world would be
blessed, because he trusted and put his hope in God.

The Old Testament spoke of the coming of Christ, of how a Saviour would
be born, a king in the line of King David.

He would rule the world wisely and bless all the nations.

We too believe in God's promise to send Jesus again to this world to
establish his kingdom upon the earth.

(The First Candle is Candle)

Hope is like a light shining in a dark place.

As we look at the light of this candle we celebrate the hope we have in Jesus Christ.

Let us pray:

God of Abraham and Sarah and all the Patriarchs of old, you are our Father too.

Your love is revealed to us in Jesus Christ, Son of God, and Son of David. Help us in preparing to celebrate his birth, to make our hearts ready and to place our hope in you.

Help us today and every day to worship you, to hear your word, and to do your will by sharing your hope with others.

We ask it in the name of the one who was born in Bethlehem. Amen.

Reveal among us the light of your presence that we may behold your power and glory.

Blessed are you, Sovereign God of all, to you be praise and glory for ever.

In your tender compassion the dawn from on high is breaking upon us to dispel the lingering shadows of night.

As we look for your coming among us this day, open our eyes to behold your presence and strengthen our hands to do your will, that the world may rejoice and give you praise. Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Blessed be God for ever.

HYMN Longing for Light

We have come together in the name of Christ to offer our praise and thanksgiving, to hear and receive God's holy word, to pray for the needs of

the world, and to seek the forgiveness of our sins, that by the power of the Holy Spirit we may give ourselves to the service of God.

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

Lord God, we have sinned against you; we have done evil in your sight. We are sorry and repent. Have mercy on us according to your love. Wash away our wrongdoing and cleanse us from our sin. Renew a right spirit within us and restore us to the joy of your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

May the Father of all mercies cleanse us from our sins, and restore us in his image to the praise and glory of his name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us; let us pray with one heart and mind.

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day, so may the light of your presence, O God, set our hearts on fire with love for you; now and for ever. Amen.

The Word of God : First reading 1 John.2:28

A Song of the Wilderness

Lift up your voice with strength, O herald of good tidings.

The wilderness and the dry land shall rejoice, the desert shall blossom and burst into song. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weary hands, and make firm the feeble knees.

Say to the anxious, 'Be strong, fear not, your God is coming with judgement, coming with judgement to save you.'

Then shall the eyes of the blind be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

Then shall the lame leap like a hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the ransomed of the Lord shall return with singing, with everlasting joy upon their heads. Joy and gladness shall be theirs, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Lift up your voice with strength, O herald of good tidings.

HYMN: Long ago Prophets knew

Gospel ; Mark 13:24-end

The Benedictus

Look towards the east, O Jerusalem, and see the glory that is coming from God.

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

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

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

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

This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham:

to set us free from the hands of our enemies, Free to worship him without fear, holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.

And you, child, shall be called the prophet; of the Most High, for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way, To give his people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of all their sins.

In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us.

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

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever. Amen.

Look towards the east, O Jerusalem, and see the glory that is coming from God.

Reflection Reader Jeremy Burdett

Hymn Beautiful Saviour

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

Collect :

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

HYMN O Come O Come Emmanuel

May the Lord, when he comes, find us watching and waiting. Amen.

Let us bless the Lord. Thanks be to God.