

Sunday 29th November 2020

Order of Service

Worship this morning is led by Rev David Newton

Pianist: Tim Peake

Call to Worship

I am the Lord your God. I chose you to bring justice. I sent you to bring light and my promise of hope to the nations

the first candle is lit

Jesus, light of the world, shine among us: **Come Lord Jesus, come.**

Hymn: StF 174 Light a candle in a darkened place,

Sing/ Read /pray /proclaim the words or listen to it here

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mqSQvojnDE4>

- 1 Light a candle in a darkened place,
 in its flame see hope on every face,
 Christ our Saviour will be born,
 heralding a brand new dawn,
 so let it burn.

- 2 In the darkness, see the coming light,
 Word of God speaks through the darkest night,
 keep a watch, the time is near,
 time for hope and not for fear,
 so let it burn.

Clare Stainsby (b. 1959)

Prayers of Approach & Confession

Loving, faithful God,
We praise you for your faithfulness to your people down the ages.
They hoped and were not disappointed;
In Jesus they saw you come as one of us, sharing our life
so we might share yours.
We have known your coming in our lives,
Whether in blazes of glory,
or quiet moments of knowing we are loved;
and in the power of your Spirit.
We know you will come again in glory,
In light and power that we cannot imagine,
That one day all heaven and earth will praise you.

We come to you too, sorry for the times
When we have been too impatient to wait,
When we have lost heart.
God who comes to us in love,
We know that you forgive all who turn to you.
Forgive us, renew our hope, turn our eyes back to you,
So that we may see your coming in our world
And share your joy with others. Amen.

Readings:

Mark 13: 24 - 37

The day and the hour unknown

Isaiah 64: 1 - 9

A plea for God's presence

Sermon: finding our way in the dark

Hymn: StF 175 Light of the world

Sing/ Read /pray /proclaim the words or listen to it here

www.youtube.com/watch?v=-MmRGSEG2LM

- 1 Light of the world,
you stepped down into darkness,
opened my eyes, let me see
beauty that made this heart adore you,
hope of a life spent with you.

*So here I am to worship,
here I am to bow down,
here I am to say that you're my God,
and you're altogether lovely,
altogether worthy,
altogether wonderful to me.*

- 2 King of all days
oh so highly exalted,
glorious in heaven above.
Humbly you came
to the earth you created,
all for love's sake became poor.

So here I am to worship ...

And I'll never know how much it cost
to see my sin upon that cross.
And I'll never know how much it cost
to see my sin upon that cross.

So here I am to worship ...

Tim Hughes © 2000 Thankyou Music

Prayers of Intercession

Advent God, you heard the cry of your people and came to the world in Jesus Christ; come near to us now as we pray:

We pray for all affected by sickness around the world; for those who will die today of malaria, tuberculosis, cancer, Covid-19.

Faithful God, **give your strength.**

We pray for all who work to bring healing to those who are suffering in body, mind or spirit; for the NHS, for counsellors, for all who support other.

Faithful God, **give your strength.**

We pray for all who are grieving the loss of family and friends; for those who feel helpless, powerless, guilty, distraught.

Faithful God, **give your strength.**

We pray for all who are caught up in situations of violence; for those in lands where war is raging, for those in homes where abuse takes place.

Faithful God, **give your strength.**

We pray for all who have lost their way in life; for those contemplating suicide, for those who don't know which way to turn, for young people confused by these strange times.

Faithful God, **give your strength.**

We pray for governments and local authorities; for all who have to make difficult decisions, for teachers struggling to make schools safe place.

Faithful God, **give your strength.**

We pray for the church here in London, across these islands, and throughout the world; may we be alert to your presence in the world and draw others closer to your love.

Faithful God, **give your strength.**

We pray for ourselves; we too suffer, we too grieve, we too struggle with abuse and confusion, with anxiety and selfishness... we cling to your promise to come into our lives and we open ourselves to your coming.

Faithful God, **give your strength.**

We offer all our prayers in the name of Jesus, who came, who comes, who will come.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be they name;
thy kingdom come, thy will be done
on earth as it is on heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those 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.**

Hymn, StF 180 The right hand of God is writing in our land
Sing/ Read /pray /proclaim the words or listen to it here
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PUqajOND-Xq>

1 O come, O come, Immanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear :

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Immanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.*

2 O come, O come, O Lord of might
who to your tribes, on Sinai's height,
in ancient times did give the law
in cloud, and majesty, and awe :

3 O come, O Rod of Jesse, free
your own from Satan's tyranny ;
from depths of hell your people save,
and give them victory o'er the grave :

4 O come, O Key of David, come,
and open wide our heavenly home ;
make safe the way that leads on high,
and close the path to misery :

5 O come, O Day-spring, come and cheer
our spirits by your advent here ;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadows put to flight :

*Latin, 18th century, based on the ancient Advent Antiphons
translated by John Mason Neale (1811–1866)*

Dismissal & Blessing

God of hope, the Dawn from on high, break upon us, and fill us with light and hope. Send us out to be light and hope wherever we are. **Amen.**

May the blessing of God the Father, the Son, and The Holy Spirit be with us all, now and forever. **Amen**

Prayers are copyright Jill Baker or Methodist Church 2020.

NOTICES

It is with sadness that record the death of the Rev Eglad Graham who passed away on Monday 23rd November. Funeral details will be made available when known. We remember Eglad's family and friends in our prayers.

Services in November/December

29th November – Rev David Newton via Zoom

6th December Dr Richard Bingle via Zoom

13th December: gift service / 20th December: carols – details for these yet to be confirmed

Request from Homeless Action in Barnet.

Thank you to those who donated the requested items to HAB. They have been taken to the HAB Centre and were much appreciated."

The current arrangement for housing homeless men and women is that they are placed in temporary accommodation and supplied individually with bags of food and other essentials. We understand that the following items are always needed: tea, coffee, sugar, Pot Noodles and toilet rolls.

If you would like to make a donation of any of these items, they can be left at the home of Pauline Seaton by prior arrangement – (tel 020 8958 6801) before Sunday 13 December. The items will then be taken to HAB in the week beginning 14 December

Christmas Day lunch.

It is not going to be possible to hold the traditional Mill Hill Churches' Christmas Day lunch at John Keble this year. Instead, possibilities of distributing individual lunches to those who would have attended are being explored. Numbers may need to be limited, but if you know of anyone who might like to receive a Christmas lunch at home, please pass on their name. Drivers will be needed to take round the lunches, late Christmas morning. Could you help?

Commitment for Life appeal

Our charity appeal for this season is Commitment for Life, the URC's programme to support overseas development and justice. To donate please either:

send a cheque made out to Trinity Church Mill Hill and mark the back of the cheque 'Commitment for Life' Send the cheque to: Trinity Church Mill Hill, 11 Eversfield Gardens, Mill Hill, London, NW7 2AE.

or

make an online payment to Trinity Church Trinity Church Mill Hill, [CAF BANK Ltd] Sort Code: **40-52-40** Account No: **00008484**. Please include in the information field '**Commit for life**'