

The United Benefice of Henley-on-Thames with Remenham
The Parish of St Mary the Virgin, Henley-on-Thames
Registered Charity

**Welcome to our
CANDLELIT ADVENT CAROL SERVICE
The First Sunday of Advent
1 December 2019**

The service begins in subdued lighting, each member of the congregation receiving a candle as they enter the church. The congregation stands as the choir move to the back of church. The lessons are read by members of Youth @ St Mary's.

CHOIR

Matin Responsory *adapted from Magnificat by Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina*

I look from afar

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

Go ye out to meet him and say:

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

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

Go ye out to meet him and say:

Hear, O thou Shepherd of Israel, thou that leadest Joseph like a sheep,

Tell us. Art thou he that should come?

Stir up thy strength, O Lord, and come

To reign over thy people Israel.

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

I look from afar

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

Go ye out to meet him and say:

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

HYMN 11 O come, O come, Emmanuel!

*The crucifer leads the choir to the stalls;
the congregational candles are lit while the hymn is sung.*

BIDDING PRAYER

My brothers and sisters, as we await the great festival of Christmas, let us prepare ourselves so that we may be shown its true meaning.

Let us hear in lessons from Holy Scripture, how the prophets of Israel foretold that God would visit and redeem his waiting people. Let us rejoice, in our carols and hymns, that God's will is being fulfilled. Let us celebrate the promise that our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, will bring all people and all creation into the glory of God's eternal kingdom.

The blind will receive their sight, and the lame walk, the lepers cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, and the poor have the Gospel preached to them.

But first, let us pray for the world which God loves, for those who have not heard the good news of God, or who do not believe it; for those who walk in darkness and the shadow of death; and for the Church in this place and everywhere, that it may be freed from all evil and fear, and may in pure joy lift up the light of the love of God. These prayers and praises let us offer to God, in the words which Christ himself 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 congregation sits

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 40 v 1-8

The Prophet proclaims the good news to a people in exile

CHOIR

Adam lay y bounden *Words anon. 15th century Music Boris Ord*

Adam lay ybounden,
Bounden in a bond;
Four thousand winter
Thought he not too long.

And all was for an apple,
An apple that he took,
As clerkës finden
Written in their book.

Ne had the apple taken been,
The apple taken been,
Ne had never Our Lady
A-been heavene queen.

Blessed be the time
That apple taken was.
Therefore we moun singen
Deo gratias!

SECOND LESSON

Jeremiah 23 v 5-6

The Lord promises to send his people a righteous King

The congregation stands

HYMN 10 Long ago, prophets knew

The congregations sits

THIRD LESSON

Zechariah 9 v 9-10

The Lord promises that the King will come to Israel in peace

CHOIR

People, look East *Arr. Malcolm Archer*

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.

Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare,
One more seed is planted there:
Give up your strength the seed to nourish,
That in course the flower may flourish.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the rose, 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.

FOURTH LESSON

Haggai 2 v 6-9

The Prophet foretells the advent of the desire of all nations

The congregation stands

HYMN 7 Hills of the North, rejoice

The congregations sits

FIFTH LESSON

Isaiah 35 v 1-6

The Prophet foretells the glory of the kingdom of God

CHOIR

How beautiful upon the Mountains *John Stainer*

How beautiful upon the mountains: are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings.
That publisheth peace, that bringeth good tidings of good: that publisheth salvation, that saith unto
Sion thy God reigneth.

SIXTH LESSON

Luke 1 v 26-35, 38

The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary

The congregation stands

HYMN 186 Tell out, my soul

The congregations sits

SEVENTH LESSON

Mark 1 v 1-15

Jesus proclaims the coming of the kingdom of God

We wait for thy loving kindness, O God *William McKie*

We wait for thy loving kindness, O God
In the midst of thy temple

Alleluia
O God, according to Thy name
So is thy praise unto the world's end
Thy right hand is full of righteousness
Alleluia
We wait for thy loving kindness, O God
In the midst of thy temple
O Lord, send us now prosperity. Amen

COLLECT

We wait for thy loving kindness, O Lord
In the midst of thy temple.

Let us pray

Please kneel/sit

Grant, O God, that as we rejoice in the hope of the coming of our Saviour, we may seek to prepare the way of his coming by advancing his kingdom in the world and caring for the needs of our fellow men; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

CHOIR

VESPER RESPONSORY

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

The congregation stands

HYMN 9 Lo! he comes with clouds descending

A collection is taken during the singing of this hymn

THE BLESSING

Organ Voluntary