

Parishes of St. Anne's Greenlands
and St. Paul's North Shore
Blackpool



Advent Carol Procession
'From Darkness to Light'

¶ *The clergy gather at the west door and the choir sing ‘Advent
Prose’*

¶ *Then all shall stand to sing the Processional Carol*

O COME, O come, Emmanuel!

Redeem thy captive Israel,
that into exile drear is gone
far from the face of God’s dear Son.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Branch of Jesse!
Draw the quarry from the lions claw;
From the dread caverns of the grave,
From nether hell, thy people save.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, o come thou Dayspring bright!
Pour on our souls thy healing light;
Dispel the long night’s ling’ring gloom,
And pierce the shadows of the tomb.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come thou Lord of David’s key!
The royal door fling wide and free;
Safeguard for us the heav’nward road,
And bar the way to deaths abode

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, O come, Adonai,
who in thy glorious majesty
from that high mountain, clothed with awe,
gavest thy folk the elder law.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Minister: Beloved in Christ, the season of Advent bids us prepare ourselves both for the celebration of Christ's nativity as also for the day when he shall come to judge the hearts of us all. So, in sorrow and penitence, let us confess our failures and shortcomings, and renew in ourselves the vision of God's perfect kingdom, which is the end of all our strivings and the consummation of God's loving purposes for us. In word and music we will give voice to the hope set forth in the scriptures, that God's kingdom will come; and, with John the Baptist and the Blessed Virgin Mary, we will prepare for its coming, celebrating its dawning in the birth, life and death of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. But first, let us pray for those who, by reason of their adversity, yearn especially for its coming: the hungry and the homeless, the sick and the sorrowful, the lonely and the unloved; those who sit in the darkness of despair or who walk in the shadow of death. Let us pray for the leaders of the nations and for all who strive for the establishment of justice, righteousness and peace; and, that it may bear witness to this hope in a world divided by wrath and sorrow, let us pray for the well-being and unity of Christ's body, the Church. Let us then pray for the coming of God's kingdom, in the words of our Lord Jesus Christ:

¶ *Then all shall say the Lord's Prayer*

OUR Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done, in 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. Amen.

Minister: May the Lord when he comes find us watching and waiting. **Amen**

Minister: The glory of the Lord shall be revealed:

***People:* And all flesh shall see it together.**

Minister: Blessed Lord, who hast caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning; grant that we may in such wise hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that by patience, and comfort of thy holy word, we may embrace, and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which thou hast given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

¶ *Then shall the choir sing 'Matin Responsory' by 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?

¶ *Then all shall sit for the first reading—Isaiah 11:1-5: The prophet speaks of the righteous Judge who will come from the line of David.*

A SHOOT shall come out from the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

This is the word of the Lord: *Thanks be to God.*

¶ *Then all shall extinguish candles and stand to sing:*

MAKE way, make way, for Christ the King

In splendour arrives.

Fling wide the gates and welcome him

Into your lives.

Make way! (Make way!) Make way! (Make way!)

For the King of kings! (For the King of kings!)

Make way! (Make way!) Make way! (Make way!)

And let his kingdom in!

He comes the broken hearts to heal,

The prisoners to free.

The deaf shall hear, the lame shall dance,

The blind shall see.

**And those who mourn with heavy hearts,
Who weep and sigh;
With laughter, joy and royal crown
He'll beautify.**

**We call you now to worship him
As Lord of all.
To have no other gods but him:
Their thrones must fall!**

¶ *Then all shall sit for the second reading— 1 Thessalonians 5:1-12: The call to be vigilant in preparation for the coming of the Lord*

NOW concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, 'There is peace and security', then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labour pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; or you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then, let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

This is the word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

¶ *Then all shall stand to sing:*

COME thou long-expected Jesus
Born to set thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us;
Let us find our rest in thee.

Israel's strength and consolation,
Hope of all the world thou art;
Dear desire of every nation,
Joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver;
Born a child and yet a king;
Born to reign in us forever;
Now thy gracious kingdom bring.

By thine own eternal spirit,
Rule in all their hearts alone:
By thy all sufficient merit,
Raise us to thy glorious throne.

¶ *Then all shall sit for the third reading—Micah 4:1-4: The prophet's vision of the last days, when the nations will be judged*

IN days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised up above the hills. Peoples shall stream to it, and many nations shall come and say: 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.' For out of Zion shall

go forth instruction and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between many peoples, and shall arbitrate between strong nations far away; they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore; but they shall all sit under their own vines and under their own fig trees, and no one shall make them afraid; for the mouth of the Lord of hosts has spoken.

This is the word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

¶ *Then all shall stand to sing:*

HILLS of the North, rejoice,
River and mountain-spring
Hark to the advent voice;
Valley and lowland, sing.
Christ comes in righteousness and love,
He brings salvation from above

Isles of the Southern seas,
Sing to the listening earth,
Carry on every breeze
Hope of a world's new birth:
In Christ shall all be made anew,
His word is sure, his promise true.

Lands of the East, arise,
He is your brightest morn,
Greet him with joyous eyes,
Praise shall his path adorn:
Your seers have longed to know their Lord;
To you he comes, the final word.

Shores of the utmost West,
Lands of the setting sun,
Welcome the heavenly guest
In whom the dawn has come:
He brings a never ending light
Who triumphed o'er our darkest night.

Shout as you journey on,
Songs be in every mouth,
Lo, from the North they come,
From East and West and South:
In Jesus all shall find their rest,
In him the sons of earth be blest.

¶ *Then all shall sit for the fourth reading—St Luke 4:14-21: The words of the Prophet Isaiah are fulfilled by Jesus Christ*

Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: 'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free,

to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.' And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, 'Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.' All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from

his mouth. They said, ‘Is not this Joseph’s son?’ He said to them, ‘Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, “Doctor, cure yourself!” And you will say, “Do here also in your home town the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.” And he said, “Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet’s home town. This is the word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

Minister: O people of Sion, behold the Lord is nigh at hand to redeem the nations, and in the gladness of your heart the Lord shall cause his glorious voice to be heard. Declare his honour unto the nations:

***People:* And his wonders unto all people.**

Minister: Behold, I will send my Messenger and he shall prepare the way before me. Prepare ye the way of the Lord:

***People:* Make his paths straight.**

Minister: O Lord Jesus Christ, who at thy first coming didst send thy Messenger to prepare thy way before thee: grant that the ministers and stewards of thy mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready thy way, by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at thy second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in thy sight, who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end. **Amen.**

¶ *Then all shall sit for the fifth reading— Malachi 3:1-7: The day of God’s appearing brings judgement and cleansing*

SEE, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is

coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years. Then I will draw near to you for judgement; I will be swift to bear witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired workers in their wages, the widow, and the orphan, against those who thrust aside the alien, and do not fear me, says the Lord of hosts. For I the Lord do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, have not perished. Ever since the days of your ancestors you have turned aside from my statutes and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you, says the Lord of hosts. But you say, 'How shall we return?'

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

¶ *Then all shall sit for the sixth reading—St. Matthew 3:1-11:
The proclamation of John the Baptist*

IN those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.' This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, 'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight."' Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many Pharisees and

Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

This is the word of the Lord: *Thanks be to God.*

¶ *Then all shall stand to sing:*

ON Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
Announces that the Lord is nigh;
Come then and hearken, for he brings
Glad tidings from the King of kings.

Then cleansed be every Christian breast,
And furnished for so great a guest!
Yea let us each our hearts prepare
For Christ to come and enter there.

For thou art our salvation, Lord,
Our refuge and our great reward;
Without thy grace our souls must fade,
And wither like a flower decayed.

Stretch forth thine hand to heal our sore,
And make us rise, to fall no more;
Once more upon thy people shine,
And fill the world with love divine.

**All praise, eternal Son, to thee
Whose advent sets thy people free,
Whom, with the Father, we adore,
And Spirit blest, for evermore.**

¶ *Then all shall remain seated for the Prayers of Intercession*

Minister: Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a Son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being Interpreted is, ‘God with us’. Unto us a child is born:

***People:* Unto us a Son is given.**

Minister: Almighty and everlasting God, who didst stoop to raise our fallen race by the child-bearing of blessed Mary: grant that we, who have seen thy glory manifested in our flesh, and thy love perfected in our weakness, may daily be renewed in thine image, and conformed to the likeness of thy Son, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end.

Amen.

¶ *Then all shall remain seated for the seventh reading— St. Luke 1:39-49: Mary shares her joyful news with Elizabeth.*

IN those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the child leapt in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, ‘Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this

happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leapt for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.’ And Mary said, ‘My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. This is the word of the Lord: *Thanks be to God.*

¶ *Then shall the choir sing ‘Magnificat’*

¶ *Then all shall remain seated for the eighth reading—St. John 3:1-8: Jesus speaks with Nicodemus of the ‘birth from above’*

NOW there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, ‘Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.’ Jesus answered him, ‘Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.’ Nicodemus said to him, ‘How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?’ Jesus answered, ‘Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, “You must be born from above.” The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.’

This is the word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

¶ *Then all shall remain seated for the following prayers:*

Minister: Drop down, ye heavens, from above, and let the skies
pour down righteousness; let the earth open and bring forth a
Saviour. Blessed be the Lord God of Israel:

***People:* For he hath visited and redeemed his people.**

Minister: O God, who makest us glad with the yearly expectation
of our redemption: vouchsafe that as we joyfully receive thine only
begotten Son for our Redeemer, so we may with sure confidence
behold him when he shall come to be our Judge, even Jesus Christ
thy Son our Lord: who liveth and reigneth with thee and the same
Spirit, ever one God, world without end. **Amen.**

¶ *Then all shall stand to sing:*

LO! he comes with clouds descending,
Once for favoured sinners slain;
Thousand, thousand saints attending
Swell the triumph of his train:
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia
Christ appears, on earth to reign.

Every eye shall now behold him
Robed in dreadful majesty;
Those who set at nought and sold him,
Pierced and nailed him to the tree,
Deeply wailing, deeply wailing, deeply wailing
Shall the true Messiah see.

Those dear tokens of his passion
Still his dazzling body bears,
Cause of endless exultation
To his ransomed worshippers:
With what rapture, with what rapture, with what rapture,
Gaze we on those glorious scars!

Yea, Amen! Let all adore thee,
High on thine eternal throne;
Saviour, take the power and glory:
Claim the kingdom for thine own:
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia
Thou shalt reign, and thou alone. Amen.

¶ *Then all shall remain standing for the Collect for Advent
Sunday:*

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 Ghost, now and ever. **Amen.**

¶ *Then all shall remain standing for the Blessing:*

CHRISt the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you, scatter the darkness from before your path, and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**