

**Holy Trinity Church Heath Town**  
**ADVENT SUNDAY 28<sup>th</sup> November 2021**  
**11.15am – Praise & Worship**



**Theme: Darkness/Light**

**Leader: Liz Cope    Preacher: Revd Kate Tingle**

**WELCOME**

**OPENING PRAYER**

God of mystery, as we step into Advent we pray that we and others will see and feel and know your message of hope and love. As we wait to celebrate the gift of Jesus born for us, given for us; we look to you in anticipation once again. **Amen.**

**SONG**

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.*

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.

And I'll never know how much it cost  
To see my sin upon that cross.  
*(Repeat)*

**INTRODUCTION**

**ADVENT 1: Lighting of a candle**

**SONG**

Longing for light, we wait in darkness.  
Longing for truth, we turn to You.  
Make us Your own, Your holy people,  
Light for the world to see.

*Christ, be our light!  
Shine in our hearts.  
Shine through the darkness.  
Christ, be our light!  
Shine in Your church gathered today.*

## CONFESSION

Christ the light of the world has come to dispel the darkness of our hearts.

In His light let us examine ourselves and confess our sins.

Christ came in humility to share our lives: forgive our pride.

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Christ came with good news for all people:

forgive our silence.

Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Christ came in love to a world of suffering: forgive our self-centredness.

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

## ABSOLUTION

May almighty God, who sent His Son into the world to save sinners, bring us His pardon and peace, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

## ACTIVITY

### SONG

Immanuel, O Immanuel,  
Bowed in awe I worship at Your feet,  
And sing Immanuel, God is with us;  
Sharing my humanness, my shame,  
Feeling my weaknesses, my pain,  
Taking the punishment, the blame,  
Immanuel.

And now my words cannot explain,  
All that my heart cannot contain,  
How great are the glories of Your name,  
Immanuel.

## READING: Genesis 1 1-5

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## READING: Romans 13:11-14

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## TALK

### CREDAL SONG

Our Father everlasting,  
The all creating One  
God Almighty.  
Through Your Holy Spirit  
Conceiving Christ the Son  
Jesus our Saviour.

*I believe in God our Father,  
I believe in Christ the Son,  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
Our God is three in One.  
I believe in the resurrection  
That we will rise again,  
For I believe  
In the Name of Jesus.*

Our Judge and our Defender,  
Suffered and crucified.  
Forgiveness is in You.  
Descended into darkness,  
You rose in glorious life.  
Forever seated high

*I believe in God.....*

I believe in You  
I believe You rose again.  
I believe that Jesus Christ is Lord.

*(repeat)*

*I believe in God.....*

*(Final Chorus)*

*I believe in life eternal  
I believe in the virgin birth  
I believe in the Saints' communion*

*And in Your holy Church  
I believe in the resurrection  
When Jesus comes again  
For I believe in the Name of Jesus  
For I believe in the Name of Jesus  
For I believe in the Name of Jesus*

#### **PRAYERS AND INTERCESSIONS:**

O Come; **walk in the light of the Lord.**

Merciful Father, **accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen**

#### **COLLECT**

Eternal God, as Mary waited for the birth of your Son, so we wait for his coming in glory.

Bring us through the birth pains of this present age to see, with her, our great salvation in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

#### **THE LORD'S PRAYER:**

*As our Saviour has taught us, so we pray:*

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your Kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours. Now and for ever. Amen.**

#### **NOTICES**

#### **OFFERTORY SONG**

Back in the beginning, darkness held her sway

Nothing else existed, neither night nor day.

God in all God's wisdom, looked upon the Earth

And from the midst of shadow,  
brought the light to birth.

Deep within the heavens, stars began to shine

Guiding all God's people, through the mists of time;

Blessing in the darkness, promise seen at night

Leading to a manger, womb of hope and light.

While the world is longing, something stirs within,

Gentle, like the flutter of an angel's wing;

Slowly life emerges, love in pain is born

Day awaits the night and night expects the dawn.

Called to journey inwards, find ourselves anew

Treasure in the darkness, shines upon the truth.

Buried deep within the night-time of our fear

All that God has gifted, now in Christ is clear.

Glory Alleluia, Christ the light has come  
Spreading wide His shadow, shelter from the sun.

All that dwells in chaos, finds a stable place

Earth regains her balance – light and shade and grace.

#### **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

God of all goodness and grace, receive the gifts we offer; and grant that our whole life may give you glory and praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **FINAL PRAYER**

**Lord Jesus Christ, you humbled yourself in taking the form of a servant, and in obedience died on the cross for our salvation, give us the courage to follow you, and to proclaim you as Lord and King, to the glory of God the Father. Amen**

## **BLESSING**

May the blessing of the Father who loves every one of us and the Son who came and lived and died for each of us, and for the Holy Spirit who is always there for us, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**

## **SONG**

Darkness like a shroud covers the earth;  
Evil like a cloud covers the people.  
But the Lord will rise upon you,  
And His glory will appear on you—  
Nations will come to your light.

*Arise, shine, your light has come,  
The glory of the Lord has risen on you!  
Arise, shine, your light has come,  
Jesus the Light of the world has come.*

Children of the light, be clean and pure.  
Rise, you sleepers, Christ will shine on you.

Take the Spirit's flashing two-edged sword  
And with faith declare God's mighty word;  
Stand up and in His strength be strong.

Here among us now, Christ the light  
Kindles brighter flames in our  
trembling hearts.  
Living Word, our lamp, come guide our  
feet  
As we walk as one in light and peace,  
Till justice and truth shine like the sun.

Like a city bright so let us blaze;  
Lights in every street turning night to  
day.  
And the darkness shall not overcome  
Till the fulness of Christ's kingdom  
comes,  
Dawning to God's eternal day.

## **THE GRACE**

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. Amen**

## **THE DISMISSAL**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

