

Sunday Service

9am & 11am | Sunday, December 3rd 2023 | The First Sunday in Advent

Welcome: Pete Scamman (Associate Vicar)

Prayer of Preparation

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Song: Behold Our God

Who has held the oceans in His hands?
Who has numbered every grain of sand?
Kings and nations tremble at His voice,
all creation rises to rejoice.

**Behold our God, seated on His throne.
Come, let us adore Him.
Behold our King, nothing can compare,
come, let us adore Him!**

Who has given counsel to the Lord?
Who can question any of His words?
Who can teach the One who knows all things?
Who can fathom all His wondrous deeds?

Who has felt the nails upon His hand,
bearing all the guilt of sinful man?
God eternal, humbled to the grave,
Jesus, Saviour, risen now to reign!

You will reign forever.
(Let Your glory fill the earth)
You will reign forever.
(Let Your glory fill)

Jonathan Baird, Meghan Baird, Ryan Baird, Stephen Altrogge ©2011
Sovereign Grace Praise, Sovereign Grace Worship

Confession

Most merciful Father, our Creator and Judge, we acknowledge and confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed. We have not loved you with all our heart; and we have not loved our neighbour as ourselves. We earnestly repent, and are truly sorry for all our sins. For your Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake forgive us, and strengthen us to serve and obey you in lives wholly renewed by your Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

All - Age slot

Song: My God Is So Big

My God is so big, so strong and so mighty,
there's nothing that He cannot do.
My God is so big, so strong and so mighty,
there's nothing that He cannot do.
The mountains are His, the valleys are His,
the stars are His handiwork too.
My God is so big, so strong and so mighty,
there's nothing that He cannot do.

My God is so big, so strong and so mighty,
there's nothing that He cannot do.
My God is so big, so strong and so mighty,
there's nothing that He cannot do.
He calls you to live for Him everyday
in all that you say and you do.
My God is so big, so strong and so mighty,
there's nothing that He cannot do.

Ruth Harms Calkin
1959, 2002 Nuggets of Truth

Children leave for their groups

Prayers: 9am Chris Priestley
11am Stephen Rae

Church Family News

Hymn: Rejoice The Lord Is King

Rejoice, the Lord is king!
your Lord and king adore:
mortals, give thanks and sing,
and triumph evermore:

**Lift up your heart, lift up your voice:
rejoice! - again I say, rejoice!**

Jesus, the Saviour reigns,
the God of truth and love;
when he had purged our stains
He took his seat above;

His kingdom cannot fail,
He rules both earth and heaven;
the keys of death and hell
to Jesus now are given:

He sits at God's right hand,
till all his foes submit
and bow to his command,
and fall beneath his feet:

Rejoice in glorious hope!
Jesus the judge shall come -
and take his servants up
to their eternal home:

We soon shall hear the archangel's voice;
the trumpet sounds - rejoice, rejoice!

Charles Wesley, George Frederic Handel

Reading: Zephaniah 2:1 - 3:8 (p.945)
9am Penny Simons
11am Clare Peck

This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

**Sermon: 'Vision of Advent: Joy in Sorrow -
The whole world will be consumed by my jealous anger'
Rob Mullock (Minister for Training)**

Livestream ends

Communion

Prayer of Humble Access

We do not presume to come to this your table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord whose nature is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

Take Communion

Song During Communion:

Song: Depth Of Mercy

Depth of mercy, can there be
mercy reaching even me?
God the Just, his wrath forbears;
me the chief of sinners, spares.
So many times my heart has strayed
from his kind and perfect ways,
making clear my desperate need
for his blood poured out for me.

Give me grace, Lord,
let me own all the wrongs that I have done.
Let me now my sins deplore,
look to you and sin no more.
There for me the Saviour stands,
holding forth his wounded hands;
scars which ever cry for me,
once condemned, but now set free.

Bob Kauflin, Charles Wesley ©1997 Sovereign Grace Praise

Song: Before The Throne Of God

Before the throne of God above
I have a strong, a perfect plea;
a great High Priest, whose name is Love,
who ever lives and pleads for me.
My name is graven on His hands,
my name is written on His heart;
I know that while in heaven He stands
no tongue can bid me thence depart,
no tongue can bid me thence depart.

When Satan tempts me to despair,
and tells me of the guilt within,
upward I look, and see Him there
who made an end of all my sin.
Because the sinless Saviour died,

my sinful soul is counted free;
for God, the Just, is satisfied
to look on Him and pardon me,
to look on Him and pardon me.

Behold Him there! the risen Lamb!
my perfect, spotless, Righteousness,
the great unchangeable I AM,
the King of glory and of grace!
One with Himself, I cannot die;
my soul is purchased by His blood;
my life is hid with Christ on high,
with Christ, my Saviour and my God,
with Christ, my Saviour and my God.

Charitie Lees Bancroft ©Public Domain

Father of all, we give you thanks and praise, that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory. May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name; through Christ our Lord. Amen

Song: In Christ Alone

In Christ alone my hope is found,
He is my light, my strength, my song;
this Cornerstone, this solid Ground,
firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
when fears are stilled, when
strivings cease!
My Comforter, my All in All,
here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone! - who took on flesh,
fullness of God in helpless babe!
This gift of love and righteousness,
scorned by the ones He came to save:
till on that cross as Jesus died,
the wrath of God was satisfied –
for every sin on Him was laid;
here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain;
then bursting forth in glorious Day
up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory
sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
for I am His and He is mine –
bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death,
this is the power of Christ in me;
from life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man,
can ever pluck me from His hand;
till He returns or calls me home,
here in the power of Christ I'll stand!

Keith Getty, Stuart Townend ©2001 Thankyou Music

Closing Prayer