

Sunday 6th December 2020

Good morning. It's Hilary here today. Welcome to our service. Many of us are worshipping together in the church building as Lockdown 2 has finished and some are joining us at home.

Notices

December services

6th December – Church open for worship 10.30AM

13th December- All Age Service 10.30AM

20th December- Carols by Candlelight 5.00PM

27th December – Church open for worship 10.30AM

We will not be meeting on Christmas Day 25th December or for Watchnight reflection on 31st December.

Our Christmas offering will be for Crossroads Counselling Service

Liz is selling mosaic fridge magnets to raise money for the roof fund – approx. £1.50 each.

Today, David Binns will be speaking on 'Peace on earth and goodwill towards men' from Luke 2:1-14. This is followed by communion – you need to get the bread and wine/juice ready at home.

It is the second Sunday in advent. Pete reminded us last week that advent is a time of waiting. This week we will continue waiting as we remember Christ's second coming and as we prepare ourselves spiritually through repentance and celebration. Celebrating God's love for us.

Let's start our service with a prayer.

Thank you, Heavenly Father, for the love you show us. Thank you for your word, the Bible and for your constant care. Your word reminds us of your promises of peace and love and protection.

We are sorry for those times when we don't remember your love or don't act out your love in our lives.

Lord, we come this morning to worship and praise you and thank you for the love you showed through sending Jesus Christ your son to be our saviour. Thank you for being with us, for being Immanuel. Thank you for inviting us into relationship with yourself. Amen.

A reminder of what advent is all about.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v8_lah83UY0

Our first song joins together both Christmas and Easter. It talks about Jesus leaving a throne of endless glory to being laid in a cradle in the dirt. It goes on to speaking of Christ's suffering, for our sakes he died, but that ultimately, he has conquered death. God of glory, majesty. Praise forever to the King of Kings.

Song: King of Kings

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Of5lcFWiEpg>

Sandie wrote an acrostic poem and shared it on the church WhatsApp.

C is for the Christ child as we celebrate his birth
H is for the hope that is forever in our hearts
R is for rejoicing in the joys that he gives
I is for the innocent life that he lived
S is for our saviour that lives in our hearts
T is for the trust in him wherever we go
M is for our master who sits on his throne
A is for the almighty who will never leave us alone
S is for his sanctuary where we go when feeling low
Is for safety that he will bestow
It's also for sharing this wonderful news
To the birth of our saviour, thank God for his insight.

A simple video about Christmas.

Christmas is Jesus Christ

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9Wxixc0KI58>

In Isaiah 7:14 we read “The Lord himself will give you a sign: the virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel”

Immanuel means God is with us.

The prophet Isaiah lived in the 8th Century BC, about 700 years before Jesus.

Last week, Vincent Buchannan spoke about the genealogy of Jesus as found in Matthew 1.

¹⁷ Thus there were fourteen generations in all from Abraham to David, fourteen from David to the exile to Babylon, and fourteen from the exile to the Messiah.

¹⁸ This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about^[e]: his mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet^[e] did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

²⁰ But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, ‘Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus,^[f] because he will save his people from their sins.’

²² All this took place to fulfil what the Lord had said through the prophet: ²³ ‘The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel’^[g] (which means ‘God with us’).

²⁴When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. ²⁵But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

Matthew 1: 22-23 talks about the prophet – this is Isaiah. Immanuel. God is with us.

Don't you find that incredible?

Our next song talks about Jesus as Emmanuel.

Song: Emmanuel

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rMoY2rz7NZI>

Reading and sermon: Some may find some of the images at the beginning, distressing.

https://youtu.be/0KI_OVyaTuA

Communion

Pauline leads us in a prayer

A prayer of Participation

1 Corinthians 10

¹⁶Is not the cup of thanksgiving for which we give thanks a participation in the blood of Christ? And is not the bread that we break a participation in the body of Christ?

¹⁷Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body, for we all share the one loaf.

Thank you, Lord we can partake in sharing your body and your blood that was shed on the Cross for our redemption. We are reminded of your love for each and every one; through your pain suffered for our freedom, we can have an everlasting life in your kingdom. We give you all the honour and glory, despite the battles of life; you are our strong and safe foundation.

We are praying for families who have lost loved ones, those in hospital suffering with Covid. Jesus is their comforter and friend as they recover during these difficult times when separated from loved ones.

We are praying for guidance to replace the leaking roof, for the right choices that are made in securing roofers to complete the work. Thanking God for the advice received from the Baptist Union, in securing a loan to repair the roof and continued fund-raising ideas to maintain our work in the community.

We leave our prayers in your hands Lord.

Amen

Song: My Lord, what Love is this

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RVgmdzQCI6U>

Play verse 1 before taking the bread. Pause video

Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body." Matthew 26:26-28

Play verse 2 before taking the wine. Pause video.

And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. **Matthew 26:26-28**

For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. **1 Corinthians 11:26**

Play verse 3 as we take up the communion offering

Song: To God be the glory

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zW8-M9KCfnQ>

Blessing

With love and compassion,
Come, Lord Jesus.

With judgement and mercy,
Come, Lord Jesus.

In power and glory,
Come, Lord Jesus.

In wisdom and truth,
Come, Lord Jesus.

As we await our coming Saviour, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ.

Amen.

Song: I believe

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4GM97IU9454&ab_channel=KatMillsMusic