

# Second Sunday of Advent 8th December 2024

## Advent Prayer

Blessed are you, Sovereign Lord, just and true:  
To you be praise and glory for ever!  
Of old you spoke by the mouth of your prophets  
But in our days you speak through your Son  
Whom you have appointed the heir of all things.  
Grant us, your people, to walk in his light  
That we may be found ready and watching  
When he comes again in glory and judgement;  
For you are our light and our salvation.

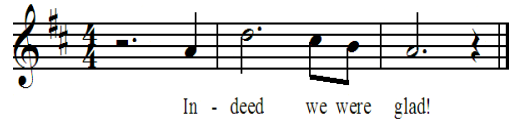
## Collect

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power  
and come among us,  
and with great might succour us;  
that whereas, through our sins and wickedness  
we are grievously hindered  
in running the race that is set before us,  
your bountiful grace and mercy  
may speedily help and deliver us;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honour and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## First Reading (Malachi 3.1-4)

A reading from the book of the prophet Malachi.  
Thus says the LORD God: 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.

## Psalm (Psalm 126)



## Response: Indeed we were glad!

When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage,  
it seemed like a dream.  
Then was our mouth filled with laughter,  
on our lips there were songs. **R**

Deliver us, O Lord from our bondage  
as streams in dry land.

Those who are sowing in tears  
will sing when they reap. **R**

They go out, they go out, full of tears,  
carrying seed for the sowing.

They come back, they come back, full of song,  
carrying their sheaves. **R**

## Second Reading (Philippians 1.3-11)

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians.  
My brothers and sisters, I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defence and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

## Gospel Reading (Luke 3.1-6)

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness.

He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, 'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

### **Post Communion**

Father in heaven,  
who sent your Son to redeem the world  
and will send him again to be our judge:  
give us grace so to imitate him in the humility and  
purity of his first coming  
that, when he comes again,  
we may be ready to greet him  
with joyful love and firm faith;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **For your prayers**

#### **In our Prayers:**

Hugh, Josh, Diane Rankin, Lloyd Whitney, Diane, Trevor, Vera, Chris Hall, Tommy Lacken, Sue, Kathy, Maria Amparo Garcia, Maria, Lenny Shaw, Pat, Vanessa, Eamon Irvine, HM King Charles, Steve, Tracey Sanderson, Fr Michael Shier, Michelle Ferguson, Maria Vaccaro, Robert Russell, Carol Martin, Nancy Campling, Philomena Sorrenti, Martin Fletcher, Jan Bone, Francis Burrows. Fr Peter Rabin, Lynn Williamson, Ms Rebecca Quansah, Dr Alfred Kwasi Kwarteng.

**Among the departed:** Edward Willows

#### **Anniversaries of Death:**

Emma Jolly, Lily Beavan, Mary Brookes, James Crawley, George Martin, Hector McLeod De Graft Johnson, James Collier, Jack Sheehan

#### **In the Parish:**

We pray for those working in retail and distribution at this busy time of year; King Square, Barnabas House and King Square Nursery

#### **In the wider world:**

We pray for the people of Sudan, for all caught up in the civil war. For those who have lost homes and loved ones, and all who are displaced or suffering hunger as a result of the conflict.

## **Notices**

### **In Church this week**

**Wednesday 11th December**

**Open Church 10am-1pm**

12.30pm Mass

11am "Walking Backwards to Christmas"

The Christmas Story from a different angle

**Next Sunday 3rd Sunday of Advent**

10.30am Sung Mass

### **Nature Hub**

*Every Saturday from 10am-12pm at St Luke's Community Centre Central Street.*

Gardening for adults and families from South Islington (Children must be accompanied)

### **Christmas Flowers**

Donations towards Christmas flowers would be greatly appreciated. Please give your donations to Elaine, Ginny or Father David.

**St. Clement's Church is very grateful for all donations to our work. To donate now please scan the QR code below. You can use debit or credit card, Apple Pay or Google Pay. Many thanks!**

