



Service sheet for Sunday 7th December at 10am

Leader: Jane. Preacher: Travers. Music: Chris

Proclamation!

Welcome

Peace, Bethlehem Candle or Prophets' Candle

A voice of one calling in the wilderness,

'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him'

A quote from the prophet Isaiah referring to John the Baptist

Lighting of the Second Advent Candle

Hymn- not in MP

In the darkness we were waiting

Without hope, without light

till from Heaven You came running

There was mercy in Your eyes

To fulfil the law and prophets

To a virgin came the word

From a throne of endless glory

To a cradle in the dirt.

Praise the Father, praise the Son

Praise the Spirit, three in one

God of glory, Majesty
Praise forever to the King of Kings

To reveal the kingdom coming
And to reconcile the lost
To redeem the whole creation
You did not despise the cross
For even in your suffering
You saw to the other side
Knowing this was our salvation
Jesus for our sake you died

Praise the Father, praise the Son
Praise the Spirit, three in one

God of glory, Majesty
Praise forever to the King of Kings

And the morning that You rose
All of Heaven held its breath
Until that stone was moved for good
For the Lamb had conquered death
And the dead rose from their tombs
And the angels stood in awe
For the souls of all who'd come
To the Father are restored

And the church of Christ was born
Then the Spirit lit the flame
Now this gospel truth of old
Shall not kneel, shall not faint
By His blood and in His name
In His freedom I am free
For the love of Jesus Christ
Who has resurrected me.

Praise the Father, praise the Son
Praise the Spirit, three in one
God of glory, Majesty
Praise forever to the King of Kings

***Praise forever to the King of Kings
of Kings***

Brooke Ligertwood, Scott Ligertwood and Jason Ingram

Confession

O King enthroned on high,
Filling the earth with your glory:
Holy is your name,
Lord God almighty.
In our sinfulness we cry to you
To take our guilt away,
And to cleanse our lips to speak your word,
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

Assurance of forgiveness

May the God of love and power forgive us and free us from our sins
Heal and strengthen us by his Spirit,
and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord.
Amen

Collect

Prayer for Sonlight for their Nativity Practice

Reading Beryl

Matthew 3:1-12

John the Baptist prepares the way

3 In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the wilderness of Judea ² and saying, ‘Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.’ ³ This is he who was spoken of through the prophet Isaiah: ‘A voice of one calling in the wilderness, “Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.”’^[a]

⁴ John’s clothes were made of camel’s hair, and he had a leather belt round his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵ People went out

to him from Jerusalem and all Judea and the whole region of the Jordan. ⁶ Confessing their sins, they were baptised by him in the River Jordan.

⁷ But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to where he was baptising, he said to them: 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? ⁸ Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. ⁹ And do not think you can say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our father." I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. ¹⁰ The axe has been laid to the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.

¹¹ 'I baptise you with^[b] water for repentance. But after me comes one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptise you with^[c] the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹² His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing-floor, gathering his wheat into the barn and burning up the chaff with unquenchable fire.'

Short Talk - Travers

Hymn MP 1012

These are the days of Elijah
Declaring the word of the Lord
And these are the days of Your servant Moses
Righteousness being restored
And though these are days of great trial
Of famine and darkness and sword
Still, we are the voice in the desert crying
"Prepare ye the way of the Lord!"

*Behold, He comes riding on the clouds
Shining like the sun at the trumpet call
Lift your voice, it's the year of jubilee
out of Zion's hill, salvation comes*

These are the days of Ezekiel
The dry bones becoming as flesh
And these are the days of Your servant David
Rebuilding a temple of praise
These are the days of the harvest

**The fields are as white as the world
And we are the labourers in the vineyard
Declaring the word of the Lord!**

***Behold, He comes, riding on the clouds
Shining like the sun at the trumpet call
Lift your voice, the year of jubilee
out of Zion's hill, salvation comes***

Robin Mark

Affirmation of faith

**Holy, holy, holy
is the Lord God almighty,
who was, and is, and is to come.
We believe in God the Father, who created all things:
for by his will they were created and have their being.
We believe in God the Son,
who was slain:
for with his blood,
he purchased us for God, from every tribe and language, from every
people and nation.
We believe in God the Holy Spirit:
the Spirit and the Bride say, 'Come!'
Even so come, Lord Jesus! Amen.**

Thomas O. Chisholm (1866–1960) and William M. Runyan (1870–1957)

Intercessions. David

The Lord's Prayer

**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 forever. Amen**

Offertory prayer

Notices and Family news

MP1045

**From the squalor of a borrowed stable,
By the Spirit and a virgin's faith;
To the anguish and the shame of scandal
Came the Saviour of the human race.
But the skies were filled with the praise of heaven,
Shepherds listen as the angels tell
Of the Gift of God come down to man
At the dawning of Immanuel.**

**King of heaven now the Friend of sinners,
Humble servant in the Father's hands,
Filled with power and the Holy Spirit,
Filled with mercy for the broken man.
Yes, He walked my road and He felt my pain,
Joys and sorrows that I know so well;
Yet His righteous steps give me hope again –
I will follow my Immanuel.**

**Through the kisses of a friend's betrayal,
He was lifted on a cruel cross;
He was punished for a world's transgressions,
He was suffering to save the lost.
He fights for breath, He fights for me,
Loosing sinners from the claims of hell;
And with a shout our souls are free –
Death defeated by Immanuel.**

**Now He's standing in the place of honour,
Crowned with glory on the highest throne,
Interceding for His own beloved
Till His Father calls to bring them home!
Then the skies will part as the trumpet sounds
Hope of heaven or the fear of hell;**

**But the Bride will run to her Lover's arms,
Giving glory to Immanuel!**

Stuart Townend

Final prayer and benediction

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon us and scatter the darkness from before us.

And may the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be among us and remain with us always. Amen

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