

**The Parish Church of
All Saints, Peterborough**



In the name...

Good morning and a warm welcome to All Saints and to this service on Advent Sunday; the first Sunday of the new church year. Advent focuses our attention on the coming of Christ – his first coming at Bethlehem, and his second coming in majesty and power at the end of time.

The first reading is a poem, written by returned exiles to Jerusalem, beseeching God to come and save his people. It recalls God's past goodness and acknowledges the past ingratitude of his people. The second reading speaks of the final coming of Christ.

When the Lord comes, he will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness, and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Therefore in the light of Christ let us confess our sins.

Turn to us again, O God our saviour, and let your anger cease from us: Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Show us your compassion, O Lord, and grant us your salvation:

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

Your salvation is near for those that fear you, that glory may dwell in our land: Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Almighty God, who in Jesus Christ has given us a kingdom that cannot be destroyed, forgive *us our sins*, open *our eyes* to God's truth, strengthen *us* to do God's will and give *us* the joy of his kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

In a moment of silence let us bring to God our hopes and prayers for...

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who is alive and reigns with you, I
n the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Old Testament reading: Isaiah 64:1, 3-8

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence

³When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.

⁴From ages past no one has heard,
no ear has perceived,

no eye has seen any God besides you,
who works for those who wait for him.

⁵You meet those who gladly do right,
those who remember you in your ways.

But you were angry, and we sinned;
because you hid yourself we transgressed.

⁶We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.

We all fade like a leaf,
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.

⁷There is no one who calls on your name,
or attempts to take hold of you;
for you have hidden your face from us,
and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.

⁸Yet, O Lord, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.

New Testament reading: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

³ Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴ I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵ for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind— ⁶ just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you— ⁷ so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸ He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹ God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Sermon

Hymn: Come thou long expected Jesus

Come, thou long expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us,
let us find our rest in thee.

Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.

2. Born thy people to deliver,
born a child and yet a King,
born to reign in us forever,
now thy gracious kingdom bring.

By thine own eternal spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all sufficient merit,
raise us to thy glorious throne.

Charles Wesley 1707-1788

Intercessions:

Notices:

1. Ask God, who do you want me to connect with today? Who might God wish me ask, 'How are you?'

2. Fundraising : hamper, just giving page, Giving by text....

Text ALLSAINTS to 70470 to donate £5

ALLSAINTS10 to 70470 to donate £10

ALLSAINTS20 to 70470 to donate £20

3. Going forwards....church open until 12 noon, 5.30 Advent readings and carols (sung by the choir) – broadcast on Facebook.

4. Tuesday 11 am Eucharist on Zoom, Thursday 7 pm prayer Group on Zoom, Saturday 11 am Pop-in, cuppa and Company on Zoom

Next Sunday – back in church - 10.00 am and 5.30 pm services – also on Facebook

(5. Safeguarding C1 C0 thank you)

6. Christmas magic December 12th Tickets at www.peterboroughsings.org.uk with Early Bird prices available until 1st October.

Blessing

May God the Father, judge all-merciful, make us worthy of a place in his kingdom. **Amen.**

May God the Son, coming among us in power, reveal in our midst the promise of his glory. **Amen.**

May God the Holy Spirit make us steadfast in faith, joyful in hope and constant in love. **Amen.**

And the blessing ...

As we await our coming Saviour, go in the peace of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn: Lo he comes with clouds descending

1. Lo, he comes with clouds descending,
once for favoured sinners slain;
thousand thousand saints attending
swell the triumph of his train:

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

God appears on earth to reign

2. Those dear tokens of his passion
still his dazzling body bears,
cause of endless exultation
to his ransomed worshippers:
with what rapture, with what rapture, with what rapture,
gaze we on those glorious scars!

3. Yea, Amen, let all adore thee,
high on thine eternal throne;
Saviour, take the power and glory,
claim the kingdom for thine own:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
Thou shalt reign and thou alone

Charles Wesley 1707-1788
And John Cennick 1718-1755

Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England, material from which is included in this service is copyright © The Archbishops' Council 2000. Scripture readings from the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible copyright © 1989 Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States. CCL 2170267