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Director of Music (Helen Austwick): **07761 260155**

Services next week in the Parish - 14th December

10.00 am Holy Communion at St John's
10.30am Service of the Word at St James'
4.00pm Messy Church
6.00pm Craft through Worship Social at St James'

Hymn

**On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
announces that the Lord is nigh;
awake, and harken, for he brings
glad tidings of the King of kings.**

**Then cleansed be every breast from sin;
make straight the way for God within;
prepare we in our hearts a home,
where such a mighty guest may come.**

**For thou art our salvation, Lord,
our refuge and our great reward;
without thy grace we fade away,
like flowers that wither and decay.**

**To heal the sick stretch out thine hand,
and bid the fallen sinner stand;
shine forth and let thy light restore
earth's own true loveliness once more.**

**All praise, eternal Son, to thee
whose advent doth thy people free,
whom with the Father we adore
and Holy Ghost for evermore.**

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you

All and also with you.

The advent of the Lord is near.

All New light dawning where there has been darkness.

The advent of the Lord is near.

All New hope reigning where there has been death and despair.

The advent of the Lord is near.

All New light, new hope, new life for all creation.

The night is far spent, and the day is at hand; let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light. *Romans 13:12*

Prayer of Preparation

All 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.

Collect

The Liturgy of the Word

New Testament Reading Romans 15. 4 - 13

For the gift of your holy word

All Thanks be to God

Hymn

**May the mind of Christ my Saviour
live in me from day to day,
by his love and power controlling
all I do and say.**

**May the word of God dwell richly
in my heart from hour to hour,
so that I may triumph only
in his saving power.**

**May the peace of God my Father
rule my life in everything,
that I may be calm to comfort
sick and sorrowing.**

**May the love of Jesus fill me,
as the waters fill the sea;
him exalting, him abasing,
this is victory.**

**May I run the race before me,
strong and brave against the foe,
looking only unto Jesus
as I onward go.**

Gospel Reading

Alleluia, alleluia.

Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,
and all flesh shall the salvation of God.

cf Isaiah 40. 3-5

All Alleluia.

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

All Glory to you, O Lord

At the end

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you , O Christ.

Sermon

Affirmation of Faith

Among the poor, among the proud
**All among the persecuted, among the privileged,
Christ is coming to make all things new.**

In the private house, in the public place,
**All in the wedding feast, in the judgement hall,
Christ is coming to make all things new**

With a gentle touch, with an angry word,
**All with a clear conscience, with burning love,
Christ is coming to make all things new**

That the kingdom might come, that the world might believe,
**All that the powerful might stumble, that the hidden might be seen,
Christ is coming to make all things new.**

Within us, without us, behind us, before us,
**All in this place, in every place, for this time, for all time,
Christ is coming to make all things new.**

Prayers of Intercession

At the end

Merciful Father,
**All accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus
Christ. Amen.**

Prayers of Penitence

Christ the Light of the world has come to dispel the darkness of our hearts. In his light let us examine ourselves and confess our sins.

**All Most merciful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we confess
that we have sinned in thought and word and deed. We have
not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our
neighbours as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have
been, help us to amend what we are and direct what we shall
be; that we may do justly, love mercy and walk humbly with
you our God. Amen**

May God in mercy and truth forgive you and set you free.
Take hold of this forgiveness and be at peace.

All Amen.

Lighting the Advent Wreath

Today is the Second Sunday of Advent, we will light a candle of peace remembering Isaiah and the prophets, through whom you spoke.

Bible reading

The second candle is lit

Let us pray

All Lord God, you spoke through your prophets and promised a kingdom of peace. We welcome you Lord Jesus, the Prince of Peace and our hearts long for the establishment of your kingdom of justice and righteousness. Amen.

The Peace

In the tender mercy of our God, the dayspring from on high shall break upon us, to give light to those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you
All and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Hymn *during which a collection will be taken for the work of the parish.*

**People, look East. The time is near
of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able,
trim the hearth and set the table.
People, look East and sing today:
Love, the Guest, is on the way.**

**Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare,
one more seed is planted there:
give up your strength the seed to nourish,
that in course the flower may flourish.
People, look East and sing today:
Love, the Rose, is on the way.**

**Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim,
one more light the bowl shall brim,
shining beyond the frosty weather,
bright as sun and moon together.
People, look East and sing today:
Love, the Star, is on the way.**

**Angels, announce with shouts of mirth
him who brings new life to earth.
Set every peak and valley humming
with the word, the Lord is coming.
People, look East and sing today:
Love, the Lord, is on the way.**

Preparation of the Table

As this bread was scattered and then gathered and made one,
so may your Church be gathered into your kingdom.

All Glory to you, O God, for ever.

Wisdom has built her a house;
she has mixed her wine; she has set her table.

All Glory to you, O God, for ever.

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here.

All His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give thanks and praise.

The president praises God for his mighty acts and all respond

**All Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

The president recalls the Last Supper

Great is the mystery of faith

All Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again.

The prayer continues and leads into the doxology, to which all respond

All Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Awaiting his coming in glory as our Saviour has taught us, so we pray

All Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is 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 for ever. Amen

Breaking of the Bread,

The president breaks the consecrated bread

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

**All Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

Agnus Dei

**All Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
grant us peace.**

Giving of Communion

God's holy gifts for God's holy people.

**All Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

The president and people receive communion. Everyone is very welcome to receive the bread and wine whether you've been baptised or confirmed. Please come forward at the direction of the Church Wardens. For reason of hygiene the Church of England does not allow intinction (dipping bread into the wine). If you don't feel able to take the wine from the common cup today please just receive the bread, which will be the full presence of Christ for you. At the distribution of the bread and wine these words will be said

The body of Christ keep you in eternal life
The blood of Christ keep you in eternal life

The communicant replies **Amen.**

Do join in singing the Communion hymn

**I come with joy, a child of God
forgiven, loved and free,
the life of Jesus to recall,
in love laid down for me.**

**I come with Christians far and near
to find, as all are fed,
the new community of love
in Christ's communion bread.**

**As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share,
each proud division ends.
The love that made us, makes us one,
and strangers now are friends.**

**Together met, together bound
by all that God has done,
we'll go with joy, to give the world
the love that makes us one.**

Prayer after Communion

Post communion prayer is said

All Generous God, you have fed us at your heavenly table. Set us on fire with your Spirit that when Christ comes again we may shine like lights before his face; who with you and the Spirit lives for ever. Amen.

Hymn

**O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here,
until the Son of God appear.
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.***

**O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free
thine own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell thy people save,
and give them victory o'er the grave.**

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel

**O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer
our spirits by thine advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadows put to flight.**

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel

**O come, thou Key of David, come
and open wide our heavenly home;
make safe the way that leads on high,
and close the path to misery:**

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel

**O come, O come, thou Lord of Might,
who to thy tribes, on Sinai's height,
in ancient times didst give the law
in cloud and majesty and awe.**

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel

The Blessing and Dismissal

All With love and compassion,
come, Lord Jesus.

All With judgement and mercy,
come, Lord Jesus.

All In power and glory,
come, Lord Jesus.

All In wisdom and truth,
come, Lord Jesus.

All As we await our coming Saviour,
go in peace to love and serve the Lord
In the name of Christ. Amen.

NOTICES

REFRESHMENTS Please do stay after the service for refreshments.

CHRISTINGLE Our Christingle Service this year is this afternoon at 4.30pm at St John's Church. During this service everyone is encouraged to make a donation to the work of the Children's Society. In the Parish the Children's Society is our charity for January so please return these at the Christingle Service or during the month of January.

ADVENT CONVERSATIONS We will once again be giving the opportunity to take some time aside from the rush of Advent to pause and study. We will be using a York Course written by Bishop Nick entitled 'Who am I'. The dates for the course are Tuesdays 9th and 16th December from 12 noon to 2pm which will include lunch at St James's Church. We are also offering a conversation at the Half Way House on Tuesdays from 7.30 - 9.00pm.

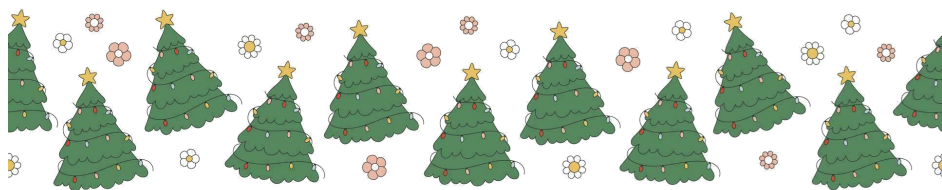
WEDNESDAY COFFEE Please note that our last Wednesday Coffee at St James's will be Wednesday 17th December. We will then start again on Wednesday 7th January 2026.

SING for CENTREPOINT at CHRISTMAS! Do join us for carol singing at Baildon Co-op to raise money for Centrepoint which is our charity of the month for December. We meet on Saturdays 13th and 20th December from 10.00am. Where? Come for ten minutes to support the work of Centrepoint by singing well-known carols!

AUDREY PYE It was with sadness that we received the news of the death of Audrey Pye. Audrey had attended St John's church with her friend Sheila Russell, but latterly had moved to live in Sherrington House Nursing Home. Her funeral will take place at Shay Grange Crematorium on Tuesday 9th December at 3pm. If you are planning to attend, please have a word with Revd. Ruth.

JULIAN MEETING The next meeting will be on Wednesday 17th December in the Lounge at St James' Church at 2.00pm. These meetings explore encouraging ways of incorporating contemplative prayer in daily life. Everyone is welcome.

CRAFT THROUGH WORSHIP During December we will be thinking about 'Possessions (economy)' as part of our reflections on culture. An email with the resource will be available from Sunday 7th December. We will then be gathering at St James' Church on Sunday 14th December at 6pm for a time to be together, sharing in conversation and a little crafting, over some festive refreshments. Everyone is welcome. Please email Ruth on ruthjyeoman@hotmail.com if you would like to know more and receive resources.



FREE ENTERTAINMENT AT THE TREE FESTIVAL!

Come and enjoy entertainment at St John's Christmas Tree Festival. There are musical performances for you to enjoy:

Sun 7th Dec 11.30am Organ Recital by Helen Austwick
1pm to 2pm Performance by Baildon Strummers Ukulele Group

Sat 13th Dec 1pm to 2pm Pianist Audrey Glover plays
Christmas carols

Sat 14th Dec 11.30am Performance by St John's Church Choir



Christmas Services

Sunday 14th December

4.00pm Christmas Messy Church in St John's Church Hall

Sunday 21st December

6.00pm Candlelit Carol Service at St John's

Christmas Eve

4.00pm Crib Service at St John's

11.30pm Midnight Communion at St John's

Christmas Day - Christmas Communion

8.30am at St John's Church

9.30am at St Hugh's Church

10.00am at St John's Church

10.15am at St James's Church



Supporting the Parish

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