**Morning Prayer The First Sunday of Advent**

Sunday 1st December 2024 at 9.30 (call in from 9.15)

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85649430168?pwd=QzFzNytXM01TQTc5cTROaHc2aElvZz09

Meeting ID: 856 4943 0168

Passcode: 336782

**Telephone instructions:**

\* Dial: 0131 460 1196  
  
\* You are then welcomed to Zoom and asked to type in the meeting ID ie. 856 4943 0168  
  
\* If the next instruction is to add your personal ID just press # to ignore  
  
\* When passcode requested type numbers i.e. 336782 plus #.  
  
\* At this point you should be admitted to the call.

**Preparation**

O Lord, open our lips.

*All* **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Reveal among us the light of your presence.

*All* **That we may behold your power and glory.**



Blessed are you, Sovereign God of all,

to you be praise and glory for ever.

In your tender compassion

the dawn from on high is breaking upon us

to dispel the lingering shadows of night.

As we look for your coming among us this day,

open our eyes to behold your presence

and strengthen our hands to do your will,

that the world may rejoice

and give you praise.

*All* **Amen.**

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

*All*  **Blessed be God for ever.**

**Act of Penitence**

Come, let us return to the Lord and say:

*All* **Lord our God,**

**in our sin we have avoided your call.**

**Our love for you is like a morning cloud,**

**Like the dew that goes away early.**

**Have mercy on us;**

**deliver us from judgement;**

**bind up our wounds and revive us;**

**in Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Amen.**

*Absolution*

May almighty God have mercy on us,

forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life,

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All* **Amen.**

**Psalm**

Psalm 25

*All* **Remember, Lord, your compassion and love.**

**1**In you, Lord my God,  
    I put my trust.

**2**I trust in you;  
    do not let me be put to shame,  
    nor let my enemies triumph over me.  
**3**No one who hopes in you  
    will ever be put to shame,

but shame will come on those  
    who are treacherous without cause.

**4**Show me your ways, Lord,  
    teach me your paths.  
**5**Guide me in your truth and teach me,  
    for you are God my Saviour,  
    and my hope is in you all day long.

*All* **Remember, Lord, your compassion and love.**

**6**Remember, Lord, your great mercy and love,  
    for they are from of old.  
**7**Do not remember the sins of my youth  
    and my rebellious ways;  
according to your love remember me,  
    for you, Lord, are good.

**8**Good and upright is the Lord;  
    therefore he instructs sinners in his ways.  
**9**He guides the humble in what is right  
    and teaches them his way.

*All* **Remember, Lord, your compassion and love.**

**Glory to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning is now  
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

Free us, God of mercy,

from all that keeps us from you;

relieve the misery of the anxious and the ashamed

and fill us with the hope of peace;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**The Word of God**

*First reading:* 1 Thessalonians 3: 9-13

**9**How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy we have in the presence of our God because of you? **10**Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you again and supply what is lacking in your faith.

**11**Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus clear the way for us to come to you. **12**May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you. **13**May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones.

This is the word of the Lord.

*All*  **Thanks be to God.**

**Canticle**

A Song of God’s Herald

Refrain:

All   **God will feed his flock like a shepherd,**

**and gather the lambs in his arms.**

1    Go up to a high mountain,

herald of good tidings to Zion;

lift up your voice with strength,

herald of good tidings to Jerusalem.

2    Lift up your voice, fear not;

say to the cities of Judah, ‘Behold your God!’

3   See, the Lord God comes with might,

and his arm rules for him.

4   Behold, his reward is with him,

and his recompense before him.

5   God will feed his flock like a shepherd,

and gather the lambs in his arms;

6   He will carry them in his breast,

and gently lead those that are with young.

Isaiah 40. 9-11

*All* **Glory to the Father and to the Son**

**and to the Holy Spirit;**

**as it was in the beginning is now**

**and shall be for ever. Amen.**

**God will feed his flock like a shepherd,**

**and gather the lambs in his arms.**

### *Second reading* Luke 21: 25-36

### 25“There will be signs in the sun, moon and stars. On the earth, nations will be in anguish and perplexity at the roaring and tossing of the sea. 26People will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world, for the heavenly bodies will be shaken. 27At that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. 28When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

### 29He told them this parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees. 30When they sprout leaves, you can see for yourselves and know that summer is near. 31Even so, when you see these things happening, you know that the kingdom of God is near.

### 32“Truly I tell you, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened. 33Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.

### 34“Be careful, or your hearts will be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness and the anxieties of life, and that day will close on you suddenly like a trap. 35For it will come on all those who live on the face of the whole earth. 36Be always on the watch, and pray that you may be able to escape all that is about to happen, and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man.”

### This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God**

*We pause to reflect on the readings before turning to prayer.*

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**Christ, be our Light! Shine in our hearts, shine through the darkness, shine in your church gathered today.**

**Intercessions**

In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ,

let us pray to the Father.

Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, we praise you

for the many blessings you pour out on your creation.

We pray that all who seek you may find you

and, filled with your Holy Spirit,

become a living temple acceptable to you.

Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

We seek your blessing

on the world, our nation,

and all in positions of authority;

on our homes and communities,

on the lonely, the fearful and the isolated,

on our neighbours, families and friends.

Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

We pray for the sick and the suffering,

*especially we pray…*

and those known to you alone

who we lift to you now in a moment of silence.

We pray for them, and all who care for them.

Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

We give you thanks for the lives of the recently departed,

and all those we remember with love and thanksgiving.

*especially we remember…*

May they rest in peace,

and may your peace rest upon all who grieve,

that they may know the hope,

comfort and love of Jesus Christ.

Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

Loving God,

we thank you that you have called us

into the body of Christ together here today,

and we praise you for all your good gifts to us.

Help us to go out into the world,

refreshed by your Spirit

and in the power of your love

to live for you through Christ our Lord.

Merciful Father,

**accept these prayers**

**for the sake of your Son,**

**our Saviour Jesus Christ.**

**Amen.**

*Collect for the day*

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,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever.

*All* **Amen.**

*The Lord’s Prayer*

*All* **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 for ever. Amen.**

*Blessing*

May God himself, the God of peace,

make you perfect and holy,

and keep you safe and blameless,

in spirit, soul and body,

for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ;

and the blessing of God almighty,

the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,

be amongst us and remain with us,

and those we love and pray for,

today and always.

***All*** **Amen**.

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***What’s On This Week***

**Future events**

**Prayer Breakfast at The Rectory**

**The next prayer breakfast will be at 9.00am on Saturday 25 January 2025 with Steph.**

**Advent Sunday Songs and Supper**

**December 1st at Oakford Village Hall 6.00pm. Contact the church office** Tel:01884 250417 or 07733949295

**Exe Valley Community Christmas Lunch**

**Thursday 12 December at 12.30pm at Withleigh Village Hall.** Contact the church office to book.

**Contacting Church Office**

Monday, Wednesday and Friday 10.00am -12 noon

Email: [office@exevalleymissioncommunity.org](mailto:office@exevalleymissioncommunity.org) Tel:01884 250417 or 07733949295

**Giving**

**Giving to the Exe Valley Mission Community**

If you would like to make a contribution to the work of The Exe Valley Mission Community please make a gift using the Exe Valley Group of Churches BACS details. Please use the reference EVMC Services.

**Account Name:** Exe Valley Group of Churches

**Sort Code:**60-21-27

**Account No:** 54731690

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To give to St Peter’s Church, please go to [www.stpeterstiverton.org.uk](http://www.stpeterstiverton.org.uk) and follow the donations link on the front page of the website.