

St Nicholas Church Shepperton



Parish Eucharist
Sunday 27th November 2022
Advent Sunday

Preacher Richard Ghail

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Advent Sunday

*In the name of the Lord Jesus we welcome you to St Nicholas Shepperton today. It is wonderful that you have chosen to worship with us. For centuries, people have gathered on this site to support each other, to laugh and cry together, to sing and pray and to come before God and be nourished and sustained at the altar rail. It is our hope that you will leave here today having been given a glimpse of God's kingdom. **Please join in where indicated in bold.***

Opening Hymn:

**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.**

**Born thy people to deliver;
born a child and yet a King;
born to reign in us for ever;
now thy gracious kingdom bring.**

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

In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

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

Words of Welcome and Introduction

The Lighting of the Advent Candle

As we light the Advent Candle we all sing:

Jesus, Your light is shining within us.

Let not my doubts and my darkness speak to me.

Jesus, Your light is shining within us.

Let my heart always welcome Your Love.

The music continues quietly in the background.

The Candle is lit and a prayer is said together:

Lord Jesus, Light of the world,

born in David's city of Bethlehem,

born like him to be a king:

Be born in our hearts at Christmas,

be king of our lives today. Amen.

The chant is repeated.

Invitation to confession

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

We hold a moment or two of silence

Heavenly Father,

you have created a universe of light:

forgive us when we return to darkness.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus,

you are the light of the world:

cleanse and heal our blinded sight.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Holy Spirit,
you give us light in our hearts:
renew us in faith and love.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

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

The Collect *Let us pray:*

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. **Amen.**

Please sit

First Reading – Isaiah 2 1-5

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and
Jerusalem. In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall
be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised
above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall
come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to
the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and
that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth
instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall

judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Second Reading – Romans 13 11-14

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn:

**Make way, make way, for Christ the King
in splendour arrives;
fling wide the gates and welcome him
into your lives.**

*Make way, make way,
For the King of kings;
For the King of kings;
Make way, make way,
And let his kingdom in!*

**He comes the broken hearts to heal,
the pris'ners to free;
the deaf shall hear, the lame shall dance,
the blind shall see.**

**And those who mourn with heavy hearts,
who weep and sigh,
with laughter, joy and royal crown
he'll beautify.**

**We call you now to worship him
as Lord of all,
to have no gods before him,
their thrones must fall.**

Gospel Reading

**Jesus we love you, we worship and adore you,
Glorify your name in all the earth,
Glorify your name, Glorify your name,
Glorify your name in all the earth.**

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

Matthew 24: 36-44

“But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

**Glorify your name, Glorify your name,
Glorify your name in all the earth.**

Sermon : Richard Ghail – Licensed Lay Minister

The Creed

Let us declare our faith in God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

We offer our prayers with and for the people of God in every place.

Lord hear us

Lord Graciously hear us

And at the end

Merciful Father,

**Accept these prayers, for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen**

The Peace – *please stand if you are able*

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
and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Offertory Hymn:

Hail to the Lord's anointed!

Great David's greater son;

hail, in the time appointed,

his reign on earth begun!

he comes to break oppression,

to set the captive free;

to take away transgression,

and rule in equity.

He shall come down like showers

upon the fruitful earth,

and love, joy, hope, like flowers,

spring in his path to birth:

before him on the mountains

shall Peace the herald go;

and righteousness in fountains

from hill to valley flow.

**Kings shall fall down before him,
and gold and incense bring;
all nations shall adore him,
his praise all people sing;
to him shall prayer unceasing
and daily vows ascend;
his kingdom still increasing
a kingdom without end.**

**O'er every foe victorious,
he on his throne shall rest,
from age to age more glorious,
all-blessing and all-blest;
the tide of time shall never
his covenant remove;
his name shall stand for ever;
that name to us is love.**

The altar is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it.

Prayer over the Gifts

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation: through your goodness we have this bread to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the bread of life.

Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation: through your goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become for us the cup of salvation.

Blessed be God for ever.

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

The priest prays the Eucharistic prayer and we join together to sing...

**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,
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.**

Please sit or kneel

The priest recalls the Last Supper....

Great is the mystery of faith:
**Christ has died:
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.**

Let us pray for the coming of the kingdom as Jesus taught us:

**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.**

Breaking of the Bread

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

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

Agnus Dei

We all join together to sing:

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

The priest shows the consecrated host to the congregation and says:

This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

**Lord I am not worthy to receive you but only say the word,
and I shall be healed.**

You are warmly invited to feast at the Lord's table. If you are baptised and regularly take communion in your own church you are welcome to receive here at St Nicholas. If you don't receive communion, you are invited to receive a Blessing. During the distribution an anthem or hymn may be sung.

(A prayer for personal and silent use before receiving communion)

We do not presume to come to this your table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord whose nature is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him and he in us. Amen

Anthem by Choir:

Communion Hymn:

**Hark the glad sound! the Saviour comes,
The Saviour promised long!
Let every heart prepare a throne,
And every voice a song.**

**He comes the prisoners to release
In Satan's bondage held;
The gates of brass before him burst,
The iron fetters yield.**

**He comes the broken heart to bind,
The bleeding soul to cure,
And with the treasures of his grace
To enrich the humble poor.**

**Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,
Thy welcome shall proclaim;
And heaven's eternal arches ring
With thy beloved name.**

The priest says "let us pray" and prays the post-communion prayer.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

O Lord our God, make us watchful and keep us faithful as we await the coming of your Son our Lord; that, when he shall appear, he may not find us sleeping in sin but active in his service and joyful in his praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

NOTICES

Final Hymn:

**Hark! A herald voice is calling:
'Christ is nigh!' it seems to say;
'Cast away the dreams of darkness,
O ye children of the day!'**

**Startled at the solemn warning,
let the earth-bound soul arise;
Christ, her sun, all sloth dispelling,
shines upon the morning skies.**

**Lo, the Lamb, so long expected,
comes with pardon down from heav'n'
let us haste, with tears of sorrow,
one and all to be forgiv'n.**

**So when next he comes with glory,
wrapping all the earth in fear,
may he then, as our defender,
on the clouds of heav'n appear.**

**Honour, glory, virtue, merit,
to the Father and the Son,
with the co-eternal Spirit,
while unending ages run.**

Please remain standing after the hymn.

ACCLAMATION

With love and compassion

Come, Lord Jesus!

With judgement and mercy

Come, Lord Jesus!

In power and glory

Come, Lord Jesus!

In wisdom and truth

Come, Lord Jesus!

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

THE 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 of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Dismissal

As we await our coming Saviour, go in the peace of Christ.
Thanks be to God

**You are invited to join us for coffee in the Parish
Centre after the 9.30am service.**

**Do join us for our Advent Choral Evensong
Tonight at 6pm.**