

St Nicholas, Shepperton
28TH NOVEMBER 2021



9.30 A.M. PARISH EUCHARIST

28th November 2021 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: HON No. 128.

**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 – Jeremiah 33: 14-16.

¹⁴ The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfil the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ¹⁵ In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ¹⁶ In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Second Reading – 1 Thessalonians 3: 9-end

⁹ How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you?

¹⁰ Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith. ¹¹ Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. ¹² And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. ¹³ And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn: - HON. No 438.

**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 acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

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

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to
Luke

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

Luke 21: 25-36

²⁵ “There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. ²⁶ People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷ Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. ²⁸ Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.” ²⁹ Then he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees; ³⁰ as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. ³¹ So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³² Truly I tell you, this

generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. ³³ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. ³⁴ “Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, ³⁵ like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶ Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

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

Sermon

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 pray with and for the People of God in every place, and particularly the people of St. Joseph, Enghien and St. Simon of Cyrene, Milange, Mozambique.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

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: HON No. 259.

**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 comes with succour speedy
to those who suffer wrong;
to help the poor and needy,
and bid the weak be strong;
to give them songs for sighing,
their darkness turn to light,
whose souls, condemned and dying,
were precious in his sight.
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 ev'ry 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. Due to current restrictions, please remain in your seats and the priest will bring Communion to you. 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: HON No. 265.

**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 pris'ners 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 bless the humble poor.**

**Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace.
thy welcome shall proclaim:
and heav'ns 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: HON No. 263.
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

We are currently unable to take a collection during the service. As you leave today there will be a collection plate at the back of church for your offerings today.

If you prefer to give contactlessly please do scan the QR code located in the pews or at the back of church.

Thank you for your generosity.

***YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US FOR COFFEE IN THE
PARISH CENTRE AFTER THE 9.30 A.M. SERVICE.***