

Advent 1 Nov 29th 2020 – New Beginnings

Led by Fiona Bennett & Mike Holroyd

Welcome

Call to worship

Choir: He came down that we may have...

Voice: Euan Murray-Peden

Hymn: CH4 273 O come O come

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, 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:

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:

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:

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:

18th century, based on the ancient Advent Antiphons
translated John Mason Neale (1818–1866)

Opening Prayer with movement

One: By day and by night,

ALL: God is with us

One: In our strength & fragility,

ALL: God is with us

One: In our hope & fear,

ALL: God is with us

One: God holds each life in love

ALL: God is with us.

Candle of Hope – remembering Christian Aid

Hymn: Christmas is coming

*'Christmas is coming!',
the Church is glad to sing,
and let the advent candles
brightly burn in a ring.*

The first is for God's promise
to put the wrong things right,
and bring to earth's darkness
the hope of love and light.

*'Christmas is coming!',
the Church is glad to sing,
and let the advent candles
brightly burn in a ring.*

John L. Bell (b. 1949)

Reading: Isaiah 64:1-9 read by Katrina Hadland

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—
2 as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil—
to make your name known to your adversaries,
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!
3 When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.
4 From 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.
5 You 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.
6 We 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.
7 There 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[c] us into the hand of our iniquity.
8 Yet, O Lord, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.
9 Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord,
and do not remember iniquity for ever.
Now consider, we are all your people.

Sermon by Mike Holroyd

Meditation: When out of poverty was born

Prayers of the People by Alex Peden

Response:

One: We wait for you in hope

ALL: O come O come Emmanuel

Offering & Dedication

Hymn: 543 Longing for light

Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
light for the world to see.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your Church gathered today.

Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has power to save us.
Make us your living voice.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your Church gathered today.

Longing for food, many are hungry.
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others,
shared until all are fed.
Christ, be our light!

Bernadette Farrell (b. 1957)

Notices

Blessing & Sung Amen

Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your Church gathered today.

Longing for shelter, many are homeless.
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering others,
walls made of living stone.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your Church gathered today.

Many the gifts, many the people,
many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
making your kingdom come.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your Church gathered today.