

St John the Baptist, Catford & Downham Team Ministry

2nd Sunday of Advent

7th December 2025



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Hymns:

- ♪ Processional-
The Advent Antiphon (below)
- ♪ Gradual- 358 vs 1-3
- ♪ Offertory- 209
- ♪ Communion- 102
- A tender shoot: *Otto Goldschmidt*
- ♪ Recessional- 307
- ♪ Voluntary- Come, Savior of
heathens, BWV 659: *J.S. Bach*

Advent Prose

**Drop down, ye heavens,
from above,
and let the skies
pour down righteousness.**

Collect

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and for ever.
Amen.

1st reading: *Isaiah 11.1-10*

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

¹ A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

² The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

³ His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.
He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide by what his ears hear;
⁴ but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

⁵ Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

⁶ The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
and a little child shall lead them.

⁷ The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

⁸ The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

⁹ They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain;
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD
as the waters cover the sea.

¹⁰ On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples;
the nations shall inquire of him,
and his dwelling shall be glorious.

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

Psalm: 72.1-7, .18f

Refrain: All kings shall fall down before him :
all nations shall do him service.

¹ Give the King thy judgements, O God : and thy righteousness unto the King's son.

² Then shall he judge thy people according unto right :
and defend the poor. **R**

³ The mountains also shall bring peace : and the little hills righteousness unto the people.

⁴ He shall keep the simple folk by their right :
defend the children of the poor, and punish the wrong-doer. **R**

⁵ They shall fear thee, as long as the sun and moon endureth :
from one generation to another.

⁶ He shall come down like the rain into a fleece of wool : even as the drops that water the earth. **R**

⁷ In his time shall the righteous flourish :
yea, and abundance of peace, so long as the moon endureth.

¹⁸ Blessed be the Lord God, even the God of Israel :
which only doeth wondrous things;

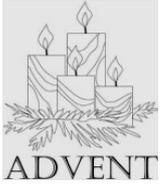
¹⁹ And blessed be the Name of his majesty for ever :
and all the earth shall be filled with his majesty. Amen, Amen. **R**

2nd reading: *Romans 15.4-13*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans.

⁴ Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction,
so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope.

⁵ May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another,
in accordance with Christ Jesus,



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⁶ so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁷ Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

⁸ For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs,

⁹ and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, 'Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name';

¹⁰ and again he says, 'Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people';

¹¹ and again, 'Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him';

¹² and again Isaiah says, 'The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope.'

¹³ May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

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

Gospel: Matthew 3.1-6

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Matthew.
Glory to you O, Lord.

¹ In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming,

² 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.'

³ This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, 'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight."'

⁴ Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey.

⁵ Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan,

⁶ and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

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

Notices

Community Carol Service
Saturday 13th, 4pm. All donations of new toys welcome.

Carols at Bellingham Ex-Servicemen's Club (Allerford Road). We'll be setting off from church at 1.30pm- do let Peter know if you'd like to join him & the choir.

Our headteacher, Mrs Derham will be moving on to a new school at Christmas. Donations towards a leaving present can be given to Rev'd Peter.

Prayers

For healing and protection for: Blessing, Barry Langridge, Eric, Carolyn Lindo, Joshua, Annie, Dwayne, Beverley, Glyn, Drew Spikes, Ruth Bennett, Bilki, Marcel, Leila, Theresa, Valerie Stevenson, Trishia Reed.

For those departed this life, including Peter Towindo, and those with an anniversary of a death at this time, including David Walden

Church Diary

Prayer Chapel open:

Weekdays- 7.30am-5.30pm
Weekends- 9.30am-5.30pm

The 2nd Sunday of Advent (7th)
10.30am Sung Mass with Children's Church & Youth Church.

Monday 8th

Conception of Blessed Mary
7.30am Morning Prayer (MP)
5pm Evensong (ES)

Tuesday 9th

7.30am MP. 8.30am Said Mass
5pm ES.

Wednesday 10th Ember Day

7.30am MP. 10am Said Mass with Advent course. 5pm ES.

Thursday 11th

No MP or ES.

Friday 12th Ember Day

7.30am MP.
3.45pm School Christmas Fair

Saturday 13th Lucy, martyr, 304
4pm Community Carol Service

The 3rd Sunday of Advent (14th)

10.30am Sung Mass with Children's Church & Youth Church.
1.30pm Set off from church for Carols at the Bellingham Ex-Servicemen's Club

Any queries contact:

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