# Holy Trinity

## Headington Quarry



# The Fourth Sunday of Advent 19<sup>th</sup> December 2021

Welcome to Holy Trinity Headington Quarry—the 'village' church in the city. Wherever you are on your walk with God, we hope you will feel welcome here. If you have questions or need help with anything, please speak to one of the welcomers at the door. It's easy to worry about what to do in church, but the most important thing is that you find time to be with God. The words of the service are in this booklet—please join in the responses in **bold**.

Advent is a time of waiting, watching and joyful preparation. It anticipates the coming of Christ from three different perspectives: as the Christ-child in Bethlehem, in our hearts daily, and in glory at the end of time. The season offers the opportunity to share in the ancient longing for the coming of the Messiah, and to be alert for Christ's Coming among us.

As we keep this time of watching and waiting, may we become more deeply aware of the presence of Christ in the quietness and in the darkness—and may the Holy Spirit prompt us to a loving awareness of the presence of Christ in unexpected places and situations.

A prayer as you prepare for worship:

O gracious and holy Father, give us wisdom to perceive you, intelligence to understand you, diligence to seek you, patience to wait for you, eyes to behold you a heart to meditate on you, and a life to proclaim you; through the power of the Spirit of Jesus Christ our Lord.

(St Benedict, 480-543)

#### Hymn

Long ago, prophets knew Christ would come, born a Jew, come to make all things new; bear his people's burden, freely love and pardon.

Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring! sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing! When he comes, when he comes, who will make him welcome?

God in time, God in man, this is God's timeless plan: he will come, as a man, born himself of woman, God divinely human. *Ring, bells...* 

Mary, hail! Though afraid, she believed, she obeyed. In her womb, God is laid: till the time expected, nurtured and protected. *Ring, bells...* 

Journey ends! Where afar Bethlem shines, like a star, stable door stands ajar. Unborn Son of Mary, Saviour, do not tarry!

Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring! sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing! Jesus comes! Jesus comes! We will make him welcome! Please stand

Fred Pratt Green (1903-2000)

The president says

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

The Lord be with you and also with you.

#### Lighting of the Advent Candles

On each Sunday of Advent, we light a new candle on the Advent Wreath.

Advent 4: Mary

Mary's gift beyond all telling we recall today: Son of God within her dwelling, born to show the way. Who could guess the final story? -cross and glory, Easter Day!

After the candle is lit:

The people who walked in darkness Have seen a great light Jesus is the light of the world A light no darkness can ever put out.

#### **Prayers of Penitence**

The deacon introduces the prayers of penitence

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

#### Silence is kept.

Most merciful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we confess that we have sinned in thought, word and deed. We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be; that we may do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.



The president says

The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon and forgiveness of all your sins time for amendment of life, and the grace and strength of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**  Let us pray:

God our redeemer, who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son: grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour, so we may be ready to greet him when he comes again as our judge; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**.

Please sit

#### The Liturgy of the Word

#### First Reading: Micah 5. 2-5a

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel,
whose origin is from of old, from ancient days.
Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labour has brought forth;
then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel.
And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God.
And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth;
and he shall be the one of peace.

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

#### **Gospel Reading**

*Please stand. We repeat the chant as the gospel book is carried forwards:* 

#### Kindle a flame to lighten the dark, and take all fear away.

The gospel is announced

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

#### Gospel reading: Luke 1. 39-45

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leapt for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.'

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

Sermon

Revd Canon David Knight

**The Nicene Creed** 

Please stand

Let us declare our faith in our coming Lord

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 alorified, 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

Please sit or kneel.

These responses may be used

Lord, in your mercy. Hear our prayer. We pray for those who are sick or in particular need: Naomi Lawrence, Charles Reade, Kate Samuel, Mary Jenkins, Barbara Farrar, Josie, Grace, Rosemary Hill, Sue Saville, Vincent, Wilfred Wong, Bob Nind.

Those who have died recently: Marian Simmons, Samantha Kent

Those whose anniversary of death falls at this time: Frances Arnold, Jean 'Elizabeth' Rivington, Phyl Harvey, Hilary Nex.

And at the end

Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Peace

Please stand

In the tender compassion of our God, the dawn from on high shall break upon us, to shine on 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.** 

A minister says

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

You are invited to exchange a sign of peace with a bow or a wave or a smile – please remain in your place.

#### Hymn

The people that in darkness sat a glorious light have seen; the Light has shined on them who long in shades of death have been. To hail thee, Sun of Righteousness, the gathering nations come, their joy when the reapers bear their harvest treasures home.

For unto us a Child is born, to us a Son is given; and on his shoulder ever rests all power in earth and heaven.

His name shall be the Prince of Peace the everlasting Lord, the Wonderful, the Counsellor, the God by all adored.

His righteous government and power shall over all extend; on judgment and on justice based, his reign shall have no end.

Lord Jesus, reign in us, we pray, and make us thine alone, who with the Father ever art and Holy Spirit One.

Scottish Paraphrases, 1781 John Morrison (1750-1798) based on Isaiah 9.2-7

#### Taking of the Bread and Wine

As the grain once scattered in the fields and the grapes once dispersed on the hillside are now reunited on this table in bread and wine, so, Lord, may your whole church soon be gathered together from the corners of the earth into your kingdom.

#### Amen.

Please sit or stand as you are most comfortable

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.** It is indeed right and good to give you thanks and praise, almighty God and everlasting Father, through Jesus Christ your Son. For when he humbled himself to come among us in human flesh, he fulfilled the plan you formed long ago and opened for us the way of salvation. Confident that your promise will be fulfilled, we now watch for the day when Christ our Lord will come again in glory.

And so we join our voices with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven to proclaim your glory

for ever praising you and singing:



We praise and bless you, loving Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit, that broken bread and wine outpoured may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends and, taking bread, he praised you. He broke the bread, gave it to them and said: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me. (*Bells are rung*)

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine. Again he praised you, gave it to them and said: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me. (*Bells are rung*) So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did, in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross. Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation, we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

Acclamation Moderato Mod

Deacon: Christ is the bread of life:

Lord of all life, help us to work together for that day when your kingdom comes and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth. Look with favour on your people, gather us in your loving arms and bring us with [N and] all the saints to feast at your table in heaven. Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father, for ever and ever. **Amen.** 

#### The Lord's Prayer

Please sit or kneel

As our saviour taught us, so we pray

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.



#### **Invitation to Communion**

#### God's holy gifts for God's holy people. Jesus Christ is holy, Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

This is God's table and all are welcome here. Please follow the directions of the steward and follow the one-way system as you return to your seat. Please do also come forwards if you would like a prayer of blessing instead, and hold onto this booklet to indicate this.

#### Hymn

The angel Gabriel from heaven came, his wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame; 'All hail,' said he, 'thou lowly maiden Mary, most highly favoured lady.' *Gloria!* 

'For known a blessèd Mother thou shalt be, all generations laud and honour thee, thy son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold; most highly favoured lady.' *Gloria!* 

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head, 'To me be as it pleaseth God,' she said, 'My soul shall laud and magnify his holy name': most highly favoured lady. *Gloria!*  Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ was born in Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn, and Christian folk throughout the world will ever say 'Most highly favoured lady.' *Gloria!* 

> *Birjina gaztetto bat zegoen (Basque Carol)* paraphrased by Sabine Baring-Gould (1834-1924)

#### **Prayer after Communion**

Heavenly Father, who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of the promised saviour: fill us your servants with your grace, that in all things we may embrace your holy will and with her rejoice in your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**.

Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.

#### The Sending Out

#### Hymn

Please stand

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord! Unnumbered blessings, give my spirit voice; tender to me the promise of his word; in God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his name! Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done; his mercy sure, from age to age the same; his holy name, the Lord, the mighty one. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might! Powers and dominions lay their glory by. Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight, the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.

Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word! Firm is his promise, and his mercy sure. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord to children's children and for evermore!

> Timothy Dudley-Smith (b. 1926) based on Luke 1.46-55 (*Magnificat, The Song of Mary*)

#### **The Blessing**

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you, scatter the darkness from before your path, and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory; And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.** 

#### **The Dismissal**

#### A minister says

As we await our coming Saviour, go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **In the name of Christ. Amen.** 

Please take this booklet away with you, and recycle it when you have finished with it. We no longer pass the collection plate around during the service, but you are welcome to use the collection plate at the back of church, or the contactless machine, if you would like to make a donation to support the work of our church.

*In these colder months we will serve refreshments inside church. Please be mindful of the space of others when leaving the church and when collecting refreshments – please take care not to block any aisles.* 

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#### Notices: 19<sup>th</sup> December

#### 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent: Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> December

8am – Holy Communion from the Book of Common Prayer 10am – Parish Eucharist with Forest Sunday School 6pm – Christmas Carol Service (also live-streamed on YouTube)

#### Christmas Services Friday 24<sup>th</sup> December

2.30pm & 4pm Christingle Services (4pm service will be livestreamed on YouTube)
11.30pm Midnight Mass
Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> December
8am Said Communion
10am Family Eucharist

We anticipate these Christmas services being quite busy – please remember to wear a face covering in the building, and to wrap up warm (doors will be open for ventilation). We also advise everyone to take a lateral flow test before coming. Do make use of the live stream if you have any concerns about coming in person.

#### Midweek Services over Christmas break: Morning Prayer: Mondays at 9am

Last service this year is Monday  $22^{nd}$  December. We will resume on Monday  $10^{th}$  January

#### Tots Service: Tuesdays at 10am

Last service this year is Tuesday  $21^{st}$  December. We will resume on Tuesday  $11^{th}$  January.

#### Midweek Communion: Wednesdays at 10am

Services continue throughout Christmas period.

### Prayers for Hope and Healing: Thursdays at 8.30pm (via Zoom)

Last prayer meeting this year was on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> December. Prayer meetings will resume on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> January.

#### The First Sunday of Christmas: Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> December

10am – Parish Eucharist with Forest Sunday School NB no 8am service

#### **Epiphany: Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> January**

8am – Holy Communion from the Book of Common Prayer 10am – Parish Eucharist

**Forest Sunday School** will break on January 2<sup>nd</sup>, and resume on Sunday January 9<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Christingle Making: Help needed!**

We plan to meet in the Coach House on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> December from 10am-12noon, to make the Christingles ready for the service on Christmas Eve. Volunteers welcome! Please let Helen know if you can help.

**The Gatehouse** is in urgent need of gloves also hats and scarves for their clients If you are able to help please bring them to church and leave at the back for collection by Margaret Jackson. Thank you.

**Hand crafted candles** made from recycled church candles and seasonal cards are available to purchase in church, All money raised is for the Church reordering, Thankyou Margaret Jackson.

**Autumn Tea time Recitals** raised a £1193.50 (plus gift aid) in aid of the Building Fund. Our thanks to all the Musicians who gave so generously of their time, and for everyone who helped or came along to support the Recitals.

**Fundraising Auction in January Your help needed!** We urgently need offers of items/events/actions for our next fundraising event, an auction in the Village Hall on Saturday 29th January at 7.30pm. There is a list of suggestions on a flyer at the back of the church, but please feel free to come up with your own ideas! More details are on the flyer, or contact a member of the fundraising events team: Diana Clews (dianaclews@hotmail.com), Anne Tarassenko (annetarassenko@hotmail.com, tel. 07443 652082) or Mike Wooldridge (mjcwooldridge@gmail.com).

#### Fairtrade in the Market

This is a joint enterprise set up between Headington Fairtrade (started by 3 members of our congregation!) and Fairtrade at St. Michaels. It is a pop-up shop in The Covered Market in Oxford and will be there till the end of February. If you're in Oxford please call in. This is our response to the pandemic which has affected our producers far harder than it has us as they have limited access to medical care and vaccines. Rachel Walding.

#### **New Year Philosophy Course**

Richard Churchill is offering to run an informal Philosophy Course for beginners, starting in the new year. Sessions to take place over Zoom, one evening a fortnight (day to be confirmed but I am unavailable Thursday evenings) and lasting 60 minutes. The proposed time of 7:30 pm, but can be earlier or later depending on when people are available. The format for the session will be an introductory short lecture explaining the philosopher and their idea which will be the theme of the session. Following this, I will open up the discussion to everyone and they can ask questions and open up the topic for debate. I would prefer to keep things as informal as possible, but I can provide some recommended reading for the topics I'm discussing should this be wanted by anyone.

The first few sessions will be discussing the ideas of the pre-Socratic thinkers; Anaximander (and the Apeiron), Heraclitus (chaos & order), Zeno (paradoxes). Following this moving on through into the Classical thinkers; Plato (rule of philosopher-kings, concept of the forms and true knowledge), Aristotle (teleological ethics and the concept of eudaimonia), Epicurus (happiness & fear), Stoicism (rationalizing emotions, and Stoic concepts of pre-determinism). Then move on to the Medieval thinkers of St. Augustine, St. Anselm, Aquinus, Boethius, and Ockham, looking more deeply at Platonic and Aristotelian concepts and their evolution into Christian concepts during this time. After this, I am happy to move sessions into whichever direction people would like to me cover, or I can continue to plan sessions and move through philosophers in chronological order as before. Please get in touch via Laura (<u>vicar@hthq.uk</u>) if you would like to take part and we will agree on a suitable date and time.

#### Thursday Lunch Club (TLC)

Do you enjoy cooking? TLC which provides home cooked lunches twice a month for the elderly in the Headington area would like to find some more cooks. Our present cooks are wonderful, but more support for them would be welcome. It is a friendly community and the guests very much appreciate the lunches and the company. So please give this a thought and see whether you might be able to help. Also TLC has a free raffle and if you have unwanted gifts biscuits, chocolates, jam, etc are very much appreciated- which you would be happy to donate, Katya Drummond is happy to collect. Tel 07547 649612 <u>katya@shotover.net</u>

**Headington Action Christmas Market** An extra Christmas Market will take place on Wednesday December 22<sup>nd</sup> 9am – 2pm.

**Eco Resources** For the latest list of interesting eco-related webinars and other resources please go to: https://www.hthq.uk/eco-church-resources/

**Celebrating our building plans!** We give thanks for the progress made so far in our church building restoration and development work. Two years since our last fundraising appeal, we have now launched another appeal, in what we hope to be the final push towards reaching our target figure (£600,000 in round figures). We invite you all to consider whether and how you can contribute to this final appeal, so that we can complete the work in 2022. Please continue to hold our project and plans in your prayers.

Holy Trinity Headington Quarry An open door between heaven and earth,

showing God's love to all.

Contact us

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