



Sherbrooke Mosspark Parish Church

**Sunday 28th November 2021
1st Sunday of Advent**

ORDER OF SERVICE

Voluntary Chorale Prelude “Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland”, BWV 661 – J. S. Bach

Call to Worship

Praise 290 The Race that Long in Darkness Pined

- 1 The race that long in darkness pined
has seen a glorious light ;
the people dwell in day, who dwelt
in death’s surrounding night.
- 2 To us a Child of hope is born ;
to us a Son is given ;
him shall the tribes of earth obey,
him all the hosts of heaven.
- 3 His name shall be the Prince of Peace,
for evermore adored ;
the Wonderful, the Counsellor,
the great and mighty Lord.
- 4 His power increasing still shall spread,
his reign no end shall know :
justice shall guard his throne above,
and peace abound below.

Prayers of approach confession and the Lord’s Prayer

All-age Drama :
“Lucky Day”

Praise We Gather Here At Advent Time (v1 & 2)

1 We gather here at Advent time; in praise to God we sing,
And in our worship stop and ask, 'What are the prayers we bring?'
When, week by week, we journey closer to the joy of Christmas Day,
We turn to God, and seek his Light to guide us on our way.

2 We gather here as Advent starts and Hope becomes our light.
When prophets spoke, your light shone clear and hopefulness burned bright.
So now we pray for strength for those who struggle every day to cope.
May we become God's prophets here and lift the light of Hope.

**Old
Testament**

Isaiah 2.1-5

(p.600)

1 The word which Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. 2 It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; and all the nations shall flow to it, 3 and 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 the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. 4 He shall judge between the nations, and shall decide for many peoples; and 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. 5 O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD.

Anthem *O Thou the Central Orb* – C. Wood

Words: H R Bramley

O thou the central orb of righteous love,
Pure beam of the most High, eternal Light
Of this our wintry world, thy radiance bright
Awakes new joy in faith, hope soars above.

Come, quickly come, and let thy glory shine,
Gilding our darksome heaven with rays divine,
Thy saints with holy lustre round thee move,
As stars about thy throne, set in the height
Of God's ordaining counsel, as thy sight
Gives measured grace to each, thy power to prove.

Let thy bright beams disperse the gloom of sin,
Our nature all shall feel eternal day,
In fellowship with thee, transforming day
To souls erewhile unclean, now pure within.

Amen.

Gospel Luke 1.5-25

(p.53)

5 In the days of Herod, king of Judea, there was a priest named Zechari'ah, of the division of Abi'jah; and he had a wife of the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. **6** And they were both righteous before God, walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless. **7** But they had no child, because Elizabeth was barren, and both were advanced in years.

8 Now while he was serving as priest before God when his division was on duty, **9** according to the custom of the priesthood, it fell to him by lot to enter the temple of the Lord and burn incense. **10** And the whole multitude of the people were praying outside at the hour of incense. **11** And there appeared to him an angel of the Lord standing on the right side of the altar of incense. **12** And Zechari'ah was troubled when he saw him, and fear fell upon him. **13** But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zechari'ah, for your prayer is heard, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John. **14** And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth; **15** for he will be great before the Lord, and he shall drink no wine nor strong drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother's womb. **16** And he will turn many of the sons of Israel to the Lord their God, **17** and he will go before him in the spirit and power of Eli'jah, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready for the Lord a people prepared." **18** And Zechari'ah said to the angel, "How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is advanced in years." **19** And the angel answered him, "I am Gabriel, who stand in the presence of God; and I was sent to speak to you, and to bring you this good news. **20** And behold, you will be silent and unable to speak until the day that these things come to pass, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time." **21** And the people were waiting for Zechari'ah, and they wondered at his delay in the temple. **22** And when he came out, he could not speak to them, and they perceived that he had seen a vision in the temple; and he made signs to them and remained dumb. **23** And when his time of service was ended, he went to his home. **24** After these days his wife Elizabeth conceived, and for five months she hid herself, saying, **25** "Thus the Lord has done to me in the days when he looked on me, to take away my reproach among men."

Prayers of Dedication, Thanksgiving and Intercessions

- 1 The voice of God goes out to all the world ;
his glory speaks across the universe.
The great King's herald cries from star to star :
with power, with justice, he will walk his way.
- 2 The Lord has said : 'Receive my messenger,
my promise to the world, my pledge made flesh,
a lamp to every nation, light from light':
with power, with justice, he will walk his way.
- 3 The broken reed he will not trample down,
nor set his heel upon the dying flame.
He binds the wounds, and heals with his strong hand :
with power, with justice, he will walk his way.
- 4 Anointed with the Spirit and with power,
he comes to crown with comfort all the weak,
to show the face of justice to the poor :
with power, with justice, he will walk his way.
- 5 His touch will open eyes that darkness held ;
the lame shall run, the halting tongue shall sing,
and prisoners laugh in light and liberty :
with power, with justice, he will walk his way.

SERMON

Church News

Praise 273 O Come, O Come Emmanuel

- 1 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.*
- 2 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 :
- 3 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 :
- 4 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 :
- 5 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 :

BLESSING

Voluntary Fantasy on "Veni Emmanuel" – K. Leighton

Covid Health & Safety Framework update: the Covid sub-committee have now updated the health and safety framework with effect from Sunday 3rd October. Further details can be found on the Church website; the key aspects are:

- **Masks:** to be worn inside the sanctuary (throughout the service) and in the hall while moving around
- **Singing:** please stand and sing with your masks on for all hymns if you wish.
- **Seating:** a return of the church pews with no allocation of seating; prebooking of seats to remain.
- **Sanctuary and Halls:** in order to maximise ventilation throughout our church buildings, various doors will remain open both in the Sanctuary and Halls. We are also monitoring CO2 levels both in the Sanctuary and Halls.
- **Movement between Sanctuary and Halls:** either through the side door or double doors next to the organ. Please take your time and keep your distance.
- **Tea and Coffee:** we've taken every precaution to keep us all safe which means wearing a mask when not seated, sanitising, sitting at tables and individually

wrapped biscuits. Please bring your own cup if you would prefer although recyclable disposables will be used. It's not yet back to normal, but the benefits of meeting up and chatting is worth the effort we think.

Notices

Christmas Services: the following services and events are being planned to celebrate the Christmas season –

- Sunday 12th – Gift Service in support of the Lodging House Mission and Preshal Trust; the service will be followed by some Christmas hospitality in the large hall.
- **Suggested Gifts:**
- Gift packs of toiletries for men, women or children.
- Any small luxury items that can be used and would boost feelings of well being
- Hats
- Gloves
- Scarfs
- Chocolate is always very welcome as we often use this in Santa sacks and as a prize for games.
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- Tuesday 21st December, 7.30pm – Carols by Candlelight
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- Friday 24th December, 11.15pm – Watchnight service
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- Saturday 25th December, 10.30am – Christmas Day service
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- Sunday 26th December, 10.30am – Boxing Day – Juke Box fun – more details to follow.

AM Chorus: Christmas Meetup- Wednesday 15th December at 2pm! (Note new afternoon time) A chance to get in to the Christmas spirit and sing through some festive favourites. New comers very welcome, please contact Alice (email: alicelovesharps@gmail.com) to get on the emailing list for further info!

The 159th Scout Group: will be delivering Christmas cards this year. The collection box will be at the back of the church on 5th and 12th December. Donations are gratefully received and used to help fund the group's activities.

Stamps: Before you throw out your Christmas card envelopes please can you remove the stamps from them the church would be grateful to collect any stamps which you may receive. Please place them in the basket in the front entrance labelled "Stamps"--- with a half inch rim if possible. The stamps are sent on to the Church of Scotland World Mission Stamp. For more information see Church of Scotland Stamp Appeal.

Life & Work: Subscriptions for next year's magazines are now due. The cost for an annual subscription (12 issues) is **£30**. Please pass your cash/cheques (made payable to the Church) to the office.

Deck the Halls: if you can help please come and have some festive fun & help decorate the church for Christmas bring your ideas and join in on Friday 10th December. **Please speak to Hazel Hill.**

Market Stall: On Sunday 5th December Muriel Manning will be selling knitted jungle animal toys, each with its own little story attached, in the main hall after morning service, with the proceeds going to both Glasgow Lodging House Mission and the Trussell Trust.

Women's Group - Thursday 2 December at 7.30pm we are having a recipe sharing evening. Please bring along a favourite recipe (or more if you wish) to share with the group so we can refresh our repertoires. Any questions contact jan.bostock@hotmail.co.uk

Should you wish we have printed a large version of the Order of Service please see one of the Door Team if you would like one.

Minister: Graham & Sheila Blount

Organist: John Gormley

Beadle: Cameron Aitken

Welcome Team Garry Borland
Una Heany
Andy Hadden
David McCrossan
Janet Lamb

Publicity & website: Mags Cargey

Reader: Adele Houstoun

Flowers The flowers have been Kindly donated by Sarah MacLean

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