

WORTHING CHRIST CHURCH
Grafton Road
BN11 1QY



ORDER OF SERVICE

The Third Sunday of Advent

12th December 2021

**10.30am Morning Prayer
led by Derek Hansen**

1st Reading:

Isaiah 25: 1 - 9 read by Dorothy F

2nd Reading:

1 Corinthians 4: 1 - 5 read by Val G

Intercessions led by Janine H

***There is prayer in the organ vestry every
Sunday at 10am for 15 minutes before
the service, which all are welcome to join***

The Organ Voluntary after our service today is:

Fugue et Caprice sur le mesme sujet no.1 (1660)

by Francois Roberday 1624-80, Paris f

A Service of Morning Prayer

Preparation *Please stand*

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you

All **and also with you.**

O God, you summon the day to dawn,
you teach the morning to waken the earth.

For you the valleys shall sing for joy,
the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

For you the monarchs of the earth shall bow,
the poor and persecuted shall shout for joy.

Your love and mercy shall last for ever,
fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise.

All **Great is your name.**

Great is your love.

Opening Hymn [474]

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
thy justice, like mountains, high soaring above
thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.

To all life thou givest, to both great and small,
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
and wither and perish, but naught changeth thee.

Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
all laud we would render, O help us to see
'tis only the splendour of light hideth thee!

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The Family of God

We have come together as the family of God in our Father's presence, to offer him praise and thanksgiving, to hear and receive his holy word, to bring before him the needs of the world, to ask his forgiveness of our sins, and to seek his grace, that through his Son Jesus Christ we may give ourselves to his service.

O Lord, open our lips.

All: and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

O God, make speed to save us.

All: O Lord, make haste to help us.

Praise the name of the Lord.

All: the Lord's Name be praised.



CONFESSION *[Please sit or kneel]*

The word of God is living and active.
It judges the thoughts and intentions of the heart.
All is open and laid bare before the eyes of him
to whom we give account.
We confess our sins in penitence and faith.

cf Hebrews 4.12

All **God our Father,
long-suffering, full of grace and truth,
you create us from nothing and give us life.
You give your faithful people new life
in the water of baptism.
You do not turn your face from us,
nor cast us aside.
We confess that we have sinned
against you and our neighbour.
We have wounded your love
and marred your image in us.
Restore us for the sake of your Son,
and bring us to heavenly joy,
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

May the Father of all mercies
cleans us from our sins,
and restore us in his image
to the praise and glory of his name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. *All* **Amen.**

The love of God has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

All We dwell in him and he in us.

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his name,

All make known his deeds among the peoples.

Sing to him, sing praises to him,

All and speak of all his marvellous works.

Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God almighty,

All who was and is and is to come.

BLESS THE LORD (Tune 493) [*Please stand to sing*]

(Metre 66 66 88)

1. Bless now your fathers' God

And praise his glorious name:

Within heaven's holiest place

His wondrous works proclaim.

With angel hosts eternally

Lift up your hearts to him on high.

2. Between the cherubim

From heavenly realms above

He scans the depths of space,

The God of power and love:

With angel hosts eternally

Lift up your hearts to him on high.

**3. Upon his royal throne
He reigns as Lord and King:
To heaven's eternal heights
Your loyal homage bring:
To God the Holy Trinity
Lift up your hearts eternally.**

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The First Reading *[Please sit]*

Isaiah 25: 1 – 9

O LORD, you are my God;
I will exalt you and praise your name,
for in perfect faithfulness
you have done marvellous things,
things planned long ago.
You have made the city a heap of rubble,
the fortified town a ruin,
the foreigners' stronghold a city no more;
it will never be rebuilt.
Therefore strong peoples will honour you;
cities of ruthless nations will revere you.
You have been a refuge for the poor,
a refuge for the needy in his distress,
a shelter from the storm
and a shade from the heat.
For the breath of the ruthless
is like a storm driving against a wall
and like the heat of the desert.

You silence the uproar of foreigners;
as heat is reduced by the shadow of a cloud,
so the song of the ruthless is stilled.

On this mountain the LORD Almighty will prepare
a feast of rich food for all peoples,
a banquet of aged wine –
the best of meats and the finest of wines.

On this mountain he will destroy
the shroud that enfolds all peoples,
the sheet that covers all nations;
he will swallow up death for ever.

The Sovereign LORD will wipe away the tears
from all faces;

he will remove the disgrace of his people
from all the earth.

The LORD has spoken.

In that day they will say,

‘Surely this is our God;
we trusted in him, and he saved us.

This is the LORD, we trusted in him;
let us rejoice and be glad in his salvation.’

At the end the reader may say:

Here ends the First Lesson

All Thanks be to God.



Worship Songs *Please stand to sing*

Song 1

Purify my heart, let me be as gold and precious silver.

Purify my heart, let me be as gold, pure gold.

Refiner's fire, my heart's one desire

is to be holy,

set apart for you, Lord.

I choose to be holy,

set apart for you, my master, ready to do your will.

Purify my heart,

cleanse me from within and make me holy.

Purify my heart,

cleanse me from my sin, deep within. *Refrain*

*CCLI 2765 Brian Doerksen© 1990 Vineyard Songs
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Song 2

Jesus is the name we honour;

Jesus is the name we praise.

Majestic Name above all other names,

the highest heav'n and earth proclaim

that Jesus is our God.

We will glorify,

we will lift him high,

we will give him honour and praise.

We will glorify,

we will lift him high,

we will give him honour and praise.

Jesus is the name we worship;
Jesus is the name we trust.
He is the King above all other kings,
let all creation stand and sing
that Jesus is our God. *Refrain*

Jesus is the Father's splendour;
Jesus is the Father's joy.
He will return to reign in majesty,
and every eye at last will see
that Jesus is our God. *Refrain*

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The Second Reading

1 Corinthians 4: 1 - 5

So then, men ought to regard us as servants of Christ and as those entrusted with the secret things of God. Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful. I care very little if I am judged by you or by any human court; indeed, I do not even judge myself. My conscience is clear, but that does not make me innocent. It is the Lord who judges me. Therefore judge nothing before the appointed time; wait till the Lord comes. He will bring to light what is hidden in darkness and will expose the motives of men's hearts. At that time each will receive his praise from God.

At the end the reader may say:

Here ends the Second lesson

All **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

[Please remain seated]

Silence is kept reflecting on what we have heard

Apostles' Creed *[Please stand]*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**



HYMN [521] [*Choir HTC*]

May the mind of Christ, my Saviour,
live in me from day to day,
by His love and power controlling
all I do and say.

May the Word of God dwell richly
in my heart from hour to hour,
so that all may see I triumph
only through His power.

May the peace of God my Father
rule my life in everything,
that I may be calm to comfort
sick and sorrowing.

May the love of Jesus fill me,
as the waters fill the sea;
him exalting, self abasing,
this is victory.

May I run the race before me,
strong and brave to face the foe,
looking only unto Jesus
as I onward go.



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The Collect of the Day

O Lord Jesus Christ, who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare your way before you:
grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries
may likewise so prepare and make ready your way
by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom
of the just, that at your second coming to judge the
world we may be found an acceptable people in your
sight; for you are alive and reign with the Father
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All: Amen

Prayers of Intercession

at the end, a short period of silence is kept, and then:

Merciful Father,

**All Accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**All: Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come; thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory, for ever and ever.
Amen.**

At the end of our prayers we pause for a moment

Final Hymn [609]

To God be the glory, great things he has done
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.

*Praise the Lord, praise the Lord
Let the earth hear his voice
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord
Let the people rejoice
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son
and give him the glory, great things he has done!*

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood
to every believer the promise of God
The vilest offender who truly believes,
that moment from Jesus forgiveness receives. *Refrain*

Great things he has taught us, great things he has done
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
but purer, and higher, and greater will be
our wonder, our rapture, when Jesus we see.

*Praise the Lord, praise the Lord
Let the earth hear his voice
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord
Let the people rejoice
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son
and give him the glory, great things he has done!*

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Conclusion

God for whom we watch and wait, you sent John the
Baptist to prepare the way of your Son:
give us courage to speak the truth,
to hunger for justice,
and to suffer for the cause of right,
with Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

BLESSING

The Lord bless us, and preserve us from all evil, and
keep us in eternal life.

All Amen.

**All The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the
love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be
with us all evermore. Amen.**

Go in the peace of Christ.

All Thanks be to God.

*Our thanks to Derek Hansen for leading our service
of Morning Prayer today*

***Please stay for coffee and a chat after the service!
Seats are available in the organ vestry or pews
whilst the work is being carried out in the west end!***



All those who are sick, lonely, recently bereaved and all in local nursing and care homes.

Contact us:

Church Wardens:

email: christchurchfinance@btinternet.com

Email: christchurchvolunteers@btinternet.com

Parish Administrator:

email: christchurchadmin@btinternet.com

Services in December

19th 10.30am Holy Communion

with Revd Roger Walker



4pm Carols by Candlelight

with Revd Nancy Ford

24th 11.30pm Holy Communion

with Revd Roger Walker

25th 10.30am Holy Communion

with Revd Maurice Slattery

26th 10.30am Morning Prayer with Derek Hansen

Christmas Tree Festival 2021...



Our annual Christmas Tree festival has started once again.



This year, we are asking church family to bring along gift items [unwrapped] that can be given to the residents of Care for Veterans. Gifts will then be put together in Christmas bags to distribute on Christmas morning. They will be given to Care for Veterans after the Carol Service, and all donations from that service will also go to the local home in Boundary Road.



Gifts for men or women are welcomed – toiletries, stationery, sweets, chocolates, hats, scarves, gloves, anything suitable that you would give as a present at Christmas





CHRIST CHURCH WORTHING

Services and Events...



1st December 2021 to 2nd January 2022
Annual Christmas Tree Festival

Sunday 19th December 4pm
Candlelight Service of 9 Lessons and Carols

Saturday 5th March & 9th April 2022
12 noon – 1.30pm
Lent Lunches – Soup, a roll and fruit

Tuesday 31st May 2022 12.30pm – 1.30pm
Yoko Ono Concert Pianist

Tuesday 21st June 2022
Paul Gregory Classical guitarist/Cellist

Sea Sunday 10th July 2022
Morning Prayer with Derek Hansen
Donations for Mission to Seafarers

