

# All Saints' North Hillingdon

## 7<sup>th</sup> December 2025

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent



In the dark times of the nation, Isaiah foresees a messiah, a 'shoot' from the stump of the tribe Jesse, a righteous ruler full of the Spirit, who will bring hope, justice, peace and the transformation of creation itself; *'the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the Lord'*. *What dark places do we need to pray for the light of Christ to shine in today?*

Paul reminds the Romans that Jesus is the Lord of both Jews and Gentiles, reminding us that faith unites diverse people, leading to peace and mutual encouragement. *Are you a peacemaker?*

In Matthew John the Baptist calls us to *"Prepare the way of the Lord,"* calling people to repentance and readiness for the coming of Christ. It's a direct appeal to examine lives, to change direction, and to live expectantly. Taken together, these readings invite us to prepare our hearts and lives with hope, justice, unity, repentance as we await the coming of the Lord in Advent.

#### New English Hymnal for 10 am service

Opening	5	Hark! A herald voice is calling
	(3)	<i>Advent carol on this sheet</i>
Gradual	10	Long ago, prophets knew
Offert'y	468	Through the night of doubt
Comm'n	282	Faithful Shepherd, feed me
Sending	186	Tell out, my soul, the greatness

#### Regular Mid-week Events:

**Tues** - 7.30pm Bible Study Vicarage  
**Wed** - 10 am Holy Communion  
 10:30am Cake, Coffee & Chat in Hall  
 (not 24<sup>th</sup> or 31<sup>st</sup> December)



#### Diary Dates:

**7<sup>th</sup> Dec** - Stardust Big Band Christmas Concert  
 6pm in Church. Tickets on door.  
**14<sup>th</sup> Dec** - 5pm Service of Lessons and Carols  
 with mulled wine and mince pies

**18<sup>th</sup> Dec** - Long Lane Churches Together Carols  
 5-7pm outside Hillingdon tube  
**24<sup>th</sup> Dec** - \*No service at 10am this Wed\*  
 5pm Christingle 5pm  
 Midnight Mass 11.15pm  
**25<sup>th</sup> Dec** - Christmas Day 10am  
**28<sup>th</sup> Dec** - 10am service only  
**31<sup>st</sup> Dec** - \*No service at 10am on Wed\*



#### Advent 2—The prophets

**Ldr:** Jesus said, 'Do not think that I have come to Abolish the law and the prophets: I have not come to abolish them but to fulfil them. Amen.

**All:** Come soon, Lord Jesus!

*The first candle is lit and this response is used:*

**Ldr:** Jesus is the light of the world.

**All:** A light no darkness can ever put out.

#### Advent song:

Prophet voices loudly crying,  
 Making pathways clear,  
 Glimpsing glory, self-denying,  
 Calling all to hear.  
 Through their message, challenged, shaken,  
 Hearts awoken: God is near!

Giving is part  
 of our worship  
 You can use the  
 QR code or place  
 an offering in the  
 basket >>>>>>>



#### THIS WEEK'S INTERCESSIONS:

Mark Callaghan, Simon Matthews, David Rance,  
 Hazel & Helen Parris, John Clarke, Mabel and  
 Tony Poon-Jones, Lyn Prior, Lynn Taylor, Tony  
 Bond, Pat Szymański, Ann Tutton, Ruth Heslop,  
 Lesley Thompson, Jo Haunton.



#### We remember anniversaries of the deaths of:

Peter Holgate, Alfred Clarke, Charles Williamson,  
 Louise Hayward, Harry Dawson Whisker, Henry  
 Sach, Laura Fairman, James Collins

**Visits / Home Communion:** If anyone who  
 needs a visit, or needs prayer, let me know; Rev  
 Ulric Gerry 07909 127 929  
[ulricgerry@icloud.com](mailto:ulricgerry@icloud.com)



## 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.

## FIRST READING Isaiah 11:1-10

*A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.*

A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. 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. 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; 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. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. 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. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. 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. 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.

## PSALM Psalm 72:1-7. 18-19

*R The Lord is king; let the earth rejoice.*

Give the king your judgements, O God, and your righteousness to the son of a king.

Then shall he judge your people righteously and your poor with justice. **R**

May the mountains bring forth peace, and the little hills righteousness for the people. May he defend the poor among the people, deliver the children of the needy and crush the oppressor. **R**

May he live as long as the sun and moon endure, from one generation to another. May he come down like rain upon the mown grass, like the showers that water the earth. In his time shall righteousness flourish, and abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more. **R**

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wonderful things. And blessed be his glorious name for ever. May all the earth be filled with his glory. Amen. Amen. **R**

## SECOND READING Romans 15:4-13

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

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. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. 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, 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"; and again he says, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people"; and again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him"; and again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope." 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.

## GOSPEL Matthew 3:1-12

*Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.*

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." 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.'" Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptised by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. I baptise you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing-floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

## POST COMMUNION

Father in heaven, who sent your Son to redeem the world and will send him again to be our judge: give us grace so to imitate him in the humility and purity of his first coming that, when he comes again, we may be ready to greet him with joyful love and firm faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord.



The Lord is king; let the earth - re-joice.