



Christmas at St Michael's

Sunday 10th December

8am Holy Communion (1662)

10:30am Morning Worship

6pm Carols by Candlelight

Sunday 17th December

10:30am Pop Up Nativity

4:30pm Blue Christmas

Thursday 21st December

7pm Carols at The Vine

Christmas Eve

10:30am Morning Worship

4pm Christingle

11:00pm Midnight Communion

Christmas Day

8am Holy Communion (1662)

10:30am All-Age Service



Morning Worship - 10th December 2023

Advent 2 - Isaiah of the Exile

Welcome & call to worship

'In the wilderness prepare the way for the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. And the glory of the Lord will be revealed, and all people will see it together. For the mouth of the Lord has spoken.' (Isaiah 40 3,5)

Hymn:

LONGING FOR A HOPE-FILLED MORNING,

Kingdom of the Son, draw near!

Waiting for the day soon dawning,

Light of love that casts out fear.

Dayspring, come from heav'n, in lowly birth,

Come to warm this cold, dark earth.

Sorrow through the world is sweeping,

Bitter conflict rages still,

Heaven hears its children weeping:

price of humankind's freewill.

Come, O Prince of Peace, in lowly birth,

Come to mend this broken earth.

Reaching out through human history,

Bring your scattered children home,

Such an act of love! What mystery:

God in human flesh and bone.

Come, Emmanuel, in lowly birth,

Show how heav'n embraces earth.

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PARISH OF CUMNOR

St Michael's, Cumnor

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Lighting the Advent Candles

The first candle is re-lit.

Today we remember the prophets who called God's people to lives of holy joy and foresaw the coming of God's chosen messiah.

The second candle is lit and then we pray:

People of God: be glad!

Your God delights in you,
giving you joy for sadness
and turning the dark to light.

Be strong in hope therefore;
for your God comes to save.

You are God's children.

**Lord, make us one in the love of Christ
today and for ever.**

Amen.

Closing Prayers

**Emmanuel, our broken world waits for you.
In the darkness of winter, we choose hope.
Trusting in your promise to bless us with your light,
we proclaim,
“Our God draws near.”
God of goodness and love,
we thank you for your promises.
We welcome your coming into our lives,
and we commit ourselves
to be a means of your coming to those in need.
We offer this prayer in Jesus name, Amen.**

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 ...

Hymn: **209 HILLS OF THE NORTH, REJOICE**

Offertory Hymn: **401 ON JORDAN'S BANK**

We offer these gifts, along with those given in other ways:

Yours, Lord is the greatness,

the power, the glory, the splendour and the majesty;

For everything in heaven and on earth is yours.

All things come from you,

And of your own do we give you.

The 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.**

The Lord's Prayer

Gathering our prayers and praises into one,
as our Saviour has taught us, so we pray:

Our Father in heaven ...

Prayers of Forgiveness

Jesus says, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.' So let us turn away from our sin and turn to Christ, confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

Lord God,

we have sinned against you;

we have done evil in your sight.

We are sorry and repent.

Have mercy on us according to your love.

Wash away our wrongdoing

and cleanse us from our sin.

Renew a right spirit within us

and restore us to the joy of your salvation;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

May the Father of all mercies

cleanse you from your sins,

and restore you in his image

to the praise and glory of his name,

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Benedictus (The Song of Zechariah, Luke 1.68–79)

- 1 Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel,
who has come to his people and set them free.
- 2 **He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour,
born of the house of his servant David.**
- 3 Through his holy prophets God promised of old
to save us from our enemies,
from the hands of all that hate us,
- 4 **To show mercy to our ancestors,
and to remember his holy covenant.**
- 5 This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham:
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
- 6 **Free to worship him without fear,
holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.**
- 7 And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,
- 8 **To give his people knowledge of salvation
by the forgiveness of all their sins.**
- 9 In the tender compassion of our God
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
- 10 **To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the
shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the
way of peace.**

**Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

Readings

Isaiah 40 1-11

Mark 1 1-4

Sermon

Hymn: **HARK THE GLAD SOUND**

Affirmation of Faith

We say together in faith:

**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.

Prayers of Intercession