

**The Parish Church of St Oswald Lower Peover
Welcomes you
To our All Age Worship and Gift Service:**



**Second Sunday of Advent:
The Feast of Saint Nicholas
5th December 2021**

Advent and the wreath:

*Advent is a season of fasting, spiritual reflection,
repentance, waiting and expectation.*

*It is a time when together as a church we prepare to
celebrate the coming (adventus) of Christ
in his incarnation.*

God in Jesus walking amongst us.

*During the first two weeks of Advent
we light the purple candles
as we consider the patriarchs and the prophets
of our faith who prepared the way for Jesus.*

*Next Sunday the third Sunday of Advent
we have a Rose pink candle symbolising the joy we have
because our waiting for the birth of Jesus
on Christmas day is almost over.*

*Then on the fourth Sunday of Advent,
the last purple candle is lit to mark the final week of prayer
and penitential reflection as we wait expectantly for the
soon-coming birth of the King of Kings.*

*The final candle, the white candle we light on Jesus Birthday
to celebrate the long awaited
arrival of the Christ child into the world.*

The Gathering and Introduction:

The Lay Minister: Offers a welcome to gift day worship and gives any other Notices.

The Lay Minister thanks all those who have donated gifts to the appeal, explains where the gifts are going this year and that the children who are with us today will also receive a very special gift of their own at the end of the service too.

The Invitation to worship is given:

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

All: and also, with you.

Minister: Lift up your heads, O gates; lift them high, O everlasting doors, and the king of glory shall come in! Psalm 24.7

All: Rejoice the Lord is near!

Lay Minister: Break forth together into singing, you waste places of Jerusalem, for the Lord has comforted his people! Isaiah 52.9

All: Rejoice the Lord is near! Let us sing and praise his name!

The First Hymn:

Lay Minister: Let us stand to sing our first hymn: 262

O Lord My God My God When I In Awesome Wonder

(During the hymn the gift donations are brought forward by the wardens and presented to the Ministers who then lay them at the Altar)

The Advent Wreath:

Please sit for the lighting of the second purple Advent wreath candle.

Lay Minister: Let us pray: Lord Jesus, light of the world, the prophets said you would bring peace and save your people in trouble. Give peace in our hearts during this Advent and at Christmas show all the world your love in the true presence of Jesus amongst us. All: Amen

The Candle is lit:

Lay Minister: In wisdom and truth,

All: come, Lord Jesus. Amen.

Lay Minister: With judgement and mercy,

All: come, Lord Jesus.

Lay Minister: In power and glory,

All: come, Lord Jesus.

Lay Minister: With love and compassion,

All: come, Lord Jesus.

Children's Song:

The Lay Minister Introduces the Children's Song

Jesus' love is very wonderful,

Jesus' love is very wonderful,

Jesus' love is very wonderful,

Oh wonderful love!

So high you can't get over it,

so low you can't get under it,

so wide you can't get round it,

Oh wonderful love!

Kyrie Confession:

The Minister offers an invitation to say sorry to God for all the things we have done wrong.

Minister: When the Lord comes, his light will reveal the things hidden in our hearts, let us therefore move from darkness to light by asking him to forgive those things we have done wrong.

Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

All: Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

The Absolution:

The Minister proclaims God's forgiveness in the absolution.

+ Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **All: Amen.**

Hymn: 34 (*Please Stand*)

On Jordans bank the Baptists cry: Verses 1, 2, & 5.

The Gospel Reading (*Please Continue Standing*)

Lay Minister: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight and all flesh shall see the salvation of our God.^{John 15.15}

The Lord be with you *All: and also with you.*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
According to Luke^{3:3-6} *All: Glory to you Oh Lord.*

{John} went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins,

As it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

"Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.

Every valley shall be filled,

and every mountain and hill shall be made low,

and the crooked shall be made straight,

and the rough ways made smooth;

and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

Lay Minister: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you Oh Christ.

The Talk (*Please be seated*)

Telling others what we believe. (*A Family 'Creed', Please stand*)

**All: We believe in God who is our Father in heaven.
That He made the world, gives us life and helps us to grow.
We believe that Jesus is the Son of Mary and the Son of God.
We believe Jesus shows us that God is love because he lived,
died for our sins and came back to life for us all.
We believe Jesus is alive now, alive in our hearts
and in our neighbours too.
We believe in the Holy Spirit,
Who helps us love others, helps us know God better
and helps us to be more like him.
We believe in God's family the Church
and we believe in Gods promises
that we will live with him forever and ever. Amen**

The Family Prayers (*Please sit or kneel*).

The Lay Minister and the Young People lead us in praying for each other and the world.

Lay Minister: As we await the coming of the Saviour, we give thanks to the Lord for the gifts we receive at his hands

Young people: For all the gifts that Advent brings us as we prepare to welcome the baby Jesus, God of love

All: We praise you and thank you

Young people: For the gift of hope in a world where many things can go wrong God of love

All: We praise you and thank you

Young people: For the gift of joy, as we celebrate with decorations, bright lights, tinsel and carols God of love

All: We praise you and thank you

Young people: For the gift of love, as we share good things with our families and friends God of love

All: We praise you and thank you

Young people: For the gift of peace which you promise to everybody who finds life difficult God of love

All: We praise you and thank you

Young people: For the gift of the journey made by Mary and Joseph as they travelled to Bethlehem God of love

All: We praise you and thank you. For the gift of Jesus for the world God of love we praise you and thank you Amen.

The Collect (*The special prayer for the day*)

Lay Minister: Let us pray: Almighty God, purify our hearts and minds, so that when your Son Jesus comes again we will be ready to receive him, as our Lord our God and our Friend. **All: Amen**

The Lord's Prayer:

The Lay Minister: Gathering our prayers and praises into one, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.
Lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory
forever and ever Amen.**

Final Hymn: (Please Stand)

The Lay Minister introduces the final Hymn No.513

Lord the light of your love is shining ‘Shine Jesus Shine’

The Blessing:

*The Minister: The Lord be with you. All: **and also with you!***

May God the Father, judge all-merciful,
make us worthy of a place in his kingdom. **Amen.**

May God the Son, coming among us in power,
reveal in our midst the promise of his glory. **Amen.**

May God the Holy Spirit make us steadfast in faith,
joyful in hope and constant in love. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, remain with you and all those you love we this day and forever more. *All: **Amen.***

The Ending:

The Lay Minister reminds the children that before they go they will receive a special gift.

The Sending Out:

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

The Ministers and People Depart.

St Oswald's Christmas Services

Advent

Sunday 19th December 6.30pm 9 Lessons and Carols

Christmas Eve

Friday 24th December 11.30pm Midnight Service

Christmas Day

Saturday 25th December

08.00am BCP Holy Communion

11.00am All Age Worship

1st Sunday of Christmas (Boxing Day)

Sunday 26th December

08.00am NO SERVICE

11.00am Morning Prayer