

St Michael and All Angels Mill Hill



Third Sunday *of* Advent



**Sunday 15th December
2024**

10:30 am



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

The Parish Church of
St. Michael & All Angels
Flower Lane, Mill Hill

Christmas Carols by Candlelight

Sunday 15th December
at 5pm

Followed by mulled wine
and mince pies.

The Processional Hymn (NEH 6)

Please stand

Hark the glad sound! The Saviour comes,
The Saviour promised long!
Let every heart prepare a throne,
And every voice a song.

2 He comes the prisoners to release
In Satan's bondage held;
The gates of brass before him burst,
The iron fetters yield.

3 He comes the broken heart to bind,
The bleeding soul to cure,
And with the treasures of his grace
Enrich the humble poor.

4 Our glad hosannas, Prince of peace,
Thy welcome shall proclaim,
And heaven's eternal arches ring
With thy beloved name.

The Greeting

In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

The Lord be with you

All: And also with you.

The priest introduces the service

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath Advent Three – John the Baptist

God our Father,
you gave to Zechariah and Elizabeth in their old age
a son called John.
He grew up strong in spirit,
prepared the people for the coming of the Lord,
and baptized them in the Jordan to wash away their sins.
Help us, who have been baptized into Christ,
to be ready to welcome him into our hearts,
and to grow strong in faith by the power of the Spirit.
We ask this through Jesus Christ,
the light who is coming into the world.

All: Amen.

As the Advent Candle is lit we say together:

**All: Lord Jesus, light of the world,
John told the people to prepare,
for you were very near.
As Christmas grows closer day by day,
help us to be ready to welcome you now.
Amen.**

Prayer of Preparation

**All: Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Prayers of Penitence

In a moment of quietness, let us prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries by calling to mind the ways in which we have failed God and our neighbour, and then let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, firmly resolved to keep God's commandments and to live in love and peace with all.

**All: Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry
and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you
in newness of life
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

Absolution

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon us, pardon and deliver us from all our sins, confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, and keep us in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Kyrie

The musical score is written in 4/4 time and consists of three staves. The first staff is for the Cantor, the second for the Choir, and the third for All. The lyrics are: "Lord, have mer - cy. Lord have mer - cy. Lord have mer - cy." The second staff has lyrics: "Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy." The third staff has lyrics: "Lord have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord have mer - cy." The score includes musical notation with notes and rests, and is divided into sections for Cantor, Choir, and All.

Collect

○ 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.

First Reading

Please be seated

Zephaniah 3: 14-20

¹⁴ Sing aloud, ○ daughter Zion;
shout, ○ Israel!
Rejoice and exult with all your heart,
○ daughter Jerusalem!

¹⁵ The Lord has taken away the judgements against you,
he has turned away your enemies.

The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst;
you shall fear disaster no more.

¹⁶ On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:

Do not fear, O Zion;
do not let your hands grow weak.

¹⁷ The Lord, your God, is in your midst,
a warrior who gives victory;

he will rejoice over you with gladness,
he will renew you in his love;

he will exult over you with loud singing

¹⁸ as on a day of festival.

I will remove disaster from you,
so that you will not bear reproach for it.

¹⁹ I will deal with all your oppressors
at that time.

And I will save the lame
and gather the outcast,

and I will change their shame into praise
and renown in all the earth.

²⁰ At that time I will bring you home,
at the time when I gather you;

for I will make you renowned and praised
among all the peoples of the earth,

when I restore your fortunes
before your eyes, says the Lord.

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 146 v4-10



4 Blessed is he that hath the God of Jacob | for his | help :
and whose hope is | in the | Lord his | God;

5 Who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that | therein | is :
who | keepeth his | promise for | ever.

6 Who helpeth them to right that | suffer | wrong :
who | feed|eth the | hungry.

7 The Lord looseth men | out of | prison :
the Lord giveth | sight | to the | blind.

8 The Lord helpeth | them that · are | fallen :
the Lord | careth | for the | righteous.

9 The Lord careth for the strangers,
he defendeth the | fatherless · and | widow :
as for the way of the ungodly, he | turneth · it | upside | down.

10 The Lord thy God, O Sion, shall be King for | ever|more :
and through|out all | gene|rations.

Glory be to the Father, and | to the | Son :
and | to the | Holy | Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now and | ever | shall be :
world without | end | A|men.

Second Reading

Philippians 4: 4-7

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.

⁵Let your gentleness be known to everyone.

The Lord is near.

⁶Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.



The Gradual Hymn (NEH 500)

Please stand

Thy kingdom come! on bended knee
The passing ages pray;
And faithful souls have yearned to see
On earth that kingdom's day.

2 But the slow watches of the night
Not less to God belong;
And for the everlasting right
The silent stars are strong.

3 And lo, already on the hills
The flags of dawn appear;
Gird up your loins, ye prophet souls,
Proclaim the day is near:

4 The day in whose clear-shining light
All wrong shall stand revealed,
When justice shall be throned in might,
And every hurt be healed;

5 When knowledge, hand in hand with peace,
Shall walk the earth abroad:
The day of perfect righteousness,
The promised day of God.

The Gospel



The Lord be with you

All: And also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Luke

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

Luke 3: 7-18

⁷John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?' ⁸Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin 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. ⁹Even 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.'

¹⁰And the crowds asked him, 'What then should we do?' ¹¹In reply he said to them, 'Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.' ¹²Even tax-collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, 'Teacher, what should we do?' ¹³He said to them, 'Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.' ¹⁴Soldiers also asked him, 'And we, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.'

¹⁵As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

¹⁸So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

The Sermon

Please be seated

The Creed

Please Stand

**All: We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is
worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.
Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

Please be seated, or kneel if you prefer

In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ
let us make our prayer to our heavenly Father.

Lord, in your mercy or Lord, hear us
All: Hear our prayer. Lord, graciously hear us.

Please pray for those who are sick or housebound

We remember by name:

Anil Ameer Subryan, Anna Morison, Arlen, Ashraf Jafari, Fr Barry Wright, Beryl, Catherine Dalglish, Chandralakha and Scott Singh, Christine, Christopher Brown, Chris Robins. Colin Izzard, Colin Power, Claire, Clifford Brown, Crystal, Daniel Ejelonu, Daniel Whittard, David Mulloy, Fr David Sharpe, Fr Desmond Tillyer, Devon White, Edd Heimrich, Edna McGregor, Edward, Evelyn Semlyen, Gail Sparrow, Fr Hugh Moore, Helen Cloke, Janet B, Jenny Wardle, John, Johnny, Jordan, Judi Bryant, Julian, Katherine Barker, Lauren Reeves, Lisa Sweet, Liz Lightbown, Logan, Mark, Mary Akpieyi, Mandy, Mina and Reginald Apiafi, Muriel Doris Bloch, Nicola, Nicole, Oliver Donald, Pamela Ashcroft, Pavol Husar, Rachel, Rahema Charles, Ray, Rella Persaud, Remi Babatunde, Robert Winston, Saffron Leigh, Sam Theodore, Sandra, Sarah, Sebastian, Susan and Vanessa Husarov, Susan Paterson, Taiwo Odebode, Thelma Martin, Valerie Snowden, Victoria, Zara Joseph

We remember those who have recently departed this life:

Colin Bartlett, Connie Thomas and Lucy Dalglish.

and all whose anniversaries of death fall at this time:

Reginald Cooke, Sarah Mary Anne Wheeler, Rex Hartle,

Winifred Gowan, Pat Hunt and Abiodun MacGregor.

Rest eternal grant them, O Lord;

All: And let light perpetual shine upon them.

May they rest in peace

All: And rise in glory.

Merciful Father,

**All: Accept these prayers for the sake of your son
our saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

The Peace

Please stand

We are the body of Christ.
In the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body.
Let us then pursue all that makes for peace
and builds up our common life.

The Peace of the Lord be always with you

All: And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace

All may exchange a sign of peace.

The Offertory Hymn (NEH 12)

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
Announces that the Lord is nigh;
Come then and hearken, for he brings
Glad tidings of the King of kings.

2 Then cleansed be every Christian breast,
And furnished for so great a guest!
Yea, let us each our hearts prepare
For Christ to come and enter there.

3 For thou art our salvation, Lord,
Our refuge and our great reward;
Without thy grace our souls must fade,
And wither like a flower decayed.

4 Stretch forth thine hand to heal our sore,
And make us rise, to fall no more;
Once more upon thy people shine,
And fill the world with love divine.

5 All praise, eternal Son, to thee
Whose advent sets thy people free,
Whom, with the Father, we adore,
And Spirit blest, for evermore.

The Preparation of the Altar

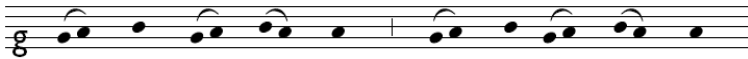
Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:
through your goodness we have this bread to offer you,
which earth has given and human hands have made.
It will become for us the bread of life

All: Blessed be God forever.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:
through your goodness we have this wine to offer you,
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.
It will become for us the cup of salvation.

All: Blessed be God forever.

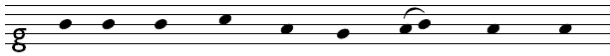
The Eucharistic Prayer



The Lord be with you **R.** and al-so with you.



Lift up your hearts. **R.** We lift them to the Lord.



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



R. It is right to give thanks and praise.

Father, we give you thanks and praise
through your beloved Son Jesus Christ,
your living Word, through whom you have created all things;
who was sent by you in your great goodness to be our Saviour.
By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh;
as your Son, born of the blessed Virgin,
he lived on earth and went about among us;
he opened wide his arms for us on the cross;

he put an end to death by dying for us;
 and revealed the resurrection by rising to new life;
 so he fulfilled your will and won for you a holy people.
 Therefore with angels and archangels,
 and with all the company of heaven,
 we proclaim your great and glorious name,
 for ever praising you and singing:

Sanctus

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow er and might, hea - ven and earth are
 full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bles - sed is he who comes in the
 name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Please sit, or kneel if you prefer

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;
 grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
 and according to your holy will,
 these gifts of bread and wine
 may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
 took bread and gave you thanks;
 he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
 Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
 do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper
 he took the cup and gave you thanks;
 he gave it to them, saying:
 Drink this, all of you;
 this is my blood of the new covenant,
 which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
 Do this, as often as you drink it,
 in remembrance of me.

Great is the mystery of faith:

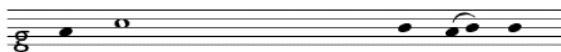


Christ has died. Christ is ri - sen. Christ will come a - gain. Murray

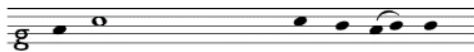
And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world;
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,
we bring before you this bread and this cup
and we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we, in the company of the Blessed Virgin Mary,
St Michael and all the angels and saints,
may praise and glorify you for ever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord;



by whom, and with whom, and in whom,



in the unity of the Ho-ly Spi-rit,



all honour and glory be yours, al - migh - ty Fa - ther,



for ev - er and ev - er. **A - men.**

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us so we pray:

Our Fa - ther who art in hea - ven, hal - lored be thy name; thy king - dom come,
thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our dai - ly bread.
And for - give us our tres - pas - ses, as we for - give those who tres - pass a - gainst us.
And lead us not in - to temp - ta - tion; but de - li - ver us from e - vil.
For thine is the king - dom, the power and the glo - ry, for e - ver and e - ver. A - men...

The Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ

**All: Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

Agnus Dei

Choir Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, *All* have mer - cy on us
Choir Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, *All* have mer - cy on us
Choir Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, *All* grant us peace.

Invitation to Communion

Jesus is the Lamb of God
who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper

**All: Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

The Communion

*Communicant members of all Christian Churches are warmly welcome
to receive Holy Communion.*

Any member of the congregation may receive a blessing.

*Those wishing to receive a blessing should please bring this
order of service with them.*

The Communion Hymns (NEH 3)

Please remain seated

Come, thou long-expected Jesus,
Born to set thy people free,
From our fears and sins release us,
Let us find our rest in Thee.

2 Israel's strength and consolation,
Hope of all the earth thou art,
Dear desire of every nation,
Joy of every longing heart.

3 Born thy people to deliver,
Born a child and yet a king,
Born to reign in us for ever,
Now thy gracious kingdom bring.

4 By Thine own eternal Spirit,
Rule in all our hearts alone;
By thine all-sufficient merit
Raise us to thy glorious throne.

(NEH 275)

Blessed Jesu, Mary's son,
For mankind to earth thou camest,
But the saving battle won,
Now at God's right hand thou reignest:
On thy people pour thy blessing,
Gathered here, thy name confessing.

2 By this sacramental sign,
Token of the bitter passion,
Through these gifts of bread and wine
Thine own image in us fashion:
By this food thy grace doth send us
From all ills of soul defend us.

3 In this mystery of grace
Which we celebrate before thee,
Come, O Saviour, show thy face
To the faithful who adore thee:
All our sin by thee forgiven,
Grant us here the joys of heaven.

The Post Communion Prayer

We give you thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts;
kindle in us the fire of your Spirit
that when your Christ comes again
we may shine as lights before his face;
who is alive and reigns now and for ever.

All: Amen.

**All: Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your son Jesus Christ,
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.**

Notices

The Blessing

Please stand

The Lord be with you
All: And also with you.

The peace of God,
which passes all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds
in the knowledge and love of God,
and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All: Amen.

The Recessional Hymn (NEH 465)

Thou didst leave thy throne and thy kingly crown
When thou camest to earth for me;
But in Bethlehem's home was there found no room
For thy holy nativity:

Refrain:

*O come to my heart, Lord Jesus;
There is room in my heart for thee.*

2 Heaven's arches rang when the angels sang,
Proclaiming thy royal degree;
But in lowly birth didst thou come to earth,
And in great humility:
[Refrain]

3 Thou camest, O Lord, with the living word
That should set thy people free;
But with mocking scorn and with crown of thorn
They bore thee to Calvary:
[Refrain]

4 When all heaven shall ring, and her choirs shall sing,
At thy coming to victory,
Let thy voice call me home, saying, Yet there is room,
There is room at my side for thee:

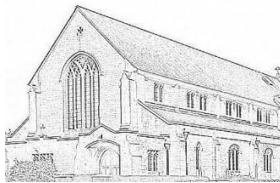
Refrain:

*O come to my heart, Lord Jesus;
There is room in my heart for thee.*

The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.



Services and events this week

- **Sunday 15th December – 5:00pm Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols**
- ***There will be no Morning Prayer or midweek Mass this week – we will resume on Monday 6th January***
- **Sunday 22nd December – Fourth Sunday of Advent**
8:00am said Mass
10:30am Parish Mass
- **Monday 23rd December – Christingle making party**
2:00pm in the Hartley Hall foyer
- **Tuesday 24th December – Christmas Eve**
5:00pm All Age Christingle Service
11:30pm Midnight Mass

- **Wednesday 25th December – Christmas Day**
8:00am Said Mass
10:30am Parish Mass for all ages
- **Tuesday 26th December – St Stephen's Day**
10:00am said Mass

Streaming on Zoom

Unfortunately due to circumstances beyond our control, it will not be possible to stream services on Zoom from now until after Christmas. Apologies for any inconvenience.



CHRISTINGLE MAKING PARTY

In preparation for our popular Christingle Service on Christmas Eve at 5.00 pm in church, you are invited to help make the Christingle oranges round the Christmas tree in Hartley Hall at 2.00 pm on Monday 23rd December.

All are welcome. Come and join the fun.

In advance of the 23rd, we are looking for donations of oranges and small soft sweets.

We plan on making approximately 80 - 100 Christingles.

-- Gillian



Christmas at St Michael's

Sunday 15th December

5:00pm Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

Tuesday 24th December

5:00pm All Age Christingle

Nativity Family Service


11:30pm Midnight Mass

Wednesday 25th December

10:30am Christmas Day Crib Service

Thursday 26th December

10:00am St Stephen's Day Mass



Details on our website: smmh.org.uk