

**CHRISTMAS CARDS** are now on sale on the Bookstall at the back of church.

**DENHAM MANOR** are inviting us to make green handprints with Christmas messages for all the residents. They will be making a Christmas tree design with these to help decorate the home. **Drop off your handprint at the church office.**

**SYLVIA GAMMOND'S FUNERAL** will take place at St Mary's church on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December at 11am.

**FROM TODAY** we are again **streaming our service on both YouTube and FaceBook.** Online chat is available on both platforms (you need to be logged in to post chat messages).



## Christmas 2021 At the Heart of Christmas

**PRAY:** Who would you like to share the good news of Jesus with this Christmas? Pray for them daily.

**TAKE** several copies of *Denham Parish News* and give them away (they include the full Christmas programme).

**INVITE:** A personal invitation to come to a Carol or Christmas service together is by far the best way. Sign up at [www.denhamparish.church/christmas](http://www.denhamparish.church/christmas)

**HOST:** Invite friends and neighbours to a *carols party* and watch one of our streamed services at your home on YouTube or FaceBook. Let the office know and we will provide some tips and *Why Christmas* booklets.



**Welcome to St Mary's Church!** We are so glad you are here – whether you are in the church building or watching online. If you are here for the first time or visiting, please say hello (in the chat feature online, or to the service leader or a member of the welcome team in church). You can find out more about our church on our website ([www.denhamparish.church](http://www.denhamparish.church)). *Christoph Lindner, Rector*

### WELCOME

#### HYMN

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

He comes the pris'ners to release,  
In Satan's bondage held;  
The gates of brass before Him burst,  
The iron fetters yield.

He comes the broken heart to bind,  
The bleeding soul to cure,  
And with the treasures of His grace  
To bless the humble poor.

Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,  
Thy welcome shall proclaim;  
And heaven's eternal arches ring  
With Thy belovèd name.

#### LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

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. Come soon, Lord Jesus!**

*(The second candle is lit)*

Jesus is the light of the world.

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

## Service Sheet

5<sup>th</sup> December 2021, 10.30am, St Mary's  
The Second Sunday of Advent

### HYMN

Advent candles tell their story  
as we watch and pray,  
longing for the Day of Glory,  
'Come, Lord, soon,' we say.  
Pain and sorrow, tears and sadness,  
changed for gladness on that Day.

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!

### CONFESSION

**Lord our God, in our sin we have avoided your call. Our love for you is like a morning cloud, like the dew that goes away early. Have mercy on us; deliver us from judgement; bind up our wounds and revive us; in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

May the God of love and power forgive you and free you from your sins, heal and strengthen you by his Spirit, and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### DIARY DATES

#### Sat 11 December

5.00 pm Carols and Readings. *Denham Garden Village*

#### Sun 12 December

9.00 am NO SERVICE AT 9am TODAY!

10.30 am Holy Communion. *St Mary's Church*

3.30 pm Carols at Café Church. *St Mark's Church Hall*

4.00 pm Christingle Service. *St Mary's Church*



### ONLINE DONATIONS



If you wish to make a donation to Denham Parish Church, please scan this code with the camera or QR app on your smartphone and follow instructions.

#### Let's pray together ...

- For the good news of Jesus to ring out this Christmas
- For refugees from war and persecution
- For the continued fight against Covid-19
- For the vulnerable and the sick.
- For the families and friends of Sylvia Gammond and all those who have lost loved ones

email: [office@denhamparish.church](mailto:office@denhamparish.church)

phone: 01895 832771

[www.denhamparish.church](http://www.denhamparish.church)

## COLLECT

Almighty God, purify our hearts and minds, that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again as judge and saviour, we may be ready to receive him, who is our Lord and our God. **Amen**

## SONG

In my wrestling and in my doubts  
In my failures You won't walk out  
Your great love will lead me through  
You are the peace in my troubled sea  
You are the peace in my troubled sea

In the silence You won't let go  
In the questions Your truth will hold  
Your great love will lead me through  
You are the peace in my troubled sea  
You are the peace in my troubled sea

*My Lighthouse, my Lighthouse  
Shining in the darkness  
I will follow You  
My Lighthouse, my Lighthouse  
I will trust the promise  
You will carry me safe to shore  
Safe to shore, safe to shore, safe to shore*

I won't fear what tomorrow brings  
With each morning I'll rise and sing  
My God's love will lead me through  
You are the peace in my troubled sea  
You are the peace in my troubled sea

*(Children leave for Sunday Club now)*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### FIRST READING: Malachi 3. 1-4

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

*This is the Word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

### SECOND READING: Luke 3.1-6

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He 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."

*This is the word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

## SERMON

## HYMN

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry  
announces that the Lord is nigh;  
awake and hearken, for he brings  
glad tidings of the King of kings!

Then cleansed be ev'ry breast from sin:  
make straight the way for God within,  
prepare we in our hearts a home,  
where such a mighty guest may come.

For thou art our salvation, Lord,  
our refuge and our great reward;  
without thy grace we waste away,  
like flow'rs that wither and decay.

To heal the sick stretch out thine hand,  
and bid the fallen sinner stand;  
shine forth and let thy light restore  
earth's own true loveliness once more.

All praise, eternal Son, to thee  
whose advent doth thy people free,  
whom with the Father we adore,  
and Holy Ghost, for evermore.

## PRAYERS

Merciful Father,  
**accept these prayers for the sake  
of your son our saviour, Jesus  
Christ. Amen.**

**Our Father in heaven  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against  
us.**

**Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.**

*(Children return from Sunday Club)*

## SONG

*Bless the Lord O my soul, O my soul  
Worship His Holy name  
Sing like never before, O my soul  
I'll worship Your Holy name*

The sun comes up,  
it's a new day dawning  
It's time to sing your song again  
What - ever may pass  
And what - ever lies before me  
Let me be singing  
when the evening comes

You're rich in love  
and You're slow to anger  
Your name is great  
and Your heart is kind  
For all Your goodness  
I will keep on singing  
Ten thousand reasons  
for my heart to find

And on that day  
when my strength is failing  
The end draws near  
and my time has come  
Still my soul will sing  
Your praise unending  
Ten thousand years  
and then forever more

## ACTION GRACE

*(open hands)*  
**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ  
(cross arms) and the love of God  
(hold hands) and the fellowship of the  
Holy Spirit be with us all  
(throw up hands) evermore!**

## BLESSING

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

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