

Service Sheet

1st January 2023, 10.30am, St Mary's
The Second Sunday of Christmas



HAPPY NEW YEAR! 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) or Facebook page (facebook.com/denhamparish.church).

WELCOME

CAROL

Joy to the world! The Lord is come;
let earth receive her King;
let ev'ry heart prepare him room
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing!

Joy to the earth! The Saviour reigns;
let us our songs employ;
while fields and floods,
rocks, hills and plains
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders, and wonders of his love.

CONFESSION

We look to God for forgiveness,
knowing that in the past year we
have often grieved him through
our failures and sins:

Where we have not cared enough
for you:

(ALL) forgive us, O God.

Where we have not cared enough
for your world:

(ALL) forgive us, O God.

Where we have been content with
ourselves as we are:

(ALL) forgive us, O God.

ABSOLUTION

May almighty God have mercy on
you, forgive you your sins, and
bring you to everlasting life,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

COLLECT

God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, whose years never fail and whose mercies are new each returning day: let the radiance of your Spirit renew our lives, warming our hearts and giving light to our minds; that we may pass this coming year in joyful obedience and firm faith; through him who is the beginning and the end, your Son, Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

SONG

It's for everyone who lives on this planet
It's for everyone who's here in this place
Doesn't matter if you're young
or you're wrinkly
Doesn't matter if you've spots
on your face
It's so big that you could wrap it
around you
It's so deep that you could dive in
and swim
It's the love of God who gave us
his own Son
So that we can live forever with him

***It's a big gift. It's not a small gift
It's a gift from God. It's a BIG GIFT!***

It's for everyone who chooses
to follow
It's for everyone who trusts in his love
It's for you if you believe in Jesus
It's for you if you believe in God's Son
Even though we never ever
deserve it
Even though we still keep doing
things wrong
Jesus loves us and he wants us
to know it
Come on shout your praise for life
that goes on and on and on and on...

BAPTISM of Nicholas Manish Soni

Meet the Candidate

Nick, do you wish to be baptised?
I do.

Faith is the gift of God to his people. In baptism the Lord is adding to our number those whom he is calling. People of God, will you welcome Nicholas and uphold him in his new life?

With the help of God we will.

Profession of Faith

Do you believe and trust in God the Father, source of all being and life, the one for whom we exist?

I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son, who took our human nature, died for us and rose again?

I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of God and makes Christ known in the world?

I believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

This is our faith.

**We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

Nick, is this your faith?

This is my faith.

The Baptism

Do not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified.

**Fight valiantly as a disciple of
Christ, against sin, the world, and
the devil, and remain faithful to
Christ to the end of your life.**

The Welcome

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism: Nicholas, by one Spirit we are all baptised into one body.

We welcome you into the fellowship of faith; we are children of the same heavenly Father; we welcome you.

Lighting of the Baptism Candle

God has delivered us from the dominion of darkness and has given us a place with the saints in light. Nicholas, you have received the light of Christ; walk in this light all the days of your life.

Shine as a light in the world, to the glory of God the Father.

HYMN

Amazing grace
(how sweet the sound)
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost but now I'm found
Was blind but now I see

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed

*My chains are gone I've been set free
My God my Saviour has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy rains
Unending love amazing grace*

Through many dangers toils and snares
I have already come
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far
And grace will lead me home

When we've been there
ten thousand years
Bright shining as the sun
We've no less days
to sing God's praise
Than when we've first begun

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FIRST READING: Gal 4. 4-7

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, 'Abba! Father!' So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: Luke 2. 25-35

At that time there was a man in Jerusalem named Simeon. He was righteous and devout and was eagerly waiting for the Messiah to come and rescue Israel. The Holy Spirit was upon him and had revealed to him that he would not die until he had seen the Lord's Messiah. That day the Spirit led him to the Temple. So when Mary and Joseph came to present the baby Jesus to the Lord as the law required, Simeon was there. He took the child in his arms and praised God, saying, "Sovereign Lord, now let your servant die in peace, as you have promised. I have seen your salvation, which you have prepared for all people. He is a light to reveal God to the nations, and he is the glory of your people Israel!" Jesus' parents were amazed at what was being said about him.

Then Simeon blessed them, and he said to Mary, the baby's mother, "This child is destined to cause many in Israel to fall, and many others to rise. He has been sent as a sign from God, but many will oppose him. As a result, the deepest thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your very soul."

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

SERMON

HYMN

I cannot tell
how he whom angels worship
should stoop to love
the peoples of the earth,
or why as shepherd
he should seek the wand'rer
with his mysterious promise
of new birth.

But this I know,
that he was born of Mary,
when Bethl'em's manger
was his only home,
and that he lived
at Nazareth and laboured,
and so the Saviour,
Saviour of the world is come.

I cannot tell
how silently he suffered,
as with his peace
he graced this place of tears,
or how his heart
upon the cross was broken,
the crown of pain
to three and thirty years.

But this I know,
he heals the broken-hearted,
and stays our sin,
and calms our lurking fear,
and lifts the burden
from the heavy laden,
for yet the Saviour,
Saviour of the world, is here.

I cannot tell
how all the lands shall worship,
when, at his bidding
ev'ry storm is stilled,
or who can say
how great the jubilation,
when ev'ry heart
with perfect love is filled.
But this I know,
the skies will thrill with rapture,
and myriad, myriad
human voices sing,
and earth to heav'n,
and heav'n to earth, will answer:
'At last the Saviour,
Saviour of the world, is King!'

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.**

RENEWAL OF BAPTISM VOWS

**I am a child of God,
made in your image and likeness,
I am included
in the heart of your love.
You know me completely,
my faults and my weaknesses,
my gifts and my strengths.
You call me to live
in the fullness of your love,
abundantly and generously.
You call me to empty myself,
to serve as Jesus served,
willingly and selflessly.
You call me to bear witness
to your presence,
boldly and gently.
You are the potter, I am the clay.
Shape me, reshape me,
give me purpose and meaning,
energy and vision,
open me up as a channel
of your grace.
May your covenant be written
on my heart.
May my life reflect your promises.
What is true in heaven,
may it be seen in me,
within the love of the Trinity,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit
Amen.**

HYMN

Lord for the years
your love has kept and guided,
urged and inspired us,
cheered us on our way,
sought us and saved us,
pardoned and provided:
Lord for the years,
we bring our thanks today.

Lord, for that word,
The word of life which fires us,
speaks to our hearts
and sets our souls ablaze,
teaches and trains,
rebukes us and inspires us:
Lord of the word,
receive your people's praise.

Lord, for our land
in this our generation,
spirits oppressed by pleasure,
wealth and care:
For young and old,
for commonwealth and nation,
Lord of our land,
be pleased to hear our prayer.

Lord, for our world;
when we disown and doubt you,
loveless in strength
and comfortless in pain,
hungry and helpless,
lost indeed without you:
Lord of the world,
we pray that Christ may reign.

Lord, for ourselves;
in living pow'r remake us-
self on the cross
and Christ upon the throne,
past put behind us,
for the future take us:
Lord of our lives,
to live for Christ alone.

BLESSING

God of time and eternity, alpha and
omega, beginning and end, our
future and our hope, bless us now,
in your unconditional love, that this
may be a year of grace, for us and
for all humanity. And the blessing ...
Amen.

ALPHA starts in Denham on 23 January.

It has helped many people around the world to find faith in Jesus.

Who can you invite? Can you make a list and then pray for them daily?

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.



FROM REFUGEE TO REVEREND Azita's Story



Mon 16 Jan 2023, 7.30pm
St Mary's Church, Denham
UB9 5BH
FREE ENTRY

Find out more and sign up:
www.denhamparish.church/azita

watch.angelstudios.com/thechosen

The CHOSEN is the first-ever multi-season series about the life of Christ. It's the free show that tens of millions of people have watched so far.

The
CHOSEN





WARM SPACE

at St Mark's

www.denhamparish.church/warmspace

Warm Space at St Mark's: Every Wednesday, 18 Jan - 1 March

From Wednesday 18 January to Wednesday 1 March we will be offering a warm space at St Mark's from 1pm to 5pm. Our training curate Azita Jabbari is leading this project. She will need two other helpers for each session to make it a welcoming and engaging experience for those who come.

The team will provide a warm welcome, an opportunity to chat and offer a bowl of soup and a hot drink. No previous experience required!

For each Wednesday you can sign up for the first or the second half of the four hours. The first 'shift' will be from 12.45-3pm. The second one from 3.00-5.15pm. **Please sign up if you are able to help:**

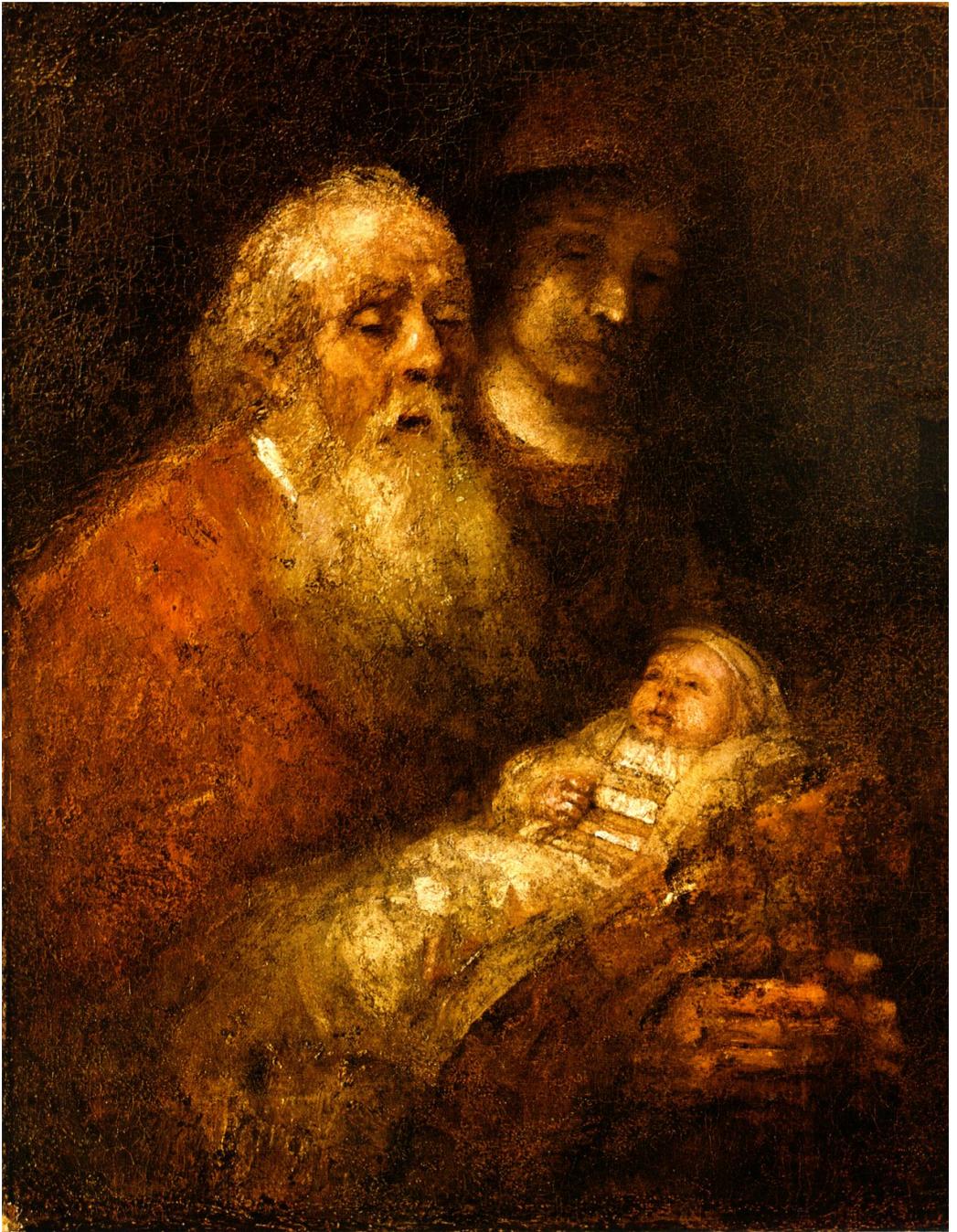
<http://tiny.cc/warm-space-help>



Stay Curious

— Try Alpha —

www.denhamparish.church/alpha



Rembrandt: Simeon in the Temple, c. 1669. *Nationalmuseum Stockholm*.
The painting was Rembrandt's last; it was left unfinished at his death.