



Open Door: 20th December, 10.30am

Welcome and Notices

Opening Prayer with Saying Sorry

Isaiah 30.18 "...the Lord waits to be gracious to you, and therefore he exalts himself to show mercy to you. For the Lord is a God of justice; blessed are all those who wait for him..."

Almighty God how wonderful that you are waiting to be gracious and merciful to us and that you want to bless us in our waiting for you. We are sorry that before bringing things to you in prayer, we are often impatient and take things into our own hands, thinking we know best. Lord, forgive us for this.

Thank you for the coming of your Son, Jesus, who lived here on earth to make you known, to bring us forgiveness of our sins and restore us to a right relationship with you, our God.

Thank you for your Holy Spirit, with us today. **Amen**

Video: St Mary's Nativity

Lighting the Advent Candles

We long for the presence of Christ, Emmanuel, God with us

Come Bearer of Hope

The four candles are lit

Love coming to earth to live among us

Full of grace and truth

Come Bearer of Hope

Do not be afraid: see I am bringing you

good news of great joy for all people

Christ, shine in our hearts today

Reading: Luke 1:26-38

In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favoured! The Lord is with you."

Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. But the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over Jacob’s descendants forever; his kingdom will never end.”

“How will this be,” Mary asked the angel, “since I am a virgin?”

The angel answered, “The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month. For no word from God will ever fail.”

“I am the Lord’s servant,” Mary answered. “May your word to me be fulfilled.” Then the angel left her.

Talk: Becca Herrick

Song: God With Us

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PJbtWOSYjBM>

Be not dismayed, fear not the darkness
 Jesus is here, He walks beside us
 Gracious is He, through all our weakness
 Forever faithful, forever good

Emmanuel, Emmanuel
 God with us, living inside
 Emmanuel

Lift up our eyes, to the Maker of Heaven
 He is our help, forever present
 Faithful is He, He is our constant
 Forever faithful, forever good

Emmanuel, Emmanuel
 God with us, living inside
 Emmanuel

No matter what, what storm may come
 Our God is here, Our God is here
 When fear gives in, when darkness runs
 Our God is here, Our God is here

Prayers: Corinne Roughley

The Lord’s Prayer

We say together

**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**

Song: Sing We The Song of Emmanuel

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xbG78Ky7TA8>

Sing we the song of Emmanuel
 This the Christ who was long foretold
 Lo in the shadows of Bethlehem
 Promise of dawn now our eyes behold.
 God Most High in a manger laid
 Lift your voices and now proclaim
 Great and glorious, Love has come to us
 Join now with the hosts of heaven

Come we to welcome Emmanuel
 King who came with no crown or throne
 Helpless He lay, the Invincible
 Maker of Mary, now Mary's son
 O what wisdom to save us all
 Shepherds, sages, before Him fall
 Grace and majesty, what humility
 Come on bended knee, adore Him

Go spread the news of Emmanuel
 Joy and peace for the weary heart
 Lift up your heads, for your King has come
 Sing for the Light overwhelms the dark
 Glory shining for all to see
 Hope alive, let the gospel ring
 God has made a way, He will have the praise
 Tell the world His name is Jesus

Sending Out

May the Lord find us alert to his coming, open to his presence, aware of his love; and may the blessing of God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among us and remain with us always.

Amen

Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen

Breakout Rooms

Time to catch up with each other.