

Welcome to the Parish Church of St Mark
Serving the people of Broomhill & Broomhall
Living Thinking Loving Faith



Advent

Journeying in Love

Sunday 6 December
at 10.00 am

www.stmarkssheffield.co.uk

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Welcome

*A warm welcome to everyone joining together this morning,
especially if this is your first visit to St Mark's.*

*We celebrate the diversity of our human experience –
spirituality, ethnicity, gender and sexual orientation,
to name just a few.*

*As one body we discover deeper truths
than are possible when we remain separate.*

*Our celebration is richer for your part in it.
We are glad that you are here.*



2

2

Preparing for worship

*Wait ...
without expectation
which might focus
attention too narrowly,
so that we miss the coming.*

*Wait with expectancy, alert,
hearts, minds, hands, ears
open to receive the gift.*

Ann Lewin

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Gathering



Introit: *Ruthenian Song – Bela Bartok*
Played by David & Zulfiqar Willington

Welcome and Singing Bowl

Followed by a short time of silence

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Prayers of Approach

May God be with you, **and also with you.**

People of God: rejoice!

God has called you and redeemed you,
and you shall become his prophets.

Grow and become strong in spirit;
Prepare the way of the Lord!

You are God's children.

**Make us one in the love of Christ
today and for ever. Amen.**



Locally produced text

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Lighting the Advent Candles

*A candle for each Sunday of Advent is lit as we sing the following chant
As the candles are lit in our church windows, you may wish to light a candle of
your own.*



6

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Adagio

Li-sten-ing, here and now, Wai - ting for your ca-lling. Li-sten-ing, here and now,
wai - ting to - ge - ther

Listening, here and now, waiting for your calling.
Listening, here and now, waiting together.

A cantor will sing the verses

7

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*O God who calls us into light;
we hope for you.*

*You claim us as your children, Lord;
made one in love.*

Hannah Jones

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Journeying Together in Faith

Let us pray together:

**Whatever our age or experience,
may the love of God guide us
as we explore God's word
and follow the way of Christ. Amen.**

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Prayers of Penitence



Jesus said, above all, strive for justice and peace.

cf Matthew 6.33

Within these fragmented days,
a gentle invitation threads through our lives,
reminding us that all is sacred
and rooted in a love that knows no bounds.

Peter Millar

Silence for preparation

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SPIRIT OF COMPASSION,
when our hearts are hardened
to the call of Christ,
or to the cries of the needy;
when our words and actions
cause division or disrupt the pursuit of peace;
by your grace free us from wrongdoing
and liberate us to serve one another
in Jesus' name. Amen.



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11

May God forgive you,
 Christ renew you
 and the Spirit enable you
 to grow in love. **Amen.**



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The Collect

Let us Pray

Wild God of the wastes,
 whose gospel begins with a cry and a summons:
 take us to a pathless place where we can start again
 to taste creation's gifts anew and await the Spirit's touch;
 through Jesus Christ, the one who is to come.
 Amen

Steven Shakespeare ¹³

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Attending



First Reading: I Corinthians 13
Read by Annette Litster

At the end the reader says:

How is this God's word of Love for us today?

After the reading we share a time of quiet

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The Benedictus – A Song of Liberation

Benedictus Dominus Deus,
Benedictus Dominus Deus
qui visitavit et redemit populum suum.

*Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,
who visits and redeems his people.*

Taizé

18

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Gospel

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Mark

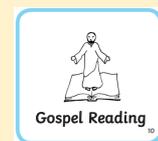
Glory to you, O Lord.

Mark 1.1-8

At the end:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

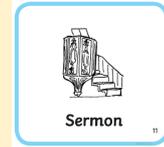
Praise to you, O Christ.



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Advent Sermon Series



Journeying in love
Rev'd Michael Bayley

Afterwards we reflect as we listen to a piece of instrumental music

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Responding

Affirmation

Let us give voice to our convictions
and substance to our hopes.

**WE BELIEVE that God is present
in the darkness before dawn;
where fear and courage join hands,
and the sun rises over barbed wire.**

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**We believe in a God who sits down in our midst,
sharing our humanity.
We affirm a faith
that takes us beyond the safe place,
into action, into vulnerability and into the streets.**

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**We commit ourselves to work for change
to stand with those on the edge;
to choose life and be used by the Spirit
for God's new community of hope.**

Maranatha, come Lord Jesus.

Inspired by an affirmation from the Iona Community

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Prayers of the People – *led by David Price*



Bring healing
Bring love

Maranatha
**Come, Lord Jesus,
 Amen.**

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Greeting of Peace



In the tender mercy of our God,
 the dawn from on high will break upon us,
 to give light to those who sit in darkness and the shadow of
 death,
 and to guide our feet into the way of peace.
 We meet in Christ's name and share his peace.

Luke 1.78-79



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The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.



*We share a sign of Christ's peace with one another
 remembering those from whom we are estranged.*

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Offertory Hymn

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

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.

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29

All praise, eternal Son, to thee
 whose advent sets thy people free,
 whom, with the Father, we adore,
 and Spirit bless, for evermore.

*Credit: Charles Coffin (1676 – 1749) Tune: Christ be our light
 Performed by St Martin in the Fields*

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Abiding

Preparation

Blessed are you, O God;
 through your goodness we have this bread and wine to offer,
 which earth has given and human hands have made.
 May they be for us the foretaste of your kingdom.

Blessed be God for ever.

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The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Let us pray

May God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to God.

Let us give thanks to our gracious God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.



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God of our longing,
 God of our hoping,
 it is good and right to praise you.

From the time of our forebears
 you have journeyed with those who seek you
 in openness and trust.

You inspired prophets to pursue justice –
 to challenge the mighty
 and liberate the oppressed.

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Through John the baptiser
you taught us to lament our wrongdoings
and return to the way of forgiveness.

In Mary, the mother of faith,
you draw us into your passion
and reveal your peace.

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It is, indeed, good and right to praise you, saying:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of truth and love.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

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Above all, we give you thanks
for revealing your salvation in Jesus Christ.
In him, we see the person you long for us to be,
through him, we feed on your wisdom and truth,
with him, we embrace your kingdom causes.

And now, in obedience to his command,
it is our duty and our joy,
to remember the night he gave himself up
and was handed over to death.

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In the company of his friends,
Jesus took bread,
blessed it in God's holy name,
broke it and gave it to them, saying,
This is my body, which is given for you.
Do this to remember me.

Later, he took a cup of wine,
gave thanks, and offered it to them, saying,
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
Do this to remember me.

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God of our longing,
 God of our hoping,
 breathe your life-giving Spirit
 into this bread and wine
 that all who partake of this communion
 may feed on Christ and taste his sacred hunger
 for a world renewed by your promises
 and fulfilled through your love. **Amen.**

Ian Wallis (adapted)

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Lord's Prayer & Communion

In the love of God, we pray 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.**



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The bread is broken

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

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

Words of invitation follow

Come, all who are weary and heavy-laden;
come, all who are dancing with joy;
come to the table where sorrow and celebration belong
together.

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Chant during communion:

Da pacem cordium

Give peace to every heart

Taizé

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Venturing

Prayers of Commitment

Let us pray.

**EVER-PRESENT God,
give us grace to respond to your call
with compassion, justice and peace.
May what we hope for, long for, strive for,
come a little closer,
bringing healing in its wings;
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

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Announcements

*To make a donation to support the mission and ministry of
St Mark's, text 'STMARKS 5' to 70085 to donate £5.
This costs £5 plus std. rate message; you can give any whole
amount between £1 and £20.
Alternatively please join our regular giving scheme
by emailing the office. Thank you.*



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Blessing



Follow, where the Spirit of Hope leads you.
 Listen, as the child of Peace cries to you.
 Rejoice, as the Love of God embraces you.
 Go now in Hope, Love, Joy and Peace.
 And may the blessing of God,
 Life-giver, Pain-bearer, Love-maker
 rest upon you, and all whom you love,
 both living and departed, now and always. **Amen.**

Richard Becher

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Final Hymn

Sent by the Lord am I;
 my hands are ready now
 to make the earth the place
 in which the kingdom comes.
 Sent by the Lord am I;
 my hands are ready now
 to make the earth the place
 in which the kingdom comes.



45

45

The angels cannot change
 a world of hurt and pain
 into a world of love,
 of justice and of peace,
 The task is mine to do,
 to set it really free.
 Oh, help me to obey;
 help me to do your will.



Credit: Jorge Maldonado (b. 1942)

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Commission

God of our longing,
 God of our hoping:
Eagerly we seek you.

Go in peace to prepare God's way:
In the name of Christ. Amen.

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Organ Voluntary

Gavotte in G BMV 816 – J. S. Bach

Played by Andrew Sanderson



Friendship Time

After the service ends, you will be invited to join a randomly-generated break-out room where up to 5 households are able to chat. People are finding this a great way to get to know a few new people. If you don't want to join these groups, please leave the meeting at the end of the Voluntary. Thank you!

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The following sources have been used in compiling this service: 'Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England' and 'New Patterns for Worship' © The Archbishops Council 2000, 2002 & 2006; 'Candles and Conifers' ed Ruth Burgess © 2005; 'All Desires Known' by Janet Morley © 2005; '600 Blessings and Prayers', compiled by Geoffrey Duncan © 2005; and texts by Ian Wallis and other locally produced texts.

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