

ANGLICAN CHAPLAINCY IN NORWAY

ADVENT CELEBRATION

Sunday 29th November 2020 at 1100 on Zoom

Traditional response for Advent morning (Senior Chaplain and Chaplaincy Warden)

I look from afar.

And lo, I see the power of God coming and a cloud covering the whole earth.

Go ye out to meet him and say,

Tell us, art thou he that should come to reign over thy people Israel?

Opening Hymn (played by John Chapman at St Edmund's, Oslo with members of St Edmund's choir)

**O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here,
Until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.**

**O come, Thou Rod of Jesse, free
Thine own from Satan's tyranny;
From depths of hell Thy people save,
And give them victory o'er the grave.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.**

**O come, Thou Dayspring, from on high,
And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.**

**O come, Adonai, Lord of might,
Who to Thy tribes, on Sinai's height,
In ancient times didst give the law
In cloud and majesty and awe.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.**

Introduction (Senior Chaplain, Oslo)

It is time for us to wake out of sleep, for deliverance is nearer to us now than it was when first we believed. It is far on in the night; day is near. Let us therefore cast off the deeds of darkness and put on our armour as soldiers of the light.

The grace and peace of God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you
All and also with you.

My sisters and brothers around Norway, we enter today the solemn season of Advent in which the Church bids us prepare to celebrate the coming of Christ; a coming that we recall in the Child of Bethlehem; a coming that we experience in the gift of his Spirit, in the bread of the Eucharist, in the joy of human lives that are shared; a coming we wait for when God gathers up all things in Christ. Let us in this holy season reflect on the coming of Christ who brings light to the world. Let us leave behind the darkness of sin, walk in the light that shines on our path, and renew within ourselves the hope of glory to which he beckons us. And as we turn towards the light, let us have on our hearts all those who see no light for whom all is darkness and despair. Let us pray that they too may be illumined by Christ who is our light.

Prayer of Penitence (Iris Evans-Bjørnø, Reader, Bergen)

Heavenly Father,
you have created a universe of light:
forgive us when we return to darkness.
Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus,
you are the light of the world:
cleanse and heal our blinded sight.
Christ, have mercy.

All Christ, have mercy.

Holy Spirit,
you give us light in our hearts:
renew us in faith and love.
Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

The whole congregation prays silently, after which the prayers are drawn together in
The Collect for Advent Sunday (Senior Chaplain)

Almighty God,
give us grace to cast away the works of darkness
and to put on the armour of light,
now in the time of this mortal life,
in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility;
that on the last day,
when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead,
we may rise to the life immortal;
through him who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All Amen.

Old Testament Reading (Susan Boyd, Reader, Trondheim)

Isaiah 64: 1-9

¹O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—
²as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil—
to make your name known to your adversaries,
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!
³When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.
⁴From ages past no one has heard,
no ear has perceived,
no eye has seen any God besides you,
who works for those who wait for him.
⁵You meet those who gladly do right,
those who remember you in your ways.
But you were angry, and we sinned;
because you hid yourself we transgressed.
⁶We have all become like one who is unclean,

and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.
We all fade like a leaf,
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.
⁷ There is no one who calls on your name,
or attempts to take hold of you;
for you have hidden your face from us,
and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.
⁸ Yet, O LORD, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.
⁹ Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD,
and do not remember iniquity forever.
Now consider, we are all your people.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath (Rev'd Sheila Rosenthal, Trondheim)

Blessed are you, sovereign Lord, God of our ancestors:
to you be praise and glory for ever.
You called the patriarchs to live by the light of faith
and to journey in the hope of your promised fulfilment.
May we be obedient to your call
and be ready and watchful to receive your Christ,
a lamp to our feet and a light to our path;
for you are our light and our salvation.

All Blessed be God for ever.

Hymn (played by John Chapman at St Edmund's, Oslo with members of St Edmund's choir)

[Other Advent wreaths may be lit during this hymn]

Longing for light, we wait in darkness.

Longing for truth, we turn to you.

Make us your own, your holy people,

light for the world to see.

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.

Shine through the darkness.

***Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.***

**Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has pow'r to save us.
Make us your living voice.
[Refrain]**

**Longing for food, many are hungry.
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others,
shared until all are fed.
[Refrain]**

**Longing for shelter, many are homeless.
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering others,
walls made of living stone.
[Refrain]**

**Many the gifts, many the people,
many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
making your kingdom come.
[Refrain]**

Gospel Reading (Rev'd Kirk Weisz, Bergen)
Mark 13: 24-37

²⁴ "But in those days, after that suffering,
the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light,
²⁵ and the stars will be falling from heaven,
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

²⁶ Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory.
²⁷ Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the
ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

²⁸ "From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹ So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. ³⁰ Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. ³¹ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³² "But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³ Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴ It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. ³⁵ Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, ³⁶ or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. ³⁷ And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Address (Rev'd Canon Joanna Udal, Senior Chaplain, Anglican Chaplaincy in Norway)

Musical Reflection (Alexander Sandved, Oslo)

Prelude from Bach's cello suite no.3, transposed for viola

Intercessions (Erik Christenson, Stavanger)

Please respond to the bidding, Lord in your mercy

All Hear our prayer

The Lord's Prayer (Senior Chaplain)

Let us pray for the coming of God's kingdom in the words our Saviour taught us:

**All Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;**

**but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Notices (Terry Bevan, Chaplaincy Warden)

Hymn (played by David Weaver in the Mariakirken, Bergen, with Barbara McIntosh and Rev'd Kirk Weisz)

**Lo! He comes with clouds descending,
Once for favoured sinners slain;
Thousand thousand saints attending,
Swell the triumph of His train:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Christ appears on earth to reign.**

**Every eye shall now behold Him
Robed in dreadful majesty;
Those who set at naught and sold Him,
Pierced and nailed Him to the tree,
Deeply wailing, Deeply wailing,
Shall the true Messiah see.**

**Those dear tokens of His passion
Still His dazzling body bears;
Cause of endless exultation
To His ransomed worshippers;
With what rapture, with what rapture
Gaze we on those glorious scars!**

**Yea, Amen! Let all adore Thee,
High on Thine eternal throne;
Saviour, take the power and glory,
Claim the kingdom for Thine own;
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thou shalt reign and Thou alone.**

Dismissal and Blessing (Senior Chaplain)

With love and compassion,

All come, Lord Jesus.

With judgement and mercy,

All come, Lord Jesus.

In power and glory,

All come, Lord Jesus.

In wisdom and truth,

All come, Lord Jesus.

Let us pray for God's blessing

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you,
scatter the darkness from before your path,
and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory;
and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be among
you and remain with you always.

All Amen

Organ Postlude (played by David Weaver in the Mariakirken, Bergen)

Choral Song by S.S.Wesley

Notices

Bishop in Europe's Advent Appeal

The COVID-19 pandemic has hurt communities throughout the world. Many communities are not equipped with even the most basic of hygiene and sanitation facilities, and lockdown measures have increased economic hardship in the poorest communities with people unable to work. Help raise funds **to support virus prevention and emergency relief for vulnerable communities** throughout our Anglican family by giving to our **Bishop's Advent Appeal** for the **Anglican Communion Fund**. Donations should be marked Bishop's Advent Appeal and can be sent to the account of the Anglican Chaplaincy in Norway : 7029.05.14973. Donations exceeding NOK 500 may be registered for Tax efficient giving (please remember personal number - eleven digits).

'Journeying into Advent with Mark': A Service of Meditations for the Beginning of Advent on Monday, 30 November at 1800 CET

Led by the Bishop in Europe, Rt Rev'd Dr Robert Innes with reflections by Dr Clare Amos (*Director of Lay Discipleship, Diocese in Europe*) All are invited to join this pan-diocesan service which will be livestreamed on the Diocesan YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGJCIP-qZ1YGN 4CUhlqi4g>

The Chaplaincy Council will be meeting on **Tuesday 1st December** at 1830 on Zoom.

Donations to the Anglican Chaplaincy in Norway can be made to the Anglican Chaplaincy: 7029.05.14973 (IBAN: NO17 7029 0514 973, BIC: DNBANOKKXXX).

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