

# BRENTOR CHURCH

29<sup>th</sup> November 2020

## Benefice Advent Carol Service

Led by  
The Very Reverend Christopher  
Hardwick  
And Rosie Illingworth



We warmly welcome everyone  
joining our service

Welcome and lighting the first  
Advent candle at Brentor.

Hymn: O come, O come Emmanuel

Welcome from the Benefice Team

Hymn: This is the Truth Sent From Above

### **First reading: Wisdom 7: v26-30**

<sup>26</sup> For she is a reflection of eternal light,  
a spotless mirror of the working of God,  
and an image of his goodness.

<sup>27</sup> Although she is but one, she can do all things,  
and while remaining in herself, she renews all things;  
in every generation she passes into holy souls  
and makes them friends of God, and prophets;

<sup>28</sup> for God loves nothing so much as the person who lives with wisdom.

<sup>29</sup> She is more beautiful than the sun,  
and excels every constellation of the stars.

Compared with the light she is found to be superior,

<sup>30</sup> for she is succeeded by the night,

but against wisdom evil does not prevail..” She reaches mightily from one  
end of the Earth to the other and she orders all things well.

Hymn: Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness

### **Second reading: Exodus 19: v2-8**

<sup>2</sup> They had journeyed from Rephidim, entered the wilderness of Sinai, and  
camped in the wilderness; Israel camped there in front of the  
mountain. <sup>3</sup> Then Moses went up to God; the LORD called to him from the

mountain, saying, "Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the Israelites: <sup>4</sup>You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. <sup>5</sup>Now therefore, if you obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession out of all the peoples. Indeed, the whole earth is mine, <sup>6</sup>but you shall be for me a priestly kingdom and a holy nation. These are the words that you shall speak to the Israelites."  
<sup>7</sup>So Moses came, summoned the elders of the people, and set before them all these words that the LORD had commanded him. <sup>8</sup>The people all answered as one: "Everything that the LORD has spoken we will do." Moses reported the words of the people to the LORD.

*Hymn: Come Thou Long Expected Jesus*

### **Third reading Isaiah 42: v1-9**

**42** Here is my servant, whom I uphold,  
my chosen, in whom my soul delights;  
I have put my spirit upon him;  
he will bring forth justice to the nations.  
<sup>2</sup>He will not cry or lift up his voice,  
or make it heard in the street;  
<sup>3</sup>a bruised reed he will not break,  
and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;  
he will faithfully bring forth justice.  
<sup>4</sup>He will not grow faint or be crushed  
until he has established justice in the earth;  
and the coastlands wait for his teaching.  
<sup>5</sup>Thus says God, the LORD,  
who created the heavens and stretched them out,  
who spread out the earth and what comes from it,  
who gives breath to the people upon it  
and spirit to those who walk in it:  
<sup>6</sup>I am the LORD, I have called you in righteousness,  
I have taken you by the hand and kept you;  
I have given you as a covenant to the people,  
a light to the nations,

<sup>7</sup> to open the eyes that are blind,  
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,  
from the prison those who sit in darkness.  
<sup>8</sup>I am the LORD, that is my name;  
my glory I give to no other,  
nor my praise to idols.  
<sup>9</sup>See, the former things have come to pass,  
and new things I now declare;  
before they spring forth,  
I tell you of them.

*Hymn: Hills of the North, Rejoice*

### **Fourth reading Isaiah 11: 1-9**

**11** A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,  
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.  
<sup>2</sup>The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him,  
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
the spirit of counsel and might,  
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.  
<sup>3</sup>His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.  
He shall not judge by what his eyes see,  
or decide by what his ears hear;  
<sup>4</sup>but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,  
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;  
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,  
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.  
<sup>5</sup>Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,  
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.  
<sup>6</sup>The wolf shall live with the lamb,  
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,  
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,  
and a little child shall lead them.  
<sup>7</sup>The cow and the bear shall graze,  
their young shall lie down together;  
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.  
<sup>8</sup>The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,

and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

<sup>9</sup>They will not hurt or destroy  
on all my holy mountain;  
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD  
as the waters cover the sea.

*Hymn: Long Ago, Prophets Knew*

### **Fifth reading Isaiah 9: 2-7**

<sup>2</sup> The people who walked in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—  
on them light has shined.

<sup>3</sup> You have multiplied the nation,  
you have increased its joy;  
they rejoice before you  
as with joy at the harvest,  
as people exult when dividing plunder.

<sup>4</sup> For the yoke of their burden,  
and the bar across their shoulders,  
the rod of their oppressor,  
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

<sup>5</sup> For all the boots of the tramping warriors  
and all the garments rolled in blood  
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

<sup>6</sup> For a child has been born for us,  
a son given to us;  
authority rests upon his shoulders;  
and he is named

Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

<sup>7</sup> His authority shall grow continually,  
and there shall be endless peace  
for the throne of David and his kingdom.  
He will establish and uphold it  
with justice and with righteousness  
from this time onward and forevermore.  
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

### **Sixth reading Haggai 2: v6-9**

<sup>6</sup>For thus says the LORD of hosts: Once again, in a little while, I will shake the heavens and the earth and the sea and the dry land; <sup>7</sup>and I will shake all the nations, so that the treasure of all nations shall come, and I will fill this house with splendour, says the LORD of hosts. <sup>8</sup>The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, says the LORD of hosts. <sup>9</sup>The latter splendour of this house shall be greater than the former, says the LORD of hosts; and in this place I will give prosperity, says the LORD of hosts.

*Hymn: Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending*

### **Seventh reading: Gospel according to Mark 1: v1-15**

<sup>1</sup> The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

<sup>2</sup> As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,  
“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,  
who will prepare your way;

<sup>3</sup> the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:  
‘Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight,’”

<sup>4</sup> John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup> And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. <sup>6</sup> Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup> He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. <sup>8</sup> I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

<sup>9</sup> In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. <sup>10</sup> And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. <sup>11</sup> And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

<sup>12</sup> And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. <sup>13</sup> He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

<sup>14</sup> Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, <sup>15</sup> and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

**Blessing.**

May the blessing of God Almighty,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with us all and those we love  
this day and for evermore.

**Amen**

*'Hope'  
The first candle of  
Advent*



**Please pray for all who are ill or anxious at home or in hospital, and those who have asked for our prayers:** Mick, Chris Vigers, Nick & Julie, Dave & Wendy, Edward Walter, Lydia, Margaret, Bill Tucker, Lin Bristow, David, Graham and Tom.

**Please pray** for the souls of the recently departed, especially Sallie Briggs and Pearl Feist, their families and friends.

**Your prayers this week are asked for:**

**Mon-** The hospitals again struggling with stretched resources.

**Tues-** The elderly and vulnerable facing winter.

**Wed-** Those continuing to have difficulty finding work and stability.

**Thurs-** Families working together through challenging times.

**Fri-** All those who foster and care for children needing support.

**Sat-** Christians beginning a new Church year.

**Next week:**

**9:45-** Holy Communion from Christ Church with the Reverend Tony Vigers

***Donations to support the upkeep of the building and the work of the church are welcome. If you would like to make a regular donation, please contact either David or Helen Harris about the Parish Giving Scheme.***

***Online donations can be made at <https://www.give.net/20188530>***