**Morning Prayer 03.12.23**

“I wait for the Lord, my whole being waits, and in his word I put my hope.” *Psalm 130:5*

**Opening Sentences**

O Lord open our lips **and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us; let us pray with one heart and mind.

*Pause for reflection as you offer the day to God.*

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day, so may the light of your presence, O God, set our hearts on fire with love for you; now and for ever. **Amen**.

**Song – O Come, O Come Emmanuel**

O come, O come, Emmanuel,

O come thou Dayspring come and cheer

Our spirits by Thine Advent here

Disperse the gloomy clouds of night

And death's dark shadows put to flight

***Rejoice! Rejoice!...***

O come Thou Key of David come

And open wide our heavenly home

Make safe the way that leads on high

And close the path to misery

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 O come Thou 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!...***

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!...***

**Advent Candle Prayer**

Each week in Advent we light a candle to remind us that Jesus brings light and hope into our world. No matter how uncertain or chaotic the world may seem, that light still shines through.

As we light our advent candle

**Light of the world, shine on us.**

As we prepare for Christmas time

**Light of the world, shine on us.**

In this world of pain and darkness

**Light of the world, shine through us.**

To all the people who don’t know you,

**Light of the world, shine through us.**

Jesus you are coming again,

**Light of the world, light the way.**

In our service here today

**Light of the world, light the way.**

**Bible Reading – Psalm 80: 1-8**

**1**Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel,  
    you who lead Joseph like a flock!  
You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth  
**2**    before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh.  
Stir up your might,  
    and come to save us!

**3**Restore us, O God;  
    let your face shine, that we may be saved.

**4**O Lord God of hosts,  
    how long will you be angry with your people’s prayers?  
**5**You have fed them with the bread of tears,  
    and given them tears to drink in full measure.  
**6**You make us the scorn of our neighbours;  
    our enemies laugh among themselves.

**7**Restore us, O God of hosts;  
    let your face shine, that we may be saved.

**8**You brought a vine out of Egypt;  
    you drove out the nations and planted it.

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son**

**and to the Holy Spirit;**

**as it was in the beginning is now**

**and shall be for ever. Amen.**

**Bible reading – Mark 13: 24-37**

‘But in those days, after that suffering,

the sun will be darkened,  
and the moon will not give its light,  
and the stars will be falling from heaven,  
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

Then they will see “the Son of Man coming in clouds” with great power and glory. 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.

‘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. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

‘But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. 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. 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, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.’

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God**

**Talk**

**Prayers**

*In our prayers we will pray for the world, the church, our local community, and for those who are in need.*

*At the end of each section, we say:*

Lord in Your mercy

**hear our prayer.**

*And at the end:*

Merciful Father,

**accept these prayers**

**for the sake of your Son,**

**our Saviour Jesus Christ.**

**Amen**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**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**

**News**

**Conclusion**

The Lord bless us, and preserve us from all evil, and keep us in eternal life.  
**Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Online Giving**

Everything we do in mission and ministry is made possible by the generous support of our church family. We encourage everyone who is a regular member of St Marys to join our planned giving scheme (standing order) as this helps us to plan and budget.

You can now make donations online as a one off or regular gifts, and every penny goes back into enabling our mission and ministry.

Details of how to give online or join the planned giving scheme can be found online @ [www.stmaryshanwell.org.uk/giving](http://www.stmaryshanwell.org.uk/giving)