**Morning Prayer 08.12.24**

“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.**

**Benedictus (The Song of Zechariah)**

1    Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel,  ♦

who has come to his people and set them free.

2    He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour,  ♦

born of the house of his servant David.

3    Through his holy prophets God promised of old  ♦

to save us from our enemies,

    from the hands of all that hate us,

4    To show mercy to our ancestors,  ♦

and to remember his holy covenant.

5    This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham:  ♦

to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

6    Free to worship him without fear,  ♦

holy and righteous in his sight

    all the days of our life.

7    And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,  ♦

for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,

8    To give his people knowledge of salvation  ♦

by the forgiveness of all their sins.

9    In the tender compassion of our God  ♦

the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

10  To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death,  ♦

and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

*Luke 1.68–79*

**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 – Luke 3: 1-6**

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

‘The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:  
“Prepare the way of the Lord,  
    make his paths straight.  
Every valley shall be filled,  
    and every mountain and hill shall be made low,  
and the crooked shall be made straight,  
    and the rough ways made smooth;  
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.”’

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)