

Barthol Chapel and Tarves Kirks
Order of Service Sunday 12 December 2021
Third Sunday in Advent

Call to Worship

Leader: A promise of justice.

All: Love is coming.

Leader: Through a resetting of life.

All: Love is coming.

Leader: The world waits.

All: Love is coming.

Leader: Lord, we, your people, wait patiently,
hanging on for Advent love.

Lord, we bring you ourselves,

All: we bring you our worship.



Praise: CH4 279 Make way! Make Way

Make way, make way, for Christ the King
in splendour arrives;
fling wide the gates and welcome him
into your lives.

*Make way, make way, for the King
of kings;*

*Make way, make way, and let his
kingdom in.*

He comes the broken hearts to heal,
the prisoners to free;
The deaf shall hear, the lame shall dance,

the blind shall see.

And those who mourn with heavy hearts,
who weep and sigh,
with laughter, joy, and royal crown
he'll beautify.

We call you now to worship him
as Lord of all,
to have no gods before him,
their thrones must fall!

Prayers of Approach

Advent Candle Lighting

The Word of God
Zephaniah 3:14-20

¹⁴ *Sing aloud, O daughter Zion;
shout, O Israel!*

*Rejoice and exult with all your heart,
O daughter Jerusalem!*

¹⁵ *The LORD has taken away the
judgements against you,
he has turned away your enemies.
The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your
midst;*

you shall fear disaster no more.

¹⁶ *On that day it shall be said to
Jerusalem:*

*Do not fear, O Zion;
do not let your hands grow weak.*

¹⁷ *The LORD, your God, is in
your midst,
a warrior who gives victory;
he will rejoice over you with gladness,*

*he will renew you in his love;
he will exult over you with loud singing
¹⁸ as on a day of festival.*

*I will remove disaster from you,
so that you will not bear reproach for
it.*

*¹⁹ I will deal with all your oppressors
at that time.*

*And I will save the lame
and gather the outcast,*

*and I will change their shame
into praise*

and renown in all the earth.

*²⁰ At that time I will bring you home,
at the time when I gather you;
for I will make you renowned
and praised*

*among all the peoples of the earth,
when I restore your fortunes
before your eyes, says the LORD.*

St Luke 3:7-18

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, ‘You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, “We have Abraham as our ancestor”; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.’

And the crowds asked him, ‘What then should we do?’ In reply he said to them, ‘Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.’ Even tax-collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, ‘Teacher, what should we do?’ He said to them, ‘Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.’ Soldiers also asked him, ‘And we, what should we do?’ He said to them, ‘Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.’

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, ‘I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.’

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

Praise CH4 291 When out of poverty is born

*When out of poverty is born
a dream that will not die,
and landless, weary folk find strength to
stand with heads held high,
it's then we learn from those who wait to
greet the promised day,
“the Lord is coming; Don't lose heart. Be
blest; Prepare the way!”*

*When people wander far from God forget
to share their bread
they find their wealth an empty thing their
spirits are not fed.
For only just and tender love
the hungry soul will stay.
And so God's prophets echo still
“Be blest; Prepare the way!”*

When God took flesh and came to earth,
the world turned upside down,
and in the strength of woman's faith the
Word of Life was born.

She knew that God would raise the low, it
pleased her to obey.
Rejoice with Mary in the call,
"Be blest; Prepare the way!"

Reflection

Prayers for Others

Praise CH4 286 Tell out my soul

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the
Lord!
Unnumbered blessings, give my spirit
voice;
tender to me the promise of his Word;
in God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his
might!
Powers and dominions lay their glory by.
Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to
flight,
the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his
name!
Make known his might, the deeds his arm
has done;
his mercy sure, from age to age the same;
his holy name, the Lord, the mighty one.

Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word!
Firm is his promise, and his mercy sure.
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the
Lord
to children's children and forever more!

Blessing

Take Home Suggestion

During the Advent period consider creating your own Advent ring or display adding a candle each week to it that you can light for a period each day. Add your third candle this week and take a few moments each day to read a chapter of Luke's Gospel.

Notices

Today 3.00 pm Blue Christmas Service

Next Week Sunday 19 December All Age Nativity Service All Welcome

9.30am Tarves Kirk Sacrament of Baptism. The Church will be laid out café-style and coffee will be served after worship. The service can also usually be accessed live on Zoom.

11.15am Barthol Chapel Gather from 10.45am. Bring your own coffee.

Please note that certain restrictions will still apply, viz, hand-sanitising, wearing of masks and Contact and Trace. Please respect in so far as possible the wishes of anyone who wants to maintain physical distancing. Anyone with symptoms of Covid should remain at home and join us on Zoom.

Tuesday 14 December 7.30pm Parish Grouping Steering Group Methlick Church.

Thursday 16 December 7.30pm Barthol Chapel Kirk Session on zoom. Link to follow.

Pastoral Care Please contact Alison 01651 851295.