

*A Prayer as we go:*

Lord Jesus, make us people of promise.

**Let your kingdom come.**

Make us righteous and faithful.

**Let your kingdom come.**

Help us to be gentle wolves and peaceful leopards;  
tender lions and quiet bears.

**Let your kingdom come.**

May the earth be full of the knowledge of the Lord.  
as the waters cover the sea.

**Let your kingdom come.**

**Amen.**

*The Grace:*

**May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,**

**The love of God our Father,**

**and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,**

**be with us all, evermore.**

**Amen**

**We welcome Mike Dilly to lead our service today**

*Welcome*

*Call to Worship: 1 John 1 v 5-7*

“This is the message we have heard from Him (Jesus)  
and declare to you: God is light; in Him there is no darkness at all.  
If we claim to have fellowship with Him and yet walk in the darkness,  
we lie and do not live out the truth.  
But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light,  
we have fellowship with one another,  
and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.”

*Candle Prayer*

People of God: be glad!

Your God delights in you,

giving you joy for sadness

and turning the dark to light.

Be strong in hope therefore;

for your God comes to save.

You are God's children.

**Lord, make us one in the love of Christ  
today and for ever.**

**Amen.**

*We Light our Advent Candles*

Hymn “**Advent Candles tell their story**”

*A Santa Quick Quiz*

*Children and Youth leave for their groups*

*Confession*

Heavenly Father,  
you call us to repent of our sins:  
soften our proud and stubborn hearts.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus,  
you declared the forgiveness of God:  
teach us to forgive one another.

Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Holy Spirit,  
you search our hearts and show us the truth:  
direct us in your way of righteousness.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

*Old Testament Reading*

Isaiah 11: 1-9

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

Hymn **"God is working his purpose out."**

*Gospel Reading*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to Matthew 19: 13-22

**Glory to You O Lord**

This is the Gospel of the Lord :

**Praise to You O Christ**

*Thinkspot: Will the REAL Father Christmas please stand up!?*

Hymn **"Light of the World you stepped down into darkness"**

*Prayers* We pray for others and ourselves

*The Collect for Saint Nicholas*

Almighty Father, lover of souls,  
who chose Your servant Nicholas  
to be a bishop in the Church,  
that he might give freely out of the treasures of Your grace:

make us mindful of the needs of others

and, as we have received, so teach us also to give;

through Jesus Christ Your Son our Lord,

who is alive and reigns with You,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

**one God, now and for ever.**

**Amen**

*Intercessory prayers*

*The Lord's Prayer*

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**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 forever:**

**Amen**

Hymn **Love Divine all loves excelling**

*Children and Youth return from their groups*