

**Charlton Benefice
Online Worship
Sunday 11th December
Third Sunday of Advent**

THE GATHERING

Isla welcomes people to worship.

Hymn - Hark a Thrilling Voice

President In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

*The president greets the people and sets out
the eucharistic theme*

President The Lord be with you
and also with you.

(or) Grace, mercy and peace
from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ
be with you
and also with you.

ISLA

**Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known, and
from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

When the Lord comes, he will bring to
light
the things now hidden in darkness,
and will disclose the purposes of the
heart.
Therefore in the light of Christ

let us confess our sins.

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry
and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you
in newness of life
to the glory of your name.
Amen.**

Absolution

President Almighty God,
who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your
sins, confirm and strengthen you in all
goodness, and keep you in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The Collect

*The President introduces a period of silent prayer with the words 'Let us pray'. The Collect is said, and all respond **Amen***

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Old Testament Reading – read by Isla

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly,
and rejoice with joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.
They shall see the glory of the Lord,
the majesty of our God.

Strengthen the weak hands,
and make firm the feeble knees.
Say to those who are of a fearful heart,
'Be strong, do not fear!
Here is your God.
He will come with vengeance,
with terrible recompense.
He will come and save you.'

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
then the lame shall leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;
the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water;
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp,
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

A highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Holy Way;
the unclean shall not travel on it,
but it shall be for God's people;
no traveller, not even fools, shall go astray.
No lion shall be there,
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
but the redeemed shall walk there.
And the ransomed of the Lord shall return,
and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain joy and gladness,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

New Testament Reading – read by Jayne

A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

at the end of the reading ...

Reader This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn - The Angel Gabriel from heaven came.

Gospel Reading – read by Jenny

Alleluia, alleluia.

Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight, and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.

All: Alleluia.

Reader: Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?' Jesus answered them, 'Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offence at me.'

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you."

Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

This is the gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ

Sermon – Revd Joe

Affirmation of Faith

Please stand.

President Let us declare our faith in God.

Form A **We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

Prayers of Intercession – led by Michael

President Let us pray for the Church and for the world, and let us be thankful for God's goodness.

After each prayer ...

Intercessor Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

(or) Lord, hear us.
Lord, graciously hear us.

After the final prayer ...

Intercessor Merciful Father,
**accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

The Lighting of the Advent Candles

Advent 3

President People of God: return!
You are called to be God's own.
From the mountains announce the good
news.
God comes in justice and peace,
to all who follow his ways.
You are God's children.
Lord,
make us one in the peace of Christ,
today and for ever.
Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

The Peace

President In the tender mercy of our God,
the dayspring from on high
shall break upon us,
to give light to those who dwell in
darkness and in the shadow of death
and to guide our feet into the way of
peace.
The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Offertory Hymn – Tell out my Soul

Preparation of the Table

Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power,
the glory, the splendour, and the majesty;
for everything in heaven
and on earth is yours.

All things come from you,
and of your own do we give you.

Wise and gracious God,
you spread a table before us;
nourish your people with the word of life
and the bread of heaven.

Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you

and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

You are worthy of our thanks and praise,
Lord God of truth,
for by the breath of your mouth
you have spoken your word,
and all things have come into being.
You fashioned us in your image
and placed us in the garden of your delight.
Though we chose the path of rebellion
you would not abandon your own.
Again and again you drew us
into your covenant of grace.
You gave your people the law
and taught us by your prophets to look
for your reign of justice, mercy and peace.
As we watch
for the signs of your kingdom on earth,
we echo the song of the angels in heaven,
evermore praising you and *saying*:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Lord God, you are the most holy one,
enthroned in splendour and light,
yet in the coming of your Son Jesus Christ
you reveal the power of your love
made perfect in our human weakness.
Embracing our humanity,
Jesus showed us the way of salvation;
loving us to the end,
he gave himself to death for us;

dying for his own,
he set us free from the bonds of sin,
that we might rise
and reign with him in glory.

On the night he gave up himself for us all
he took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take, eat;
this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:
Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant
which is shed for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.

Great is the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.**

Therefore we proclaim the death
that he suffered on the cross;
we celebrate his resurrection,
his bursting from the tomb;
we rejoice that he reigns
at your right hand on high;
and we long for his coming in glory.
As we recall the one, perfect sacrifice
of our redemption,
Father, by your Holy Spirit
let these gifts of your creation be to us the
body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;
form us into the likeness of Christ
and make us a perfect offering in your sight.
Look with favour on your people, and
in your mercy hear the cry of our hearts.
Bless the earth, heal the sick,

let the oppressed go free, and
fill your Church with power from on high.
Gather your people from the ends of the earth to feast
with
Luke and Richard, Thomas and all your saints
at the table in your kingdom,
where the new creation is brought to perfection in Jesus
Christ our Lord;
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father, for ever
and ever.
Amen.

Lords 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.**

Breaking of the bread

We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.
**Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread**

Agnus Dei

Jesus is the Lamb of God
who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those
who are called to his supper.

Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,

**but only say the word,
and I shall be healed.**

**Most merciful Lord,
your love compels us to come in.
Our hands were unclean,
our hearts were unprepared;
we were not fit even to eat
the crumbs from under your table.
But you, Lord,
are the God of our salvation,
and share your bread with sinners.
So cleanse and feed us
with the precious body and blood
of your Son,
that he may live in us and we in him;
and that we,
with the whole company of Christ,
may sit and eat in your kingdom.
Amen.**

The choir sings Gaudete

Communion hymn – Thanks for the fellowship

Prayer after Communion

*Silence is kept. The Post Communion
or other suitable prayer is said.*

Notices – given by Joseph

Final Prayer

Isla **Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood
of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you
our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work
to your praise and glory.
Amen.**

**THE BLESSING
AND SENDING OUT**

President The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Christ the Sun of Righteousness
shine upon you,
scatter the darkness from before your
path, and make you ready to meet him
when he comes in glory;
and the blessing of God almighty,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit, come down
upon you and remain with you always.
Amen.

Go in the peace of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

Recessional Hymn Forth in the Peace of Christ we go