

14th December 2025

The Third Sunday of Advent

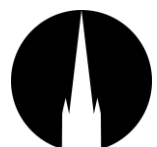
Hymn 19

Come, thou Redeemer of the earth,
And manifest thy virgin-birth:
Let every age adoring fall,
Such birth befits the God of all.

Begotten of no human will,
But of the Spirit, thou art still
The Word of God, in flesh arrayed,
The Saviour, now to man displayed.

O equal to thy Father, thou!
Gird on thy fleshly mantle now,
The weakness of our mortal state
With deathless might invigorate.

Thy cradle here shall glitter bright,
And darkness glow with new-born light,
No more shall night extinguish day,
Where love's bright beams their power display.



O Jesu, Virgin-born, to thee
Eternal praise and glory be,
Whom with the Father we adore
And Holy Spirit, evermore. Amen.

St Ambrose 340-97 Tr.J.M.Neale 1818-66 and others

Collect

O Lord Jesus Christ,
who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare your
way before you:
grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may
likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the
hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your
second coming to judge the world we may be found an
acceptable people in your sight; for you are alive and reign with
the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for
ever.
Amen

Hymn 240

When all the world to life is waking,
And night withdraws from earth and sky,
Creation's song to thee is making
It's praises heard, O Lord most high.
Thine is the splendour of the morning,

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Thine is the evening's tranquil light;
Thine, too, the veil which till the dawning
Shrouds all the earth in peaceful night.

Maker of worlds beyond our knowing,
Realms which no human eye can scan,
Yet by a wondrous love bestowing
Through Christ thy saving aid to man;
Lord, while the hymns of all creation
Rise ever to thy throne above,
We too would join in adoration,
Owing thee God of changeless love. *Jack Winslow 1882-1974*

Old Testament Reading: Zephaniah 3.14-end

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion;
shout, O Israel!
Rejoice and exult with all your heart,
O daughter Jerusalem!
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.
On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:
Do not fear, O Zion;



**10.30am Sung Eucharist
Hymns and Readings Sheet**

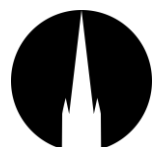
St Mary Redcliffe with Temple,
Bristol and St John the Baptist, Bedminster

do not let your hands grow weak.
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
as on a day of festival.
I will remove disaster from you,
so that you will not bear reproach for it.
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.
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.

New Testament Reading: James 5.7-10

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

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**10.30am Sung Eucharist
Hymns and Readings Sheet**

St Mary Redcliffe with Temple,
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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.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 11.2-11

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.

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Hymn 3

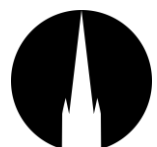
Come, thou long-expected Jesus,
Born to set thy people free,
From our fears and sins release us,
Let us find our rest in thee.

Israel's strength and consolation,
Hope of all the earth thou art,
Dear desire of every nation,
Joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver,
Born a child and yet a king,
Born to reign in us for ever,
Now thy gracious kingdom bring.

By thine own eternal Spirit,
Rule in all our hearts alone;
By thine all-sufficient merit
Raise us to thy glorious throne.

Charles Wesley 1707-88



Hymn 399

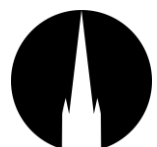
Light of the lonely pilgrim's heart,
The star of coming day,
Arise, and with thy morning beams
Chase all our griefs away.

Bid the whole earth, responsive now
To that bright world above,
Break forth in rapturous strains of joy
To celebrate thy love.

Thine was the cross, with all its fruits
Of grace and peace divine;
And thine the crown of glory now,
The palm of victory thine.
See how thy fair creation groans,
The sky, the earth, the sea,
In unison with all our hearts,
And calls aloud for thee.

Come, blessèd Lord, let every shore
And answering island sing
The praises of thy royal name,
And own thee as their king.

Edward Denny 1796-1889



Hymn 9

Lo! He comes with clouds descending,
Once for favoured sinners slain;
Thousand thousand saints attending
Swell the triumph of his train:
Alleluya!
God appears on earth to reign.

Every eye shall now behold him
Robed in dreadful majesty;
Those who set at nought and sold him,
Pierced and nailed him to the tree,
Deeply wailing
Shall the true Messiah see.

Those dear tokens of his passion
Still his dazzling body bears,
Cause of endless exultation
To his ransomed worshippers;
With what rapture
Gaze we on those glorious scars!



10.30am Sung Eucharist
Hymns and Readings Sheet
St Mary Redcliffe with Temple,
Bristol and St John the Baptist, Bedminster

Yea Amen! let all adore thee, High on thine eternal
throne; Saviour, take the power and glory; Claim the
kingdom for thine own;
O come quickly!
Alleluia! Come, Lord, come!

Charles Wesley 1707-88

