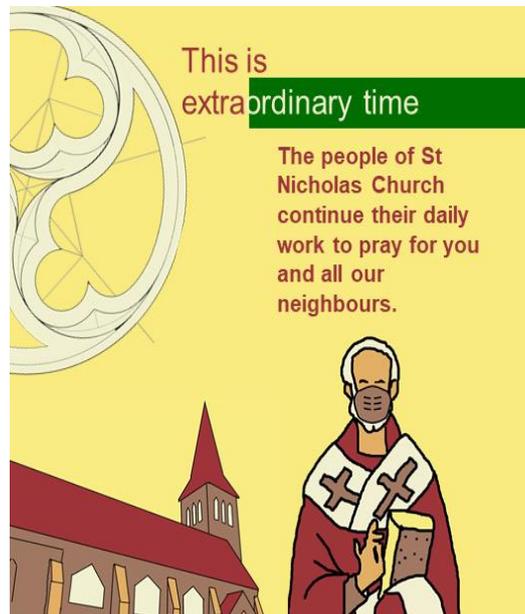


Worship at St. Nicholas, Sutton
For the 4th Sunday of Advent, 20 December 2020
Collect, hymns, readings & sermon



Collect (prayer of the week)

God our redeemer,
who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary
to be the mother of your Son:
grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour,
so we may be ready to greet him
when he comes again as our judge;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

Hymns

Opening *O come, O come, Emmanuel*

Gradual *The angel Gabriel*

Readings

II Samuel 7.1-11, 16

God's Covenant with David

7Now when the king was settled in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, ²the king said to the prophet Nathan, 'See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent.'³Nathan said to the king, 'Go, do all that you have in mind; for the LORD is with you.'

4 But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan: ⁵Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the LORD: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? ⁶I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. ⁷Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, 'Why have you not built me a house of cedar?' ⁸Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the LORD of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; ⁹and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. ¹⁰And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, ¹¹from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. ¹⁶Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure for ever before me; your throne shall be established for ever.

Romans 16.25-end

Final Doxology

25 Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages ²⁶but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith— ²⁷to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory for ever! Amen.

Luke 1.26-38

The Birth of Jesus Foretold

26 In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.'

²⁹But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. ³¹And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³²He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.' ³⁴Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I am a virgin?' ³⁵The angel said to her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. ³⁶And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. ³⁷For nothing will be impossible with God.' ³⁸Then Mary said, 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.' Then the angel departed from her.

I encourage you to make a habit of daily prayer, whether *A Way of Daily Prayer* (attached, or on website under Useful Information-Service Sheets);
Common Worship *Daily Prayer* <https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer>;
or *Book of Common Prayer*.

Bible readings for Morning and Evening Prayer:

Sunday 20 December 4th Sunday of Advent

MP Isaiah 7.10-16, Romans 1.1-7

EP Zechariah 2.10-end, Luke 1.39-55

Monday 21 December

MP Isaiah 52.13-end of 53, 2 Peter 1.1-15

EP Malachi 1.1, 6-end, Matthew 19.1-12

Tuesday 22 December

MP Isaiah 54, 2 Peter 1.16-2.3

EP Malachi 2.1-16, Matthew 19.13-15

Wednesday 23 December

MP Isaiah 55, 2 Peter 2.4-end

EP Malachi 2.17-3.12, Matthew 19.16-end

Thursday 24 December Christmas Eve

MP Isaiah 56.1-8, 2 Peter 3

EP Zechariah 2, Revelation 1.1-8

Friday 25 December Christmas Day

MP Isaiah 62.1-5, Matthew 1.18-end

EP Isaiah 65.17-25, Philippians 2.5-11

Saturday 26 December Stephen, deacon, first martyr

MP Jeremiah 26.12-15, Acts 6

EP Genesis 4.1-10, Matthew 23.34-end