

Berrow with Pendock, Eldersfield, Birtsmorton and Hollybush



3RD. SUNDAY OF ADVENT

WELCOME AND NOTICES

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

**Lord Jesus, Light of the world,
John told the people to prepare for you were very near.
As Christmas grows closer help us to be ready to welcome you.
Amen.**

The Lord be with you
and also with you

HYMN

OPENING PRAYER

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

**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.**

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Our Lord Jesus Christ said:

The first commandment is this:

‘Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is the only Lord.
You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,
with all your soul, with all your mind,
and with all your strength.’

The second is this: ‘Love your neighbour as yourself.’

There is no other commandment greater than these.

On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

Amen. Lord, have mercy.

When the Lord comes, He will bring to light things now hidden in the darkness, and will disclose the purposes of the heart.
Therefore, in the light of Christ, let us confess our sins.

**Most merciful God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
we confess that we have sinned
in thought, word and deed.
We have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
In your mercy forgive what we have been,
help us to amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be;
that we may do justly,
love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God.
Amen.**

Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

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

God for whom we watch and wait,
 you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way for your Son:
 give us courage to speak the truth,
 to hunger for justice, and to suffer for the cause of right,
 with Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE OLD AND NEW TESTAMENT READINGS :

Isaiah 61.1-4, 8 to end,1 Thessalonians 5.16-24.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN

THE GOSPEL READING

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John 1. 6-8, 19-28

Glory to you, O Lord.

At the end of the reading

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ

REFLECTION

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

After each petition the Intercessor says:

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

At the end of the prayers;

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gathering our prayers and praises into one, let us pray with confidence as our Saviour taught us.

**Our Father,
which art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done ;
in earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil;
for thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE PEACE (Please remain seated)

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 God of peace make you holy in all things that we may be ready at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

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I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
 born of the Virgin Mary,
 suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died, and was buried;
 he descended to the dead.
 On the third day he rose again;
 he ascended into heaven,
 he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
 and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the holy catholic Church,
 the communion of saints,
 the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body,
 and the life everlasting.
 Amen.

THE OFFERTORY PRAYER

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.
 Amen.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord is here.
His Spirit is with us.

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.

Blessed are you, Lord God,
 our light and our salvation;
 to you be glory and praise for ever.

From the beginning you have created all things
and all your works echo the silent music of your praise.
In the fullness of time you made us in your image,
the crown of all creation.

You give us breath and speech, that with angels and archangels and all
the powers of heaven we may find a voice to sing your praise:

**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.**

How wonderful the work of your hands, O Lord.
As a mother tenderly gathers her children,
you embraced a people as your own.
When they turned away and rebelled
your love remained steadfast.

From them you raised up Jesus our Saviour, born of Mary, to be the
living bread, in whom all our hungers are satisfied.

He offered his life for sinners, and with a love stronger than death
he opened wide his arms on the cross.

On the night before he died,
he came to supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he gave you thanks.
He broke it and gave it to them, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine,
he gave you thanks, and said:
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.

Father, we plead with confidence
his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross;
we remember his dying and rising in glory,
and we rejoice that he intercedes for us at your right hand.
Pour out your Holy Spirit as we bring before you
these gifts of your creation; may they be for us the body and blood of
your dear Son.

As we eat and drink these holy things in your presence,
form us in the likeness of Christ,
and build us into a living temple to your glory.

Remember, Lord, your Church in every land.
Reveal her unity, guard her faith,
and preserve her in peace.
Bring us at the last with all the saints
to the vision of that eternal splendour
for which you have created us;
through Jesus Christ, our Lord,
by whom, with whom, and in whom,
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,
we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power
be yours for ever and ever.
Amen.**

Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.
Therefore let us keep the feast

**(Please receive bread in both hands and return to your seat to
consume.)**

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

We give you thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts;
 kindle in us the fire of your Spirit
 that when your Christ comes again
 we may shine as lights before his face;
 who is alive and reigns now and for ever.
Amen.

We thank you, Lord, that you have fed us in this physical and spiritual sacrament, united us with Christ, and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet prepared for all peoples. Amen.

HYMN

THE BLESSING

Christ the Son 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,
 the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
 be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen