Service for the dispersed communities of St John's and All Saints' on the first Sunday of Advent, 29 November 2020

Welcome and introduction

The light and peace of Jesus Christ be with you and also with you.

The glory of the Lord has risen upon us.

Let us rejoice and sing God's praise for ever.

Opening prayer

Let us pray.

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful people, and kindle in us the fire of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hymn

Make way Graham Kendrick

Invitation to confession

Jesus says, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.' So let us turn away from sin and turn to Christ, confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

Kyrie Confession

Turn to us again, O God our saviour, and let your anger cease from us: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Show us your compassion, O Lord, and grant us your salvation: Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.

Your salvation is near for those that fear you, that glory may dwell in our land: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

The Absolution

May the God of love and power forgive you and free you from your sins, heal and strengthen you by his Spirit, and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Collect Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Old Testament reading

Isaiah 64:1-9

Taizé Chant

Wait for the Lord

New Testament reading

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Reflection (YouTube) Kirsty

The Creed

We say together in faith
Holy, holy, holy
is the Lord God almighty,
who was, and is, and is to
come.

We believe in God the Father, who created all things:

for by his will they were created and have their being.

We believe in God the Son, who was slain:

for with his blood, he purchased us for God, from every tribe and language, from every people and nation.

We believe in God the Holy Spirit: the Spirit and the Bride say, 'Come!' Even so come, Lord Jesus! Amen.

Hymn

Longing for light (Christ be our light)

Intercessions

Concluding with the The Lord's 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.

Hymn

Lo, he comes with clouds descending Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Closing prayer

O Lord our God, make us watchful and keep us faithful as we await the coming of your Son our Lord; that, when he shall appear, he may not find us sleeping in sin but active in his service and joyful in his praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Blessing and dismissal

May God the Father, judge allmerciful, make us worthy of a place in his kingdom.

Amen.

May God the Son, coming among us in power, reveal in our midst the promise of his glory.

Amen.

May God the Holy Spirit make us steadfast in faith,

joyful in hope and constant in love.

Amen.

And the blessing ...

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ, Amen

Lighting of the Advent Wreath and prayer

People of God: awake!
The day is coming soon
when you shall see God face to
face.

Remember the ways and the works of God.
God calls you out of darkness to walk in the light of his coming. You are God's children.

Lord, make us one as we walk with Christ today and for ever.
Amen.