



The Church at Carrs Lane
Sunday 28th November
Church Anniversary and Advent Sunday
with Helen Woodall and others from the church



Opening responses and candle lighting

Advent 1 *Hopewith the people of God*

Leader On this first Sunday in Advent we pray Come to us O God as light and hope for our world
Come to us O God

Light the first candle

As we light this Advent candle,
may its flame be for us a sign of hope;
may its warmth be a symbol of God's love for us;
and may it inspire us to be hope bearers –
people of compassion and integrity,
as we gather in the name of Jesus
who is the light of the world.

Amen.

Choir sings Stf 166 'Christmas is coming!' chorus & v1

*'Christmas is coming !'
The Church is glad to sing,
and let the advent candles
brightly burn in a ring.*

1 The first is for God's promise
to put the wrong things right,
and bring to earth's darkness
the hope of love and light.

John L. Bell (*b.* 1949)

Reproduced from *Singing the Faith* Electronic Words Edition, number 166

Words and Music: From *Innkeepers and Light Sleepers* © 1992

WGRG, Iona Community, Glasgow G2 3DH Scotland. <www.wgrg.co.uk>

Hymn 181 (*Singing the Faith*): Of the Father's love begotten

1 Of the Father's love begotten
ere the worlds began to be,
he is Alpha and Omega,
he the source, the ending he,
of the things that are, that have been,
and that future years shall see,
evermore and evermore.

2 By his word was all created ;
he commanded, it was done ;
earth and sky and boundless ocean,
universe of three in one ;
all that sees the moon's soft radiance,
all that breathes beneath the sun,
evermore and evermore.

3 This is he whom seers in old time
chanted of with one accord,
whom the voices of the prophets
promised in their faithful word ;
now he shines, the long-expected ;
let creation praise its Lord,
evermore and evermore.

4 O you heights of heaven, adore him ;
angel hosts, his praises sing ;
all dominions, bow before him,
and extol our God and King ;
let no tongue on earth be silent,
every voice in concert sing,
evermore and evermore !

Aurelius Clemens Prudentius (348–c. 413)

translated by John Mason Neale (1811–1866) and Henry Williams Baker (1821–1877)

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Prayers of praise and adoration giving thanks for how God journeys with us



The Choir sings

Come, Lord Jesus, our light to be,
come, Lord Jesus, set your people free,
come now with wisdom from above
and fill our hearts with peace and love.

Come, Lord Jesus, make all things new,
come and bring us light and life in you,
a light no darkness can destroy,
bring us your justice, hope, and everlasting joy.

Words and music by Oliver Tarney (b. 1984)

Source: The Oxford Book of Easy Flexible Anthems. Ed.: Alan Bullard. Pub: OUP, 2017

Psalm 122 read responsively

- 1 I was glad when they said to me,
'Let us go to the house of the Lord !'
- 2 **Our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem.**
- 3 Jerusalem — built as a city
that is bound firmly together.
- 4 **To it the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord,
as was decreed for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the Lord.**
- 5 For there the thrones for judgement were set up,
the thrones of the house of David.
- 6 Pray for the peace of Jerusalem :
'May they prosper who love you.

- 7 **Peace be within your walls,
and security within your towers.'**
- 8 For the sake of my relatives and friends
I will say, 'Peace be within you.'
- 9 **For the sake of the house of the Lord our God,
I will seek your good.**

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Telling the Story

Reflections drawn from *The Carrs Lane Journal 1918-21* – Julie Grove

Sharing the experience of the people of God who even at times of challenge and trouble hold to the motto 'The hope of the world'

Hymn 649 (*Singing the Faith*) *God! When human bonds are broken*

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| <p>1 God ! When human bonds are broken
and we lack the love or skill
to restore the hope of healing,
give us grace and make us still.</p> <p>2 Through that stillness, with your Spirit
come into our world of stress,
for the sake of Christ forgiving
all the failures we confess.</p> <p>3 You in us are bruised and broken :
hear us as we seek release
from the pain of earlier living ;
set us free and grant us peace.</p> | <p>4 Send us, God of new beginnings,
humbly hopeful into life.
Use us as a means of blessing :
make us stronger, give us faith.</p> <p>5 Give us faith to be more faithful,
give us hope to be more true,
give us love to go on learning :
God ! Encourage and renew !</p> |
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Fred Kaan (1929–2009)
Reproduced from *Singing the Faith* Electronic Words
Edition, number 649
Words: © 1989, Stainer & Bell Ltd, 23 Gruneisen
Road, London N3 1DZ <www.stainer.co.uk>

Response

Reading: *Matthew 5:1-12*

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

'Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

'Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

'Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

'Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

'Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

'Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

'Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

'Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

The Choir sings *Show us your ways, O Lord*

ANTIPHON

Show us your ways, O Lord: teach us your paths.

1. Blest are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
2. Blest are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.
3. Blest are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.

Show us your ways, O Lord: teach us your paths.

4. Blest are they that hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.
5. Blest are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.

Show us your ways, O Lord: teach us your paths.

6. Blest are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.
7. Blest are the peacemakers: for they shall be called God's children.
8. Blest are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: the kingdom of heav'n is theirs.

Show us your ways, O Lord: teach us your paths.

Rejoice & Sing, 743

Prayers of Intercession

Lord's Prayer

Hymn 171 (Singing the Faith): Hark the glad sound

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| <p>1 Hark the glad sound ! The Saviour comes,
the Saviour promised long ;
let every heart prepare a throne,
and every voice a song.</p> <p>2 He comes the prisoners to release,
in Satan's bondage held ;
the gates of brass before him burst,
the iron fetters yield.</p> | <p>3 He comes the broken heart to bind,
the bleeding soul to cure,
and with the treasures of his grace
to enrich the humble poor.</p> <p>4 Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,
your welcome shall proclaim,
and heaven's eternal arches ring
with your belovèd name.</p> |
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Philip Doddridge (1702–1751)

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The Grace

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