



10th December 2017
Second Sunday of Advent
(Purple)



*A very warm welcome to everyone worshipping with us today.
All Christians who are full members of any denomination are
invited to receive Communion; or if not a communicant,
to come to the altar rail for a blessing.*

*If you are visiting, please take our greetings back to your church, or
if you have recently moved into the area, please make yourself known
to our priest, the Revd. Canon Rachel Watts, or a churchwarden.*

Please take these Parish-Notes home

Collect:

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power
and come among us,
and with great might succour us;
that whereas, through our sins and wickedness
we are grievously hindered
in running the race that is set before us,
your bountiful grace and mercy
may speedily help and deliver us;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honour and glory, now and for ever.

Amen

First Reading: Isaiah 40.1-11

¹Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. ² Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. ³ A voice cries out: 'In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. ⁴ Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. ⁵ Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.'

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⁶ A voice says, ‘Cry out!’ And I said, ‘What shall I cry?’ All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. ⁷ The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. ⁸The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever. ⁹Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, ‘Here is your God!’ ¹⁰ See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. ¹¹He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

Second Reading: 2 Peter 3. 8-15a

⁸ But do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. ⁹The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. ¹⁰But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

¹¹Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, ¹²waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? ¹³But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

¹⁴Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; ¹⁵and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

Gospel: Mark 1. 1-8

¹The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. ² As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, ‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; ³ the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: “Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight” ’, ⁴John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷He proclaimed, ‘The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.’

Please remember in your prayers:

We remember in our prayers the victims of war, terrorist attacks, and natural disasters across the world. Today we pray for the people of the Yemen, and an early cessation of the civil war in their country. Nearer to home we remember all those known to us in need of help and assistance.

Post Communion:

Father in heaven,
who sent your Son to redeem the world
and will send him again to be our judge:
give us grace so to imitate him
in the humility and purity of his first coming
that, when he comes again,
we may be ready to greet him
with joyful love and firm faith;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Hymns: (from Junior Praise)

- 171 New every morning is the love
- 41 Father, hear the prayer we offer
- 186 On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry

Please join us for tea / coffee after the service



Forthcoming Services & Events

Date	Location	Time	Service / Event
10 th December Second Sunday of Advent	St. Peter's church	9:00 AM	Holy Communion (cw)
		11:00 AM > 4:00 PM	Art & Crafts Exhibition <i>Light refreshments, Entry free</i>
Wednesday 13 th December	St. Peter's church	8:15 AM	Morning Prayer (<i>said</i>)
17 th December 3rd Sun of Advent	St. Peter's church	9:00 AM	Holy Communion (cw)
Wednesday 20 th December	St. Peter's church	8:15 AM	Morning Prayer (<i>said</i>)
		2:00 PM	Children's Christmas Workshop followed by Return of the Posada & Blessing of the Crib
	Wardley & Belton	7:00 PM	Carols around the Parish meet @ Wardley Church
Thursday 21 st December	St. Peter's church	7:00 PM	Christmas Carol Service
Friday 22 nd December	Belton House Care Home	2:00 PM	Christmas Communion
24 th December 4th Sun of Advent Christmas Eve	St. Peter's church	<i>No morning service today</i>	
		11:30 PM	Midnight Communion (cw)
25 th December Christmas Day	St. Peter's church	9:00 AM	Christmas Communion (bcp)

bcp = Book of Common Prayer

cw = Common Worship

These Parish Notes are available in the church throughout the following week, and are also published weekly by email. If you would like to be added to the distribution list, please email:

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Further information on our website: www.belton-wardley.org.uk

