**Morning Prayer on the Second Sunday before Advent**

Sunday 17 November 2024 at 9.30 (call in from 9.15)

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85649430168?pwd=QzFzNytXM01TQTc5cTROaHc2aElvZz09

Meeting ID: 856 4943 0168

Passcode: 336782

**Telephone instructions:**

\* Dial: 0131 460 1196  
  
\* You are then welcomed to Zoom and asked to type in the meeting ID ie. 856 4943 0168  
  
\* If the next instruction is to add your personal ID just press # to ignore  
  
\* When passcode requested type numbers i.e. 336782 plus #.  
  
\* At this point you should be admitted to the call.

**Preparation**

Grace, mercy and peace

from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ

be with you

*All* **and also with you.**

This is the day that the Lord has made.

*All* **Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

Eternal God,  
in the stillness and the silence of this place,  
we bring to you the words of our lives to be set to the music of your love:  
the music of stability in an unstable world;  
the music of reconciliation in a divided world;  
the music of encouragement in a critical world;  
the music of hope in a hurting world;  
the music of truth in a fake world;  
the music of eternity in a fleeting world;  
the music of Jesus Christ, Saviour of the world.  
**Amen.**

Diagram

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The grace of God has dawned upon the world through our Saviour Jesus Christ, who sacrificed himself for us to purify a people as his own.

Let us confess our sins.

Faithful God, we are sorry for the times  
when we have deepened the sorrows of others:  
**forgive us and help us to listen to the songs of all.**We are sorry for trampling on the dreams of others:  
**forgive us and help us to listen to the songs of all.**We are sorry when we have responded negatively to another’s good news:  
**forgive us and help us to listen to the songs of all.**In Jesus’ name.  
**Amen.**

Thank you, Lord Jesus, for your grace and forgiveness,  
that frees us to sing a new song,  
lifts from us the burdens of the past,  
opens new windows on our future,  
encourages us to follow your way  
and enables us to serve you in your world today.  
**Amen.**

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Blessed is the Lord

*All* **for he has heard the voice of our prayer;**

therefore shall our hearts dance for joy

*All* **and in our song will we praise our God.**

**The Word of God**

*First reading:* Samuel 1: 4-20, 2: 1-10

4Whenever the day came for Elkanah to sacrifice, he would give portions of the meat to his wife Peninnah and to all her sons and daughters. 5But to Hannah he gave a double portion because he loved her, and the Lord had closed her womb. 6Because the Lord had closed Hannah’s womb, her rival kept provoking her in order to irritate her. 7This went on year after year. Whenever Hannah went up to the house of the Lord, her rival provoked her till she wept and would not eat. 8Her husband Elkanah would say to her, “Hannah, why are you weeping? Why don’t you eat? Why are you downhearted? Don’t I mean more to you than ten sons?”

9Once when they had finished eating and drinking in Shiloh, Hannah stood up. Now Eli the priest was sitting on his chair by the doorpost of the Lord’s house. 10In her deep anguish Hannah prayed to the Lord, weeping bitterly. 11And she made a vow, saying, “Lord Almighty, if you will only look on your servant’s misery and remember me, and not forget your servant but give her a son, then I will give him to the Lord for all the days of his life, and no razor will ever be used on his head.”

12As she kept on praying to the Lord, Eli observed her mouth. 13Hannah was praying in her heart, and her lips were moving but her voice was not heard. Eli thought she was drunk 14and said to her, “How long are you going to stay drunk? Put away your wine.”

15“Not so, my lord,” Hannah replied, “I am a woman who is deeply troubled. I have not been drinking wine or beer; I was pouring out my soul to the Lord. 16Do not take your servant for a wicked woman; I have been praying here out of my great anguish and grief.”

17Eli answered, “Go in peace, and may the God of Israel grant you what you have asked of him.”

18She said, “May your servant find favor in your eyes.” Then she went her way and ate something, and her face was no longer downcast.

19Early the next morning they arose and worshiped before the Lord and then went back to their home at Ramah. Elkanah made love to his wife Hannah, and the Lord remembered her. 20So in the course of time Hannah became pregnant and gave birth to a son. She named him Samuel,[[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1%20Samuel%201&version=NIV#fen-NIV-7233b)] saying, “Because I asked the Lord for him.”

**Hannah’s Prayer**

**2**Then Hannah prayed and said:

“My heart rejoices in the Lord;  
    in the Lord my horn[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1%20Samuel%202&version=NIV#fen-NIV-7242a)] is lifted high.  
My mouth boasts over my enemies,  
    for I delight in your deliverance.

**2**“There is no one holy like the Lord;  
    there is no one besides you;  
    there is no Rock like our God.

**3**“Do not keep talking so proudly  
    or let your mouth speak such arrogance,  
for the Lord is a God who knows,  
    and by him deeds are weighed.

**4**“The bows of the warriors are broken,  
    but those who stumbled are armed with strength.  
**5**Those who were full hire themselves out for food,  
    but those who were hungry are hungry no more.  
She who was barren has borne seven children,  
    but she who has had many sons pines away.

**6**“The Lord brings death and makes alive;  
    he brings down to the grave and raises up.  
**7**The Lord sends poverty and wealth;  
    he humbles and he exalts.  
**8**He raises the poor from the dust  
    and lifts the needy from the ash heap;  
he seats them with princes  
    and has them inherit a throne of honor.

“For the foundations of the earth are the Lord’s;  
    on them he has set the world.  
**9**He will guard the feet of his faithful servants,  
    but the wicked will be silenced in the place of darkness.

“It is not by strength that one prevails;  
**10**    those who oppose the Lord will be broken.  
The Most High will thunder from heaven;  
    the Lord will judge the ends of the earth.

“He will give strength to his king  
    and exalt the horn of his anointed.”

This is the word of the Lord.

*All***Thanks be to God**

Psalmody Psalm 16

**1**Keep me safe, my God,  
    for in you I take refuge.

**2**I say to the Lord, “You are my Lord;  
    apart from you I have no good thing.”  
**3**I say of the holy people who are in the land,  
    “They are the noble ones in whom is all my delight.”  
**4**Those who run after other gods will suffer more and more.  
    I will not pour out libations of blood to such gods  
    or take up their names on my lips.

**5**Lord, you alone are my portion and my cup;  
    you make my lot secure.  
**6**The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;  
    surely I have a delightful inheritance.  
**7**I will praise the Lord, who counsels me;  
    even at night my heart instructs me.  
**8**I keep my eyes always on the Lord.  
    With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken.

**9**Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices;  
    my body also will rest secure,  
**10**because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead,  
    nor will you let your faithful[[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Psalm%2016&version=NIV#fen-NIV-14103b)] one see decay.  
**11**You make known to me the path of life;  
    you will fill me with joy in your presence,  
    with eternal pleasures at your right hand.

Glory to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit;

*All*  **as it was in the beginning,**

**is now*,* and shall be for ever.**

**Amen.**

*Second reading:*  Mark 13: 1-8

**13**As Jesus was leaving the temple, one of his disciples said to him, “Look, Teacher! What massive stones! What magnificent buildings!”

**2**“Do you see all these great buildings?” replied Jesus. “Not one stone here will be left on another; everyone will be thrown down.”

**3**As Jesus was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John and Andrew asked him privately, **4**“Tell us, when will these things happen? And what will be the sign that they are all about to be fulfilled?”

**5**Jesus said to them: “Watch out that no one deceives you. **6**Many will come in my name, claiming, ‘I am he,’ and will deceive many. **7**When you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come. **8**Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be earthquakes in various places, and famines. These are the beginning of birth pains.

This is the word of the Lord.

*All*  **Thanks be to God**

*We pause to reflect on the readings before turning to prayer.*

**Intercessions**

A: What song shall we sing?  
**B: We will sing a song of praise.**

A: Lord, we come with grateful hearts. We think of all the good things you have done for us this week: beautiful sights, times with people we love, music enjoyed, exercise, food, a good book. Thank you for all the good times. And thank you for being our Saviour, for being our support, our friend, our all in all. We praise you for who you are.

A: What song shall we sing?  
**B: We will sing a song of praise.**

*Pause*

A: What song shall we sing?  
**B: We will sing a song of lament.**

B: Lord, we lift to you all the places of brokenness and pain within the world. We cry out to you for those held hostage, refugees in tented camps, those whose soundtrack is bombing and shelling. We pray for all who are displaced, seeking refuge or somewhere safe to bring up their children. We pray for all people who are at war. And we think of the forgotten places where there is drought, flooding, no food, no communication. We pray for those who are abused, victims of injustice, children who work in factories, those who are trafficked. We remember those who have suffered trauma as a result of the serious failures of safeguarding within the Church of England. We pray for Archbishop Justin Welby at this difficult time…

We confess to you any part that we play in making your world a place of conflict and pain. But, most of all, we cry out to you: Lord, have mercy.

A: What song shall we sing?  
**B: We will sing a song of lament.**

*Pause*

A: What song shall we sing?  
**B: We will sing a song of compassion.**

A: Lord, we turn, now, to those closer to home who need our prayers. We lift to you all those we know who are sick today, whether they have been sick for a long or a short time. Lord, relieve their suffering. We particularly pray for…

We pray for wisdom for British MPs as they debate the Assisted Dying Bill in Parliament.

We think of those we know who are sad. We name, either out loud, or in our hearts, all those who need a touch of God’s love and closeness today…

We think of stories we’ve heard on the news this week which have brought sorrow or sadness…

We pray for those who are lonely or depressed, who can’t see a way out of their troubles…

We pray for all who have no one else to pray for them…

A: What song shall we sing?  
**B: We will sing a song of compassion.**

*Pause*

A: What song shall we sing?  
**B: We will sing a song of joy**

B: Lord, we thank you for all the moments of joy this week. We thank you for the birth of babies… We rejoice with those who have had good news about work, exams passed, jobs offered, sports awards, school certificates. We thank you for good news stories within our fellowship… our community… our nation… our world. We thank you, Lord, for all that is good and true and kind. We thank you for things and people who make us laugh and bring fun into our lives. We think of any glimpses of joy that we have had this week…

A: What song shall we sing?  
**B: We will sing a song of joy**

*Pause*

A: What song shall we sing?  
**B: We will sing a song of love.**

A: Lord, thank you for all those that we love and those who love us. We picture them now… our families; our friends; people at school or at work that make our lives better in some way. We thank you for this fellowship of followers of Jesus with whom we can share God’s love, God’s peace and God’s challenge. We think of special moments in our lives full of love and joy… and we also remember those who find life hard: who have no-one to love and don’t know if anyone loves them. Lord, wrap your arms of love around them and show us how we can be the love-bringers.

A: What song shall we sing?  
**B: We will sing a song of love.**

*Pause*

A: What song shall we sing?  
**B: We will sing a song of service.**

B: Lord, we come now to pray for the week ahead. We picture our Mondays, our Tuesdays… until we meet here together again next week. We think of those moments we find boring: touch them with newness, we pray. We look forward to moments that we enjoy: give them an extra sparkle this week, we pray. We pray for everyone we meet: help us to see you in them and for them to see you in each of us. Send us out from here ready to serve you, to be your hands and feet, to speak your words and listen for your voice.

A: What song shall we sing?  
**B: We will sing a song of service.**

A: As we go out from here, what songs shall we sing?

**B: We will sing songs of praise, songs of lament, songs of love, songs of joy and songs of service. We will sing the songs of our lives as we mix our voice with your song, O God the great singer of life.**

**Amen.**

*Collect for the Second Sunday before Advent*

Almighty God,

purify our hearts and minds,

that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again as

judge and saviour

we may be ready to receive him,

who is our Lord and our God.

*All* **Amen.**

*The Lord’s Prayer*

*All* **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.**

*Blessing*

The God of all grace,

who called us to his eternal glory in Christ Jesus,

establish, strengthen and settle us in the faith;

and the blessing of God almighty,

the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,

remain with us always.

*All* **Amen**.

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**Future events**

**Prayer Breakfast at The Rectory**

**The next prayer breakfast will be at 9.00am on Saturday 30 November with Steph.**

**Advent Sunday Songs and Supper**

**December 1st at Oakford Village Hall 6.00pm.**

**Bible Study Group**

**The next meeting will be held at The Cottage Washfied EX16 9ES**

**Tuesday November 26th at 2.30pm**

If you would like to come, please let me know so that there are the right number of

handouts. Many thanks. Tim Gorringe t.j.gorringe@exeter.ac.uk

**Contacting Church Office**

Monday, Wednesday and Friday 10.00am -12 noon

Email: [office@exevalleymissioncommunity.org](mailto:office@exevalleymissioncommunity.org) Tel:01884 250417 or 07733949295

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**Giving to the Exe Valley Mission Community**

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