

Parishes of Kirkby Ireleth and Broughton & Duddon

# THE SUNDAY SUPPLEMENT

17<sup>th</sup> December 2023 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Advent

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## Holy Communion with Revd. Vic

### Hymns

588 See amid the winter's snow  
326 In the bleak midwinter  
330 It came upon a midnight clear  
266 Hark the herald angels sing

### Collect

O Lord Jesus Christ,  
who at your first coming sent your  
messenger  
to prepare your way before you:  
grant that the ministers and stewards of  
your mysteries  
may likewise so prepare and make ready  
your way  
by turning the hearts of the disobedient to  
the wisdom of the just,  
that at your second coming to judge the  
world  
we may be found an acceptable people in  
your sight;  
for you are alive and reign with the Father  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**Amen**

*A reading from the Old Testament – Julie R-J*

### Isaiah 61: 1 – 4, 8 – 11

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me,  
because the LORD has anointed me; he has  
sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,  
to bind up the broken-hearted,  
to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release  
to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of  
the LORD's favour, and the day of vengeance  
of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to  
provide for those who mourn in Zion – to give

them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of  
gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of  
praise instead of a faint spirit.

They will be called oaks of righteousness, the  
planting of the LORD, to display his glory.  
They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall  
raise up the former devastations; they shall  
repair the ruined cities, the devastations of  
many generations.

For I the LORD love justice, I hate robbery and  
wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their  
recompense, and I will make an everlasting  
covenant with them.

Their descendants shall be known among the  
nations, and their offspring among the  
peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge  
that they are a people whom the LORD has  
blessed.

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole  
being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed  
me with the garments of salvation, he has  
covered me with the robe of righteousness, as  
a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,  
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.  
For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as  
a garden causes what is sown in it to spring  
up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness  
and praise to spring up before all the nations.  
*This is the Word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm 126:

- <sup>1</sup> When the LORD restored the fortunes of  
Zion, we were like those who dream.
- <sup>2</sup> Then our mouth was filled with laughter,  
and our tongue with shouts of joy;  
then it was said among the nations,  
'The LORD has done great things for them.'
- <sup>3</sup> The LORD has done great things for us,  
and we rejoiced.

<sup>4</sup> Restore our fortunes, O LORD,  
like the watercourses in the Negeb.  
<sup>5</sup> May those who sow in tears  
reap with shouts of joy.  
<sup>6</sup> Those who go out weeping,  
bearing the seed for sowing,  
shall come home with shouts of joy,  
carrying their sheaves.

*A reading from the New Testament – Allison*

### **1 Thessalonians 5: 16 - 24**

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil. May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

*This is the Word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

*A reading from the Gospel – Julie R*

### **John 1: 6 – 8, 19 - 28**

*Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
according to St John*

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, 'I am not the

Messiah.' And they asked him, 'What then? Are you Elijah?' He said, 'I am not.' 'Are you the prophet?' He answered, 'No.' Then they said to him, 'Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?'

He said,

'I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness,  
"Make straight the way of the Lord"',

as the prophet Isaiah said.

Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, 'Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?' John answered them, 'I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal.' This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

*This is the Gospel of the Lord.*

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

### **Post Communion**

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.