



WING & A PRAYER

ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH
60 YEARS OF WORSHIP
& SERVICE

Sun 7 Dec 2025 – Advent 2

Sun 7 Dec	10.30 Holy Eucharist President and Preacher: Fr Simon
Wed 10 Dec	9.30am Morning Prayer In St Michael's Chapel
	10.00am Holy Eucharist In St Michael's Chapel
Sun 14 Dec	10.30 Holy Eucharist President & Preacher: Rev'd Nick Parker
Sun 14 Dec	4.00pm Carol Service at Oak Cottage School

In need: Megan, Angela, Hazel, Evelyn Berry, Rosie Hayler.

The departed:

In memory: Anita Cutting.

COLLECT PRAYER

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.

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 11.1-10

A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.
The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.
His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.
He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide by what his ears hear;
but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,

and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb,
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
and a little child shall lead them.

The cow and the bear shall graze,
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.

On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 3.1-12

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.' This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, 'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight."'

Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 'I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing-floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

NOTICES

We are collecting toys for children of prisoners at HMP Birmingham. Toys should be unwrapped, suitable for children up to the age of 13 and exclude anything of a violent nature. Please bring to the Sunday 10.30 service by 14 Dec. Alternatively contact David Yarnold on 07752 582678 who will collect donations. Thank you.

Hampton Singers traditional Christmas concert at 4pm on Sat 13th Dec 2025 at the Church of St Mary, Temple Balsall. Tickets £15, available at <https://hamptonsingers.co.uk/> - or from Bruce Hart.

Retirement. I just wanted to let you know that I am retiring from Reader ministry at the end of this year after 30 years. Many thanks to all at St Michael's who have supported me during this time. Paul.

Mince Pies: We shall require mince pies/cakes for after the Carol Service on 14 Dec. If you could help please let Merrill know.

Communal Christmas Card. Available for signing and if you would like to give a donation this will be given to Acorns Children's Hospice.

1. On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
announces that the Lord is nigh;
awake and hearken, for he brings
glad tidings from the King of kings.

Then cleansed be every breast from sin;
make straight the way for God within;
prepare we in our hearts a home,
where such a mighty guest may come.

For thou art our salvation, Lord,
our refuge and our great reward;
without thy grace we waste away,
like flowers that wither and decay.

To heal the sick stretch out thine hand,
and bid the fallen sinner stand;
shine forth, and let thy light restore
earth's own true loveliness once more.

All praise, eternal Son, to thee
whose advent sets thy people free,
whom with the Father we adore,
and Holy Ghost for evermore.

2. The Kingdom of God is justice and peace
and joy in the Holy Spirit.
Come, Lord, and open in us
the gates of your kingdom.

3. In the desert lands, a shout
breaks the silence, ringing out:
'Build a road! Prepare the way!
Christ must travel here today.'

'Smooth the rugged rough terrain;
shrink the mountain to a plain;
raise the driest river bed:
Here the feet of Christ must tread.'

In the wilderness of life,
with its tragedy and strife,
obstacles of many kinds,
Christ would enter hearts and minds.

We are heralds of the Lord.
Ours it is to heed the word:
'Break new ground. Map out a way.
Christ will walk our streets today.'

4. O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here,
until the Son of God appear:
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.*

O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free
thine own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell thy people save,
and give them victory o'er the grave:
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.*

O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer
our spirits by thine advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadows put to flight:
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.*

O come, thou Key of David, come,
and open wide our heavenly home;
make safe the way that leads on high,
and close the path to misery:
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.*

O come, O come, thou Lord of Might,
who to thy tribes, on Sinai's height,
in ancient times didst give the law
in cloud and majesty and awe:
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.*