

WELCOME TO SAINT COLUMBA'S UNITED REFORMED CHURCH



Duccio di Buoninsegna - The Nativity with the Prophets Isaiah and Ezekiel

9 Dec 2018: Advent 2 The Prophets

Worship Leader: Helen Garton

Organist: Stephen Clarke
Duty Elder: David North

www.saintcolumbas.org
Welcome - Worship - Witness

minister@ saintcolumbas.org	Rev Helen Garton Day off: Tuesday	01865 606910
facilitiesmanager@ saintcolumbas.org	Kenneth Ngugi is available at church most mornings Monday - Friday 7.30am - 9.45am. In emergency, please call	07880 601109

Please stand as the Bible is brought into the worship area

Call to worship

Hymn R&S 138 *Come, thou long-expected Jesus*

Prayers of adoration, confession and absolution

Advent liturgy: Advent 2

Healey Family

Jesus said, "Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfil. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished." (Matt 5:17-18)

Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to God who is in heaven. (Matthew 5:16)

Lighting the second candle

We light the second candle to remember all the Prophets who have gone before us, to be the voice of God and the conscience of the people, and foretell the coming of God as one of us in Jesus.

Song *Christmas is coming!*

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

²The second for the prophets,
who said that Christ would come
with good news for many
and angry words for some

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

Hymn *Long ago, prophets knew*

¹Long ago, prophets knew
Christ would come, born a Jew,
Come to make all things new;
Bear his people's burden,
Freely love and pardon:

²God in time, God in man,
This is God's timeless plan:
He will come, as a man,
Born himself of woman,
God divinely human:

⁴Journey ends! Where afar
Bethlehem shines, like a star,
Stable door stands ajar.
Unborn Son of Mary,
Saviour, do not tarry!

Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring!
Sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!
When he comes,
When he comes,
Who will make him welcome?

³Mary hail! Though afraid,
She believed, she obeyed.
In her womb, God is laid:
Till the time expected,
Nurtured and protected:

Tune: Theodoric (R&S 274)
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Welcome & Notices

Gordon Woods

Presentation of the gifts (*you are invited to bring your gifts of toys and clothes to the front of the church*)

Bible readings

Malachi 3:1-4

Luke 1:68-79

Barbara Micklem

Veronica Taylor

Sermon

Helen Garton

Hymn *God has spoken by his prophets*

¹God has spoken - by the prophets,
Spoken an unchanging word,
Each from age to age proclaiming
God the one, the righteous Lord
'Mid the world's despair and turmoil
One firm anchor holds us fast:
God is King his throne eternal,
God the first, and God the last

²God has spoken - by Christ Jesus,
Christ, the everlasting Son,
Brightness of the Father's glory,
With the Father ever one;
Spoken by the Word incarnate,
God from God, ere time began,
Light from Light, to earth descending,
This is God's eternal plan

³God is speaking - by the Spirit,
Speaking into human hearts,
In the age-long word expounding
God's own message, in full part,
Through the rise and fall of nations
One sure faith yet standing fast,
God still speaks, his word unchanging,
God the first, and God the last

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Reception into membership: Suzanne Healey and Moira Smith

In the name of Christ we welcome you. May we grow together in unity, and be built up into the body of Christ in love, to the glory of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

Hymn R&S 420 *The Lord Bless you and keep you*

Prayers of Intercession

Offertory, preceded by *What does the Lord require of you?*

Hymn R&S 319 *Thanks to God whose word was spoken*

Holy Communion for Advent (Methodist Worship Book)

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to God.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

... we proclaim the glory of your name:
Holy, holy, holy are you, God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory, Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest

... Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me:
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come in glory.

**He is Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end;
the King of kings, and Lord of lords.**

Refashion us in your image that we may be found ready at the coming
of our Lord Jesus Christ:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power be yours, O Lord, for ever
and ever. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer: a modern form (inside back cover of R&S)

The bread we break is a sharing in the body of Christ,
The cup we take is a sharing in the blood of Christ.

Happy are those who share the banquet.

**... We thank you, Lord for feeding us with the bread of heaven and
the cup of salvation.**

**Keep us in your grace and at the coming of Christ in glory bring us
with the saints into the life of your kingdom.**

Hymn R&S 181 *Of the Father's love begotten*

Collect and Blessing

Organ voluntary

NOTICES

Welcome to St Columba's. Today's Gift Service is led by our Minister. We
are collecting unwrapped toys for distribution by the Salvation Army; and
pants, gloves and socks for the Gatehouse.

Worship will include Holy Communion and all are welcome at our Lord's
Table. Your gifts of non-perishable food, and hygiene essentials for the work
of Asylum Welcome and the emergency food bank will be received at the
communion table before or after worship.

If you are a visitor or a newcomer you are very welcome. Please fill in a
newcomer slip (wall box in the vestibule) and hand it to a steward. If you are
visiting, please do sign the visitors' book, also in the vestibule.

There is a hearing loop. Please let a steward know if it is not working for
you: don't suffer in silence!

Our crèche contains an audio link and age-appropriate toys. You and your
family are welcome to use it.

Please note that for reasons of safeguarding, neither taking photographs nor filming are permitted during worship.

THIS WEEK

Wednesday Welcome drop-in café run with the charity Archway. A
warm welcome for to everyone from 10.30am to noon at St Columba's.

Flowers for Christmas: Will you join the 'party' to decorate the church
for Christmas on Saturday morning, at 10am? It would be great to have
helpers. There will be hot drinks and Christmassy nibbles as a reward!
Rosemary would be glad to know in advance if you are coming on
rosemary.knagg@gmail.com or 779987