

ANGLICAN PARISH OF MILFORD
St Paul's-by-the-Sea, Milford

Sunday 4th December 2016

Second Sunday in Advent

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Sentence: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his path straight.
For the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
and all people shall see it together. **Luke 3:4; Isaiah 40:5a**

Collect: Merciful God, you sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

TODAY

8.00 am – Advent Liturgy
9.30 am – Advent Liturgy

Introit 184 The kingdom of God
Gradual 339 On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
Offertory 62 Tell out, my soul
Dismissal 321 Crown him with many crowns

**Readings for today Sunday 4th December
Advent 2**

1st Reading – Isaiah 11: 1-10

Epistle – Romans 15: 4-13

Gospel – Matthew 3: 1-12

Readers 8.00 am – Michael and Patsy Hill

Readers 9.30 am – Karen Stubbs and Megan Bowden

Isaiah 11:1-10

A shoot shall come out from the stump 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.

Romans 15: 4-13

For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so
that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might
have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to
live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that
together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord
Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed
you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of
the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm

the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, “Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name”; and again he says, “Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people”; and again, “Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him”; and again Isaiah says, “The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope.” May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

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.”

We remember in our prayers today – Louie (Hilary’s grandson) Briar, Robyn, Bob and Gabrielle, Simon, Julieanne, and Carol. And we remember parishioners and residents in Castor Bay Road, Eastcliffe Road, Garmons Way, Heathcote Road.

This Week

Tuesday 6	Selwyn Centre 9.30 am – Join us for friendship, fellowship, fun and good conversation. Cost \$3.00
Wednesday 7	10.00 am Holy Communion followed by morning tea.
Thursday 8	10.00 am Mainly Music.
Sunday 11	Services 8.00 am and 9.30 am.

Readings for next Sunday 11th December Advent 3

1st Reading – Isaiah 35: 1-10

Epistle – James 5: 7-10

Gospel – Matthew 11: 2-11

Readers 8.00 am – Rosemary Maire and Jack Weir

Readers 9.30 am – Maureen Christensen and Gaylene Hotchkiss

WORKING BEE – Christmas working Bee Thursday 15th December starting at 6pm with a meal of fish and chips.

All the more the merrier!!

Christmas Toy Appeal for Anglican Trust For Women and Children – Please bring children's toys. The last Sunday for collection will be 18th December. Do not wrap toys however Christmas paper would be gratefully accepted.

Nine Lessons in Carols will be held on Sunday 18th December
There will be only **ONE** service at 9.30am followed by a shared morning tea.