

Service of Morning Prayer.

Sunday 29th November Advent Sunday

The Gathering of God's People

Welcome everyone by Revd Grant.

Advent Sunday. The start of the new Church Year... Happy New Year as one of my colleagues enjoys saying on this day! Advent that we not only look forward to the birth of Christ – his first Advent; but also we look forward, and pray, for his second advent, his second coming. We pray for the return of the King and his kingdom to come.

We gather now in the King's presence. As a church pastor said: "We should always come to worship prepared for an audience with the King. And we should expect the Spirit of God to work among us..." That is for today, whichever country you are in, or whatever place you watch or listen to this...

Let's prepare ourselves...

Grace, mercy and peace
from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ
be with you
All and also with you.



Praise God!
For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns!
All Let us rejoice and be glad and give him the glory.

Our Lord says, 'Surely I come quickly'
All Even so: come, Lord Jesus
cf Revelation 19:6&7, 22:20

Opening Song

The Beatitudes

Let us hear the characteristics and witness of the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn,
for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek,
for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst after
righteousness,
for they shall be satisfied.

Blessed are the merciful,
for they shall obtain mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart,
for they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they shall be called children of God.

Blessed are those who suffer persecution for
righteousness' sake,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Let us confess our many failures to keep this way
of truth and life. *Silence to reflect...*

Come, let us return to the Lord and say:

All Lord God,
we have sinned against you;
we have done evil in your sight.
We are sorry and repent.
Have mercy on us according to your love.
Wash away our wrongdoing
and cleanse us from our sin.
Renew a right spirit within us
and restore us to the joy of your salvation,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

cf Psalm 51

May the God of love and power
forgive you and free you from your sins.
Heal and strengthen you by his Spirit,
and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord.
All Amen.

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.

We continue in prayer...

Blessed are you, Sovereign God of all,
To you be praise and glory forever.
In your tender compassion
The dawn from on high is breaking upon us
to dispel the lingering shadows of night.
As we look for your coming among us this day,
Open our eyes to behold your presence
And strengthen our hands to do your will,
That where we live, and our world,
may rejoice and give you praise.
Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit
Blessed be God for ever.

Proclaiming and Receiving the Word
Psalm 119

n Mem

⁹⁷ Oh, how I love your law!
I meditate on it all day long.
⁹⁸ Your commands are always with me
and make me wiser than my enemies.
⁹⁹ I have more insight than all my teachers,
for I meditate on your statutes.
¹⁰⁰ I have more understanding than the elders,
for I obey your precepts.
¹⁰¹ I have kept my feet from every evil path
so that I might obey your word.
¹⁰² I have not departed from your laws,
for you yourself have taught me.
¹⁰³ How sweet are your words to my taste,
sweeter than honey to my mouth!
¹⁰⁴ I gain understanding from your precepts;
therefore I hate every wrong path.

n Nun
¹⁰⁵ Your word is a lamp for my feet,
a light on my path.
¹⁰⁶ I have taken an oath and confirmed it,
that I will follow your righteous laws.
¹⁰⁷ I have suffered much;
preserve my life, LORD, according to your word.
¹⁰⁸ Accept, LORD, the willing praise of my mouth,
and teach me your laws.

¹⁰⁹ Though I constantly take my life in my hands,
I will not forget your law.
¹¹⁰ The wicked have set a snare for me,
but I have not strayed from your precepts.
¹¹¹ Your statutes are my heritage for ever;
they are the joy of my heart.
¹¹² My heart is set on keeping your decrees
to the very end.

o Samekh

¹¹³ I hate double-minded people,
but I love your law.
¹¹⁴ You are my refuge and my shield;
I have put my hope in your word.
¹¹⁵ Away from me, you evildoers,
that I may keep the commands of my God!
¹¹⁶ Sustain me, my God, according to your
promise, and I shall live;
do not let my hopes be dashed.
¹¹⁷ Uphold me, and I shall be delivered;
I shall always have regard for your decrees.
¹¹⁸ You reject all who stray from your decrees,
for their delusions come to nothing.
¹¹⁹ All the wicked of the earth you discard like
dross;
therefore I love your statutes.
¹²⁰ My flesh trembles in fear of you;
I stand in awe of your laws.

All **Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now,
and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen.**

NT : Isaiah 64:1-9 (David)
This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Song

Gospel: Mark 13:24-end
This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

We will say this Canticle, during Advent,

A Song of the Spirit (please join in bold parts) A

1 'Behold, I am coming soon', says the Lord,
'and bringing my reward with me,
to give to everyone according to their deeds.

2 'I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and
the last,
the beginning and the end.'

3 Blessed are those who do God's
commandments,
that they may have the right to the tree of life,
and may enter into the city through the gates.

4 'I, Jesus, have sent my angel to you,
with this testimony for all the churches.

5 'I am the root and the offspring of David,
I am the bright morning star.'

6 'Come!' say the Spirit and the Bride;
'Come!' let each hearer reply!

7 Come forward, you who are thirsty,
let those who desire take the water of life as a
gift.

Revelation 22:12-14, 16, 17

Surely I am coming soon!
Amen! Come, Lord Jesus!

Sermon



Song

The Apostles Creed (we stand)

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the
dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.

The Prayers of the People (Angela)

Let us pray

Lord in your mercy
Hear our prayer.



Offertory Prayer for gifts to All Saints

Gracious God

Accept our financial gifts,
and with them our lives,
to be used in your service;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Collects

All O Lord our God,
make us watchful and keep us faithful
as we await the coming of your Son our Lord;
that, when he shall appear,
he may not find us sleeping in sin
but active in his service
and joyful in his praise;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Almighty God,
give us grace to cast away the works of darkness
and to put on the armour of light,
now in the time of this mortal life,
in which your Son Jesus Christ
came to us in great humility;
that on the last day,
when he shall come again in his glorious majesty
to judge the living and the dead,
we may rise to the life immortal;
through him who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*Bring our prayers and praises to a close,
we sing together...*

All **Our Father,**
who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power, and the glory
for ever and ever. Amen.

Going out as God's People

Announcements

Charitable Giving for November has been going towards Amersfoort Foodbank. Details of how to give to our charitable giving is on our website.

December Charitable giving will go to the Diocese in Europe Bishop's Advent Appeal.

This December, on 20th, will be our 5th anniversary as a church. We began on 20th December 2015. If you have ideas how to celebrate in this restricted time, let the council members know, especially Marina or Nienke.

Final Song

May God himself, the God of peace,
sanctify you through and through
and keep you safe and blameless,
in spirit, soul and body,
for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.
The one who calls you is faithful and he will do it

and the blessing of God,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit
be upon you and remain with you always.
Amen! cf I Thess 5:23

During Advent we end in a different way, using a response for this season...

Our Lord says, 'I am coming soon.'
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

May the Lord, when he comes,
find us watching and waiting.
Amen.

To know more about All Saints, please visit
www.allsaintsamersfoort.nl

You can also follow us on our Facebook page '[All Saints Anglican Church](#)' or on Twitter
[@CofEAmersfoort](#).

To find out more about the other Anglican Churches in the Netherlands. <http://anglican.nl/>

To know more about the Church of England here in Europe - the Diocese in Europe website is -
<https://europe.anglican.org/>

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DIOCESE IN EUROPE

THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

