

Sunday morning prayer Online 13/12/20

Welcome – Advent week 3

Third Candle - The Candle of Love



John The Baptist

Leader: Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord

All: Thanks be to God **Leader:** Today is the Third Sunday of Advent and we will light the Candle of Love.

Last Sunday we lit the Candle of Peace. We light it and the Candle of Hope again as we remember Jesus, born in Bethlehem, our hope and our peace.

(A person lights the Candles of Hope, and Peace.)

Today we light the Third Candle of Advent, the Candle of Love. In their old age God gave to Zechariah and Elisabeth a son called John. John spoke to the people bravely in the desert denying his own comforts and prepared to die for what he believed. John taught that we should share what we have with others, treat each other kindly and show Gods love. He did this because he cared for people and wanted them to repent and find God's forgiveness.

(A person lights the Third Candle, the Candle of Love here)

Love is like a candle shining in a dark place. As we look at the light of this candle we celebrate the love we have in Christ.

Leader: Let us pray:

All: Lord God, Your witness John the Baptist grew up strong in spirit and prepared people for the coming of the Lord. He loved your people and baptized them in the River Jordan to wash away their sins. Help us to have the same love that we would be witnesses to him and spread the good news of your love. As Christmas draws closer day by day, help us to be ready to welcome him. **Amen**

Hymn – Joy to the world

Confession

All Heavenly Father, You have loved us with an everlasting love, but we have gone our own way and broken your laws. We are sorry for our sins and turn away from them. For the sake of your Son who died for us forgive us, cleanse us, and change us. By your Holy Spirit enable us to live for you and to please you more and more, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Leader says

The God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ promises to pardon and forgive all who truly repent and sincerely believe his holy gospel. May God grant us true repentance and his Holy Spirit, so that forgiven and

cleansed from our sins, our lives may be holy, shielded by God's power until Christ comes. Amen.

Bible reading – John 1:19-34

Song – There is a redeemer.

Sermon – Tony

Look at the Lamb. John 1vs 19 to 34

- 1. To be faithful we need to know who we are not.**
- 2. To be fulfilled we need to know who we are.**
- 3. To be fruitful we need to lead people to Jesus.**
- 3a. John Proclaimed Jesus' Greatness: Our Majestic Lord**
- 3b. John Predicted Jesus' Sacrifice: The Lamb of God**
- 3c. John Pronounced Jesus' Deity: God's Chosen One**

Hymn – Behold the lamb.

The Apostle's Creed

All - We believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

We believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.

He 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,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

We 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. *Universal.

Closing prayer/Blessing. And closing hymn

Remember, Father, your church bought by the blood of your Son, and gather it in holiness into the kingdom you have prepared for it. Direct us by your Spirit in all our ways. Stir us to live lives to your glory. Make us faithful witnesses to Jesus and His resurrection, eager for the joy of His coming, and made worthy to worship you with all your saints forever.

Amen

Behold the lamb. Townend.