

From Darkness to Light

The Herald of Light – St John the Baptist

Third Reading: Saint Matthew 3: v1-12

Blessed be you, sovereign Lord, just and true; to you be praise and glory for ever! Your prophet John the Baptist was witness to the truth as a burning and shining light. May we your servants rejoice in his light, and so be led to witness to Him, who is the Lord of your coming Kingdom, even Jesus, our Saviour and King of the Ages.

Eternal light, shine into our hearts;
Eternal goodness, deliver us from evil;
Eternal power, be our support;
Eternal wisdom, scatter the darkness of our ignorance;
Eternal pity, have mercy on us;
That with all our heart and mind and strength we may seek your face and
Be brought by your infinite mercy to your holy presence, through Jesus
Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The third purple candle will be lit

The Way of Light – Our Pilgrimage

Fourth Reading: Psalm 27

Chamber Choir: Advent Alleluia
(Keith Christopher)

Lord Jesus our Master, go with us while we travel to the heavenly country;
That, following your star, we may not wander in the darkness of this world's end:
for your mercy's sake. **Amen.**

Please stand

The Blessing

Please remain standing as the Choir leaves St Margaret's Chapel.

A Service of Carols, Readings
and Hymns for Advent

Friday 26th November 2021
11:30
St Margaret's Chapel



Queen Margaret's
School for Girls
Escrick Park, York

The Advent Wreath

The white candle in the centre of the wreath is a symbol of Christ, the light of the world. The four surrounding candles represent the Sundays in Advent, the season of preparation for Christmas.

Traditionally, three candles are purple and one is pink. Purple is the liturgical colour for Advent and the one pink candle symbolises the joy of the third Sunday in Advent which is meant to remind people that their preparation may be hard but is for a feast of great rejoicing.

The evergreen leaves surrounding the candles suggest the eternal life of God.

Please stand for the procession

During procession Hymn 117: *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*
(Choir only)

Please sit

Welcome - Head, Sue Baillie

The lighting and blessing of the Christmas Tree

Introduction - Chaplain, Robert Owen

The Bearer of Light – The Creator

The first purple candle will be lit

God said, "Let there be light: and there was light.
Jesus said, "I am the light of the world."

You, Lord, are my lamp.
You turn darkness into light.

With you Lord, is the well of life.
In your light shall we see light.

Your word is a lantern to my feet
And a light to my path.

First Reading: Saint John 1: v1-3

Chamber Choir: *The Angel Gabriel*
(Bob Chilcott)

Jesus Christ is the light of the world.
A light no darkness can quench.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
He is worthy of all thanksgiving and praise.

Lord our God, on the first day of creation you made the light that scatters all darkness. Let Christ, the Light of Lights, hidden from all eternity, shine at last upon your people, and free us from the darkness of sin. Fill our hearts with joy as we go out to welcome your Son at his coming. We ask this in his name, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Bearer of Light – The Blessed Virgin Mary

When the time had fully come, God sent forth his Son, born of a woman.

The second purple candle will be lit

Hymn 97: *Lo! He Comes With Clouds Descending*
(Choir Only)

Second Reading: Saint Luke 1: v26-38

Almighty God, who chose the Virgin Mary, full of grace, to be the mother of our Lord and Saviour, fill us with your grace, that in all things, we may accept your holy will, and with her, rejoice in your salvation, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The pink candle will be lit