

*The Second Sunday of Advent,  
The Fourth in Our Advent Exploration*

At St Andrews's, Gisborne,

10<sup>th</sup>., December, 2023 CHKD cby Nov -7 paged=

+++WELCOME & FOREWORD ::

+++the Minister

PLEASE Listen to the music and watch critically ... ..

Of course, there will be some Questions for YOU.

<https://youtu.be/ZYBliPhLAE0>

Aria "*Music for a while*" by English composer Henry Purcell (1659-1695)  
Sung by Jacob Josef Orlinski with the King Singers

3-45

\*\*\*Our Call to Worship; from Psalm 51 vs 10. [CEV.] led by Seton Clare [ Elder ]

*L : Create only pure thoughts within me,  
and make me truly faithful again ...*

**All : Do not chase me away from being in Your presence  
nor let Your Holy Spirit ever depart from us.**

\*\*\*1-PRAISE : Ch-4 112 [Moscow] God whose Almighty word...

God, whose almighty word  
chaos and darkness heard,  
and took their flight;  
hear us, .. we humbly pray,  
and, where the gospel-day  
sheds not its glorious ray,  
let there be light.

Saviour, who came to bring,  
on your redeeming wing,  
healing and sight,  
health to the sick in mind,  
sight to the inly blind,  
now to all humankind  
let there be light.

Spirit of truth and love,  
life-giving, holy dove,  
Speed forth your flight;  
move o'er the waters' face,  
bearing the lamp of grace,  
and in earth's darkest place  
let there be light.

Blessed and holy Three,  
glorious Trinity,  
Wisdom, Love, Might,  
boundless as ocean's tide  
rolling in fullest pride,  
through the world far and wide  
let there be light.

**\*\*\*Our Prayer of Approach, ( these are led by Duty Elder.)**

*L : Almighty God, who chose to send us our Lord Jesus Christ;  
We come to praise and thank You for yet another new day;  
and to share our desire to acknowledge you fully as our creator.  
We give thanks to you for this past week, and all its many events;  
for Your love and support, which have helped us venture forward  
moving along life's faith journey, trusting implicitly in You.*

**All : We know You through the bounty of your many gifts we receive.  
We feel the warmth of Your love through friendships and families;  
through our being part of Your family here at this Church;  
and all that the land and sea arounds us helps to produce for us.**

*L : In all the rush of all our daily living, in all our goings and comings;  
we often overlook finding time to speak or to share things with you.  
We seem to put off finding time just to be quiet in Your presence.*

**All : Yet we realise that we are flawed, and live in a deeply flawed society;  
men, women and children who see no need to know You;  
who have no need of advice based upon old and trusted ways,  
who have forgotten how to even find where it is written:  
and now, reap the whirlwind of continual in-stability:  
conflicting values and opinions; even in family matters.**

*[ Silence ]*

*L : The deeds of Jesus were shown in His caring compassion for the needy;  
His ethic of pure love; -- of genuine human caring;  
the gifts of pure charity -- of giving without expectation of return.  
These values have been discarded and lost sight of;  
replaced by greed, selfishness and counter-cultures!*

**All : None of us are free from the taint and stain of letting it happen.  
But it is our sincere choice to seek Your forgiveness and mercy,  
asking in silence for Your forgiveness promised by Jesus, Our lord.**

*[ Silence ]*

*L : Through Christ Jesus, we know of the wideness of your forgiveness.*

**All : Lord of all change and renewal which benefits humankind,  
assure each of us that we do not tread our paths alone.  
You are always there; we should never be afraid.  
Where we feel uncertainty, where there is risk, You are there too.  
You have led me through the years; now lead me also into the future.  
Help me to be a disciple and a follower;  
living by, and through Your Word for the sake of others.  
In the name of Father, Son and Holy Spirit . **Amen..****

**>>1-READING : The BOOK of the Prophet AMOS, Ch. 7 : v.12 -17.  
The totally unexpected Prophet**

**\*\*\*2-PRAISE : CH3 320 [Stuttgart] Come, Thou long expected Jesus**

**Come, thou long-expected Jesus,  
born to set thy people free;  
from our fears and sins release us;  
let us find our rest in thee.**

**Israel's strength and consolation,  
hope of all the earth thou art,  
dear desire of every nation,  
joy of every longing heart.**

**Born thy people to deliver,  
Born a child, and yet a King,  
born to reign in us for ever,  
now thy gracious kingdom bring.**

**By thine own eternal Spirit  
rule in all our hearts alone;  
by thine all-sufficient merit  
raise us to thy glorious throne.**

>>2-READING : BOOK of the Prophet JEREMIAH, Ch. 31: v. 31 –34

>>3-READING : The Gospel according to Luke, Ch 1 : v. 57 ff.  
Concerning the birth of John the Baptist

**\*\*\*3-PRAISE : Ch-4 192 [Michael All my hope on God is founded**

All my hope on God is founded,  
all my trust he will renew;  
safe through change and chance he guides me,  
only good and only true.

God unknown,  
he alone  
calls my heart to be his own.

God's great goodness lasts for ever,  
deep his wisdom passing thought:  
splendour, light, and life attend him,  
beauty springing out of naught.

Evermore,  
from his store  
new-born worlds rise and adore.

Still from earth to God in heaven  
sacrifice of praise be done,  
high above all praises praising  
for the gift of Christ his Son.

Hear Christ call  
one and all:  
those who follow shall not fall.

**Our REFLECTION on the THEME of TODAY'S SCRIPTURE**

**led by a Minister Emeritus**

**Revd Dr Clive Yates**

**Today's Topic : WE are a COMMUNITY CALLED for a PURPOSE**

**\*\*4-PRAISE : Ch-4 285 [Gabriel's Message] The Angel Gabriel from heaven came,**

The Angel Gabriel from heaven came,  
his wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame;  
All hail', said he, 'thou lowly maiden Mary,  
most highly favoured lady.'

*Gloria!*

**'For known a blessed Mother thou shalt be,  
all generations laud and honour thee,  
thy son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold;  
most highly favoured lady.'**

*Gloria!*

**Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head,  
'To me be as it pleaseth God,' she said.  
'My soul shall laud and magnify his holy name'  
Most highly favoured lady.**

*Gloria!*

**Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ was born  
In Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn,  
And Christian folk throughout the world will ever say,  
'Most highly favoured lady.'**

*Gloria!*

**\*\*\*INTERCESSIONS for OTHERS :- print for Reader**

*L : LORD: hear our Prayers for ourselves and others ..*

**All : And help us to assist in Your answering all our prayers.**

**\*\*\*Our OFFERTORY; DOXOLOGY, and RE-DEDICATION : CH4 807**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow:**

**Praise God all creatures here below;**

**Praise Him above, ye heavenly host:**

**Praise Father; Son, and Holy Ghost.**

*L : As we bring forward our offerings and gifts;*

*Including all our donations of time and prayer,*

*We ask you humbly to look into our hearts this Advent-time.*

**All : Try us; search us: re-direct us; guide us:**

**Help us to learn again to speak Your Words and Wisdom**

**to the ears of others who search for meaning**

**in the midst of endless confusions and change.**

**In Jesus Name, with the Spirit and God's sure authority ...AMEN**

**\*\*5-PRAISE : Ch-4 476 [Battle Hymn of the Republic] Mine eyes have  
seen the Glory ..**

**Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord:  
he is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored;  
he hath loosed the fatal lightning of his terrible swift sword:  
his truth is marching on.**

*Refrain*      *Glory, glory Hallelujah,  
glory, glory, Hallelujah,  
glory, glory, Hallelujah,  
his truth is marching on.*

**He hath sounded forth the trumpet that shall never call retreat;  
he is sifting out all human hearts before his judgment-seat;  
O, be swift, my soul, to answer him; be jubilant, my feet!  
Our God is marching on.**

*Refrain*

**In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea,  
with a glory is his bosom that transfigures you and me:  
as he died to make us holy, let us live to make all free,  
while God is marching on.**

*Refrain*

**He is coming like the glory of the morning on the wave;  
he is wisdom to the mighty; he is succour to the brave;  
so the world shall be his footstool, and the soul of time his slave:  
our God is marching on.**

*Refrain.*

**\*\*\*OUR ADVENT-TIME BLESSING\*\***

*L : May we continue this journey together  
as pilgrims sharing the same journey ...*

**All : Let us go forward on our own way    but in Christ's company:  
Let us go with growing confidence    with Christ's guidance;  
Let us go joyfully and expectantly    celebrating Advent-time  
May we each go anticipating    the arrival of the Christ.  
Making our journeying together in Christ's Name.**

**AMEN AMEN AMEN    (sung.).**

**Please Stop and Listen to today's ORGAN Recital David Russell  
And COME for a cup of Tea in the Lounge afterwards ....**