

St. Nicholas Buccleuch Parish Church
Sunday 11th December, 2016

Third Sunday of Advent

Order of Service

Preparing for Worship

*Please take a moment to read over the Order of Service printed below.
Hymn books are available in each seat. As we prepare to worship Almighty God,
read through the hymns, particularly any which may be unfamiliar to you. They have
been carefully chosen to help us to experience the glory and majesty of God and to
reflect upon the theme of the service.
You are invited to join in saying in unison the items printed in **bold italics**.
If you are comfortable doing so,
please stand for the items marked with an asterisk (*).*

GATHERING

Organ prelude

**The Bible is carried into Church.*

***Greeting**

Minister: The Lord be with you.
All: ***And also with you.***

***Call to Worship**

***Praise:** Hymn 277 Hark the glad sound! the Saviour comes
(Tune: Crediton)

Welcome

APPROACH

Scripture Sentence

CONFESSION AND PARDON

Call to Confession

Prayers of Approach, Confession and Assurance of Forgiveness

Declaration of Forgiveness

Prayer for the Day

Praise: Hymn 495 Spirit of God, descend upon my heart
(Tune: Song 22)

THE WORD OF GOD

Prayer for Illumination

Gospel Reading: Matthew 1: 18-25 (p.)

At the conclusion of the Reading:

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.
All: ***Thanks be to God.***

Speaking about Scripture:

Now the birth of Jesus took place . . . in which way?

***Praise:** Hymn 279 Make way, make way for Christ the King
(Tune: Make Way)

Speaking about Scripture:

Matthew's story

including **Old Testament Reading:** Exodus 2: 1-10 (p.)

***Praise:** Hymn 287 No wind at the window
(Tune: Columcille)

Speaking about Scripture:

Luke's story

including **Old Testament Reading:** Genesis 21: 1-7 (p.)

Time for Reflection

RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD

***Affirmation of Faith** (*unison*)

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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.

Prayers of Intercession

Offering

Doxology

As the offering is brought forward to be placed on the communion table, we stay seated and sing:

(Tune: Blaenwern)

*Come, Lord Jesus, reign among us,
King of Love, and Prince of Peace;
hush the storm of strife and passion,
bid its cruel discords cease.
Yours the prayer, and yours the purpose,
that your people should be one;
grant from heaven our hope's fruition:
here on earth your will be done.*

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

The Lord's Prayer (*unison*)

*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 debts,

as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil:

*For thine is the Kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever.*

Amen.

Intimations

***Praise:** Hymn 281 People, look East. The time is near
(Tune: Besançon)

CHARGE AND BLESSING

***Charge**

***Benediction**

Threefold Sung *Amen (*unison*)

Organ Voluntary

If you have found this service meaningful, encouraging or enjoyable, tell someone about it and invite them to come with you next Sunday.

Members of the congregation are reminded that Daphne Dunnett's funeral will take place in the Church at **11.30 a.m. on Wednesday 14th December**, and thereafter to Dalkeith Cemetery.