



# Church Alive

## Zoom and at Home Worship Sheet

### Advent 2 – 6<sup>th</sup> December 2020



*(For the Zoom service:*

*Welcome to Zoom Church Alive.*

*You might like to have the following ready prepared with you for the service:*

- *Drink and snack!*
- *Candle and matches/lighter*

*We will meet at 11am and start the service at 11.05am. Please use MUTE on your computer at 11.05am for the service, especially wherever we are singing together, except in the sections where marked. If you'd like to say something at other times, please 'raise your hand' (you will find this in the Participants section) or type it in under 'chat' and it will appear on the screen. )*

*Mark introduces his story of the life of Jesus as 'good news'. But before getting to the content of that good news, he presents John, a messenger sent to prepare the way, who baptizes people in the wilderness.*

**Opening Song:** How Lovely On the Mountains

<https://youtu.be/Gm974h-Avc4>

**Opening Prayer:**

*If you are able, and it is safe to do so, you might like to light a candle at this point as well and hold up your candle as we say our prayer together.*

**All:** Lord, we light this candle,  
to remind us that you are the light of the world.  
As we gather together in spirit,  
make our voices ready to sing your praise;  
our hearts open to receive your love  
and our minds alive to your Spirit.  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



**We seek God's healing and forgiveness:**

We come to God as one from whom no secrets are hidden, to ask for his forgiveness and peace.

God of the journey, when we hear you calling us to change, but we resist you:  
**heal us and help us.**

Jesus, when you call us to prepare for something new, but we prefer old habits:  
**heal us and help us.**

Spirit, when you stir us up to face new challenges, but we close our eyes to the needs of others...  
**heal us and help us.**

Holy God, call us to live more deeply in you.  
**Amen.**

## **We hear words assuring us of God's forgiveness**

May almighty God have mercy on *us*, forgive *us our* sins,  
and bring *us* to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All Amen.**



**Thanksgiving:** When was the last time you received good news? Who was it that brought it to you? Think of a time when you have received help or been welcomed by a stranger. Offer thanks to God for what it meant to you to hear it.

## **Bible Reading Mark 1.1-8 The Proclamation of John the Baptist– Good News Translation**

<sup>1</sup> This is the Good News about Jesus Christ, the Son of God. <sup>2</sup> It began as the prophet Isaiah had written:

“God said, ‘I will send my messenger ahead of you  
to open the way for you.’

<sup>3</sup> Someone is shouting in the desert,  
‘Get the road ready for the Lord;  
make a straight path for him to travel!’”

<sup>4</sup> So John appeared in the desert, baptizing and preaching. “Turn away from your sins and be baptized,” he told the people, “and God will forgive your sins.” <sup>5</sup> Many people from the province of Judea and the city of Jerusalem went out to hear John. They confessed their sins, and he baptized them in the Jordan River.

<sup>6</sup> John wore clothes made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup> He announced to the people, “The man who will come after me is much greater than I am. I am not good enough even to bend down and untie his sandals. <sup>8</sup> I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

## **On Zoom - Talk**

**At Home - please use the separate Resources sheet.**

Song: We Have A Gospel To Proclaim

<https://youtu.be/tQfZVFcVYKU>

## **Prayers**

*(On zoom - We will play a very short piece of music, during which you can add your prayers to the chat and then they will be included in the prayer time).*

*Today we might particularly pray for:*

*Those who are willing to speak up about you, especially those who risk persecution for doing so.*

*All churches who are reaching out to bring the good news to people.*

*Those suffering facing the long-term effects of COVID and those still ill in hospitals, and for the staff who face problems in providing care in such difficult circumstances*

*For the leaders of the nations as they deal with balancing health and economic pressures which will affect us all.*

*All those who have worked to produce a vaccine – the medical researchers and the regulators.*

*Our friends and families*

*Those we know who are sick or who need our prayers at this time.*

**All: Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen**

**All: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever.  
Amen.**

**Song: I The Lord Of Sea And Sky**  
<https://youtu.be/4w7epemfSjC>

### **Sending Out Prayer and Blessing**

Lord Jesus, John the Baptist spoke up  
and made a straight path  
so that people were ready to welcome you.  
May we speak up  
and make straight paths  
for people to meet you today and every day.  
*And the blessing...*  
**Amen.**

### **The Peace**

Go in the light and peace of Christ  
**Thanks be to God**



*(On zoom - We share the peace with each other using sign language*

***Fellowship time – unmute. We will go around the group so that everyone has a chance to let us know how they are and any news they want to share).***