

COLLECT

Almighty God, who sent your servant John the Baptist to prepare your people to welcome the Messiah, inspire us, the ministers and stewards of your truth, to turn our disobedient hearts to you, that when the Christ shall come again to be our judge, we may stand with confidence before his glory; who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING Isaiah 40.1–11

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

1 Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. 2 Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. 3 A voice cries out: 'In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. 4 Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. 5 Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.' 6 A voice says, 'Cry out!' And I said, 'What shall I cry?' All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. 7 The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. 8 The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever. 9 Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, 'Here is your God!' 10 See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. 11 He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

For the word of the Lord **THANKS BE TO GOD**

PSALM Psalm 85.1–2, 8–13

R Show us your mercy, O Lord, and grant us your salvation.

1 You have been gracious to your land, O Lord, you have restored the good fortune of Jacob. 2 You have forgiven the iniquity of your people and blotted out all their sins. **R** 8 I will listen to what the Lord God is saying, for he is speaking peace to his faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to him. 9 Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, that his glory may dwell in our land. **R** 10 Mercy and truth have met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other. 11 Truth shall spring up from the earth, and righteousness shall look down from heaven. **R** 12 The Lord will indeed grant prosperity, and our land will yield its increase. 13 Righteousness shall go before him and peace shall be a pathway for his feet **R**

SECOND READING 2 Peter 3.8–15a

A reading from the second letter of Peter.

8 Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. 9 The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. 10 But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire,

and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed. 11 Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, 12 waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? 13 But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. 14 Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; 15 and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

For the word of the Lord **THANKS BE TO GOD**

GOSPEL Mark 1.1–8

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark **Glory to Christ our Saviour**

1 The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. 2 As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; 3 the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,"' 4 John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. 5 And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. 6 Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. 7 He proclaimed, 'The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. 8 I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.'

Give thanks to the Lord for his glorious Gospel.

Praise to Christ our Lord.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Faithful God, we thank you for feeding us with this heavenly banquet. Help us always to hear the prophet's call to turn our hearts to you; in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen**

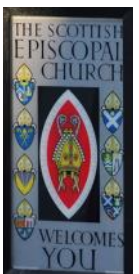
BLESSING

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

The notices for the week are on the reverse of this sheet

—please pass it onto a friend or neighbour

This sheet is also on our website—let others know how to find it to follow week by week.





The Joint Charges of St Johns Johnstone & St Margarets Renfrew

The Scottish Episcopal Church United Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway
St John's Church, Floors Street, Johnstone PA5 8QS St Margaret's Church, Oxford Road, Renfrew PA4 0SJ

National Tier 4 of lockdown—legal max of 20 people at Sunday services

www.SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk

Facebook: [@stmargaretsrenfrew.org.uk](https://www.facebook.com/stmargaretsrenfrew.org.uk) @StJohnsJohnstone

Twitter: @JohnsJohnstone

Zoom/Telephone is Tel:01314601196 Meeting ID: 832 4184 0407

Passcode: 076546 or use the link on the newsletter or website



Worship today ADVENT 2

0945 Said Eucharist with Litany at St Johns
1130 Said Eucharist with Litany at St Margarets

Both services are recorded and made available on our YouTube Channel at about 4pm on Sunday

<http://tinyURL.com/SECStJohnStMargaret>



7pm Light a Candle and place it in your window as we pray for the Nation using the prayer on the Intercessions leaflet each week

Monday 7 December—comm—Ambrose of Milan, Bishop and Teacher of the Faith, 397

Tuesday 8 December—Festival--The Conception of Mary, Mother of the Lord

Wednesday 9 December—feria

2pm Telephone Church

....use the details on the newsletter for both....

7pm Zoom/Telephone Communion Service



Thursday 10 December—feria 7pm-8pm Advent Reflection

Friday 11 December—feria

Saturday 12 December—feria

Next Sunday—**ADVENT 3—Gaudate Sunday**

0945 Said Eucharist with Litany at St Johns
1130 Said Eucharist with Litany at St Margarets



Your ADVENT OoF keep sending in pics of your stained glass windows.... All photos will be added to the website

Lisa Curtice our Ordinand can be contacted
SEIstudent@SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk

Thursday Advent Reflection Evening 7pm-8pm

An hour to focus on some Advent themes and words together as we continue to prepare for the celebration of Christmas in ur homes this year. On Zoom and on the telephone details above.



Intercessions

The sick and in need we have promised to pray for: Liz Fairns, Elsbeth Carberry, Sandra Ferguson, Pauline Campbell, Alasdair Woods, Jenna McKernan, Audrey Callaghan, Adam Semple, Margaret Kerrigan, May Burton, Joan Harrison, Isobel Reid, Adrian Bull, Isobel Trail, Ellen Jones, Isabel Cummings, Moira Bruce, Sue Graham, Margaret Gibb, Carol, Joanna

The Departed: David Sinclair-Benstead

We pray for aid Charities helping refugees and asylum seekers
We pray for family members a long way off who we cannot see
We pray for all those working to develop the vaccine against COVID19.
We pray for each other as we are in Tier 4 of Lockdown together
Covid19 prayers in the Weekly Intercession leaflet

We are in lockdown Tier 4 legal max of 20 people at services

Weekly downloads from
www.SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk
Pewsheets & Intercessions & Reflection
Praying at home together Live-streaming **Morning Prayer 9am & Evening Prayer 530pm** Monday to Friday

Service words are found at
<https://www.scotland.anglican.org/spirituality/prayer/daily-offices/>
The live stream is at
<https://tinyurl.com/SECStJohnStMargaret>

As our church buildings are opening again please ensure you keep others safe by observing social distancing. Please do not attend if you feel unwell, or have COVID19 symptoms



LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE—PEACE

We lit the first candle to pray for hope. We light this second candle to pray for peace; peace for ourselves and for the whole world. We ask for the peace of mind that comes from seeing things clearly. We pray for everyone who lives in the midst of conflict or war. May they find some sign of peace that shines like this candle flame.



Lord Jesus Christ, Prince of peace, reign in our hearts and in all the world. Come close to us this Advent. Amen

Church Contacts

The Rector: Reuben Preston, 29 Gleniffer Road, Renfrew PA4 ORD 07971 895897
Rector@SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk

Items for inclusion should be sent to
Rector@SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk
by 0900 on Wednesdays.

To ask about arrangements for Weddings, Funerals, Baptisms/Christenings, Confessions, House Blessings etc. please contact the Rector

Sponsorship: in prayer for those making and transporting the vaccine to the UK

If you would like to sponsor this sheet please send you £5 donation to the Rector along with details of the sponsorship (even if anonymous)