

Collect

God of power and mercy, you call us once again to celebrate the coming of your Son. Remove those things which hinder love of you, that when he comes he may find us waiting in awe and wonder for him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

FIRST READING Zephaniah 3.14–20

A reading from the book of the prophet Zephaniah.

14 Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! 15 The LORD has taken away the judgements against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. 16 On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. 17 The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing 18 as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. 19 I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. 20 At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the LORD.

For the word of the Lord. THANKS BE TO GOD

Responsorial Psalm Canticle based on Isaiah 12.2–6

Response: Shout aloud and sing for joy, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

2 Surely God is my salvation;
I will trust, and will not be afraid,
for the LORD GOD is my strength and my might;
he has become my salvation.
3 With joy you will draw water
from the wells of salvation. **R**
4 And you will say on that day:
Give thanks to the LORD,
call on his name;
make known his deeds among the nations;
proclaim that his name is exalted.

5 Sing praises to the LORD,
for he has done gloriously;
let this be known in all the earth. **R**

6 Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion,
for great in your midst
is the Holy One of Israel. **R**

SECOND READING Philippians 4.4–7

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians.

4 Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. 5 Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. 6 Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. 7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

For the word of the Lord THANKS BE TO GOD

Gospel Luke 3.7–18

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

7 John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? 8 Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. 9 Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.' 10 And the crowds asked him, 'What then should we do?' 11 In reply he said to them, 'Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.' 12 Even tax-collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, 'Teacher, what should we do?' 13 He said to them, 'Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.' 14 Soldiers also asked him, 'And we, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.' 15 As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, 16 John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. 17 His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.' 18 So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

Give thanks to the Lord for his glorious gospel

Praise to Christ our Lord

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Faithful God, Merciful God, may this eucharist free us from our sins, fill us with unending joy, and prepare us for the birthday of our Saviour. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, who is Lord for ever and ever. **Amen**

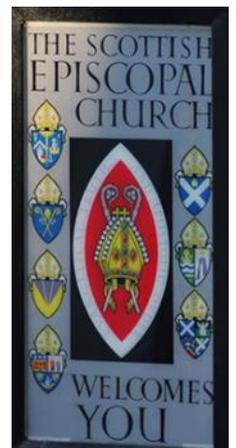
BLESSING

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—take this pewsheet home to pass on to neighbours and friends.

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

Physical Services are being streamed live this Sunday

we are online at www.SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk

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

Twitter: [@JohnsJohnstone](https://twitter.com/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 3

0945am St Johns Sung Eucharist followed by refreshments

1130am St Margarets Sung Eucharist followed by refreshments

St Johns Christmas Lunch at Phoenix Park Brewers Fayre, Phoenix Business Park, Linwood, Paisley PA1 2BH

Monday 13 December-feria

Tuesday 14 December-comm- John of the Cross, Priest, Teacher of the Faith, 1591

Wednesday 15 December-feria

St Johns 2pm Holy Communion—on telephone/zoom followed by refreshments

St Margarets 7pm Holy Communion—on zoom

745pm **ADVENT Group** chapter 3 in St Margarets/Zoom

Thursday 16 December-feria

Friday 17 December-feria

6pm Ecumenical Carol Service with masks at St Margarets Renfrew (no refreshments afterwards)

No COMPLINE this evening

Saturday 18 December-feria

Next Sunday 19 Dec —**Advent 4**

0945am St Johns Sung Eucharist followed by refreshments

1130am St Margarets Sung Eucharist **no refreshments straight onto Glynhill Hotel for our Christmas Lunch**

St Johns ADVENT

& CHRISTMAS good cause is buying **Birth Certificates** for street children through www.toybox.org.uk Each Certificate is £32 Think of a meaningful gift you can give this year.... To transform the life of another person in Latin America.



Intercessions

The sick and in need we have promised to pray for: Liz Fairns, Elsbeth Carberry, Pauline Campbell, Alasdair Woods, Jenna McKernan, Audrey Callaghan, Adam Semple, May Burton, Joan Harrison, Isobel Reid, Adrian Bull, Isobel Trail, Ellen Jones, Isabel Cummings, Lisa in Oxford, Carol, Joanna, Barbara Clark, Moira Bruce, Jean Souter, Neil Barclay, Paul Bothwell, Veronica Whitelock, Daniel Preston, Martin Santon, Jeanette Farquhar, Alan Goudie, Margaret Keys

The Departed: Christine David

We pray for the work of the Aberlour Trust over the festive season

We pray for the homelessness projects of our region

Covid19 prayers in the Weekly Intercession leaflet



Weekly downloads the PEWSHEET, the INTERCESSION SHEET, the GOSPEL REFLECTION from

www.SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk

The Daily Offices can be followed on the provincial website at <https://www.scotland.anglican.org/spirituality/prayer/>

[daily-offices/](https://www.scotland.anglican.org/spirituality/prayer/daily-offices/)

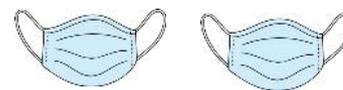
Regional Morning prayer on zoom at 9am for 20mins words are shared on screen

Bishop Kevin asks us to support Aberlour this Christmas. See Bishop Kevin here

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZcXJnN3hdF4>

Find out more at www.aberlour.org.uk

and use their tool kit to make a Christingle at home this year as you pray for their work.



Church Contacts

The Rector: Reuben Preston, 29 Gleniffer Road, Renfrew PA4 0RD 07971 895897

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Regional Curate: Lisa Curtice 07802 888423 renfrewshirecurate@glasgow.anglican.org

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 Rev Harriet Johnston as she begins her ministry at Holy Trinity Kilmarnock

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)