

## Enderby Parish Church

### *Service of the Word*

13 December 2020

#### Opening Responses

*Comfort, comfort my people,  
says your God.  
A voice of one calling:*

***“In the wilderness prepare  
the way for the Lord;  
make straight in the desert  
a highway for our God.***

*Every valley shall be raised up,  
every mountain and hill made low;  
**the rough ground shall become level,  
the rugged places a plain.***

*And the glory of the Lord will be revealed,  
**and all people will see it together.**  
**For the mouth of the Lord has spoken.***

#### Hymn

##### **Rejoicing in hope we wait for our King:**

his coming is sure, his conquest we sing.  
His hour of returning draws daily more near;  
with hearts hushed and burning we see him  
appear.

He comes with a shout, and music's glad  
sound,  
the ransomed of Earth encircling him round.  
The dead and the living shall meet in the air,  
in deathless thanksgiving his glories declare.

Redeemed by his blood, renewed by his grace,  
we long to adore our Lord face to face:  
our eyes shall behold him in light unsurpassed;  
his love shall enfold us in worship at last.

Our King shall arise, his purpose complete,  
and cast his last foe far under his feet;  
then all his creation, released from sin's pain,  
in perfect salvation shall share in his reign.

And so we endure the wounds of the way,  
rejoicing in hope of Christ's crowning day.  
With angels in wonder his triumph we'll sing,  
in praises like thunder hail Jesus our King!

#### Confession

Lord God,  
we have sinned against you;  
we have done evil in your sight.  
We are sorry and repent.  
Have mercy on us according to your love.  
Wash away our wrongdoing and cleanse us  
from our sin.  
Renew a right spirit within us  
and restore us to the joy of your salvation,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### Hymn

**From the squalor of a borrowed stable,**  
by the Spirit and a virgin's faith;  
to the anguish and the shame of scandal  
came the Saviour of the human race!  
But the skies were filled with the praise of  
Heav'n,  
shepherds listen as the angels tell  
of the gift of God come down to man  
at the dawning of Immanuel.

King of Heaven now the friend of sinners,  
humble servant in the Father's hands,  
filled with power and the Holy Spirit,  
filled with mercy for the broken man.  
Yes, he walked my road and he felt my pain,  
joys and sorrows that I know so well;  
yet his righteous steps give me hope again –  
I will follow my Immanuel!

Through the kisses of a friend's betrayal,  
he was lifted on a cruel cross;  
he was punished for a world's  
transgressions,  
he was suffering to save the lost.  
He fights for breath, he fights for me,  
loosing sinners from the claims of hell;  
and with a shout our souls are free –  
death defeated by Immanuel!

Now he's standing in the place of honour,  
crowned with glory on the highest throne,  
interceding for his own beloved  
till his Father calls to bring them home!  
Then the skies shall part as the trumpet  
sounds  
hope of heaven or the fear of hell;  
but the bride will run to her Lover's arms,  
giving glory to Immanuel!

## **The Lord's Prayer**

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 trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
the power and the glory, for ever and ever.  
Amen.

## **The Apostles' Creed**

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

I believe in Jesus Christ,  
his 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.

## **Hymn**

**In Christ alone my hope is found;**  
he is my light, my strength, my song.  
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground,  
firm through the fiercest drought and storm.  
What heights of love, what depths of peace  
when fears are stilled, when strivings cease!  
My Comforter, my All in All,  
here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone! – who took on flesh,  
fulness of God in helpless babe!  
This Gift of love and righteousness,  
scorned by the ones he came to save,  
till on that cross as Jesus died  
the wrath of God was satisfied –  
for every sin on him was laid:  
here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground his body lay:  
Light of the world by darkness slain.  
Then bursting forth in glorious day,  
up from the grave he rose again!  
And as he stands in victory,  
sin's curse has lost its grip on me,  
for I am his and he is mine –  
bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death;  
this is the power of Christ in me;  
from life's first cry to final breath  
Jesus commands my destiny.  
No power of Hell, no scheme of man  
can ever pluck me from his hand:  
till he returns or calls me home,  
here in the power of Christ I'll stand!

## **Concluding Prayer**

Our Lord says, 'I am coming soon.'  
**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

May the Lord, when he comes,  
find us watching and waiting.  
**Amen.**