**Psalm 25.1-9**

1  To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;  
      O my God, in you I trust; •  
   let me not be put to shame;  
      let not my enemies triumph over me.  
2  Let none who look to you be put to shame, •  
   but let the treacherous be shamed and frustrated.  
3  Make me to know your ways, O Lord, •  
   and teach me your paths.  
4  Lead me in your truth and teach me, •  
   for you are the God of my salvation;  
      for you have I hoped all the day long.  
5  Remember, Lord, your compassion and love, •  
   for they are from everlasting.  
6  Remember not the sins of my youth  
      or my transgressions, •  
   but think on me in your goodness, O Lord,  
      according to your steadfast love.  
7  Gracious and upright is the Lord; •  
   therefore shall he teach sinners in the way.  
8  He will guide the humble in doing right •  
   and teach his way to the lowly.  
9  All the paths of the Lord are mercy and truth •  
   to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

**Glory to the Father and to the Son**

**and to the Holy Spirit;**

**as it was in the beginning is now**

**and shall be for ever. Amen.**

**Collect**

Almighty God,

give us grace to cast away the works of darkness

and to put on the armour of light,

now in the time of this mortal life,

in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility;

that on the last day,

when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead,

we may rise to the life immortal;

through him who is alive and reigns with you,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

**Jeremiah 33.14-16**

14 The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfil the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. 15In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. 16In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: ‘The Lord is our righteousness.’

**Luke 21.25-36**

25 ‘There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. 26People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. 27Then they will see “the Son of Man coming in a cloud” with power and great glory. 28Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.’

29 Then he told them a parable: ‘Look at the fig tree and all the trees; 30as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. 31So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. 32Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. 33Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

34 ‘Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, 35like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. 36Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.’

**Post Communion Prayer**

O Lord our God,

make us watchful and keep us faithful

as we await the coming of your Son our Lord;

that, when he shall appear,

he may not find us sleeping in sin

but active in his service

and joyful in his praise;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

*Advent 1*

Blessed are you, Sovereign Lord, God of our ancestors:  
to you be praise and glory for ever!  
You called the patriarchs to live by the light of faith  
and to journey in the hope of your promised fulfilment.  
May we be obedient to your call  
and be ready and watchful to receive your Christ,  
a lamp to our feet and a light to our path;  
for you are our light and our salvation.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

*The first candle is lit*

God of Abraham and Sarah,  
and all the patriarchs of old,  
you are our Father too.  
Your love is revealed to us in Jesus Christ,  
Son of God and Son of David.  
Help us in preparing to celebrate his birth  
to make our hearts ready for your Holy Spirit  
to make his home among us.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ,  
the Light who is coming into the world.

**Lord Jesus, Light of the world,  
born in David's city of Bethlehem,  
born like him to be a king:  
Be born in our hearts at Christmas,  
be king of our lives today.**

**NOTICES:**

At the end of the service please take this sheet home with you. If you could put your hymnbook on the shelf by the door please and the service book in the box.

For events, contact details and notices please see the December newsletter available at the back of church. At St Peter’s the parish magazine will resume from December.

To enable us to make pastoral visits in as safe a manner as possible please contact the Vicar if you would like a visit. This will also enable us to minimise unnecessary travel as our parishes cover a large area and many visits are to homes where people are out.

5th December Advent 2

9.30am Morning Prayer at St Mary’s

11.00am Morning Prayer at St Peter’s

4.30pm Christingle at St Peter’s

12th December Advent 3

9.30am Holy Communion at St Mary’s

11.00am Holy Communion at St Peter’s

6.30pm Nine Lessons and Carols at St Mary’s



19th December Advent 4

9.30am Morning Prayer at St Mary’s

11.00am Holy Communion at St Peter’s

11.30am Baptism of Bessie Tomlinson at St Mary’s

6.30pm Nine Lessons and Carols at St Peter’s

24th December Christmas Eve

4.00pm Crib Service at St Mary’s

11.15pm Midnight Communion at St Peter’s

11.30pm Midnight Communion at St Mary’s

25th December Christmas Day

9.30am Holy Communion at St Mary’s

11.00am Holy Communion at St Peter’s

Please note we will not be holding services on Boxing Day, Sunday 26th December.

28th December Tuesday

1.00pm Wedding of Sarah Kirwan and Stuart Smith at St Peter’s

**Confirmation Service**

We are pleased that Bishop Mark will be with us on 30th January for our Confirmation Service. If you would like to know about Confirmation please speak to the Vicar in good time beforehand.

**Mothers’ Union Christmas Project**

St Peter’s Mothers’Union is collecting new ladies and gents socks, gloves, scarves and basic underwear which will be given to the Salvation Army for distribution to the homeless in Winsford and neighbouring areas. There is a box at the back of the church and from 5th to11th December you can take to Cora Cowap’s home Brackenburn, Vicarage Lane where there will be a box at the end of the drive.