

ST JOHN'S CHURCH, RANMOOR



All Age Service

St Nicholas

**Sunday 7th December 2025
at 10am**

Welcome and introduction

Hymn Longing for light

Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
Light for the world to see.

Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.
Christ be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.

Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has power to save us.
Make us your living voice.

Longing for food, many go hungry.
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others,
Shared until all are fed.

Longing for shelter, many are homeless.
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering others,
Walls made of living stone.

Many the gifts, many the people,
Many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants one to another,
Making your kingdom come.

This is the day that the Lord has made.

We will rejoice and be glad in it.

The Lord be with you

And also with you.

With love and compassion,

come, Lord Jesus.

With judgement and mercy,

come, Lord Jesus.

In power and glory,

come, Lord Jesus.

In wisdom and truth,

come, Lord Jesus.

We light two Advent Candles

Prayer

Reading 1 Samuel 16.1,6-13

at the end:

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

The Appointment of Nicholas.

Presentations

Confession- we say sorry to God

When the Lord comes, he will bring to light things now hidden in darkness,

and will reveal the purposes of the heart. Therefore in his light, we confess our sins.

Kyrie eleison
Kyrie eleison

Christe eleison
Christe eleison

Kyrie eleison
Kyrie eleison

Absolution - God forgives us

Reading: Mark 10.13-16

at the end:

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

St Nicholas and the three girls

St Nicholas and the three boys

Choir: Jesus Christ the Apple Tree arr. by Alan Bullard

The tree of life my soul hath
seen,
Laden with fruit and always
green;
The trees of nature fruitless be,
Compared with Christ the Apple
Tree.

His beauty doth all things excel,
By faith I know but ne'er can tell
The glory which I now can see,
In Jesus Christ the Appletree.

For happiness I long have sought,
And pleasure dearly I have
bought;
I missed of all but now I see
'Tis found in Christ the Appletree.

I'm weary with my former toil -
Here I will sit and rest awhile,
Under the shadow I will be,
Of Jesus Christ the Appletree.

This fruit doth make my soul to
thrive,
It keeps my dying faith alive;
Which makes my soul in haste to
be
With Jesus Christ the Appletree.

St Nicholas goes on a journey

Hymn: HON 561 Will your anchor hold

Will your anchor hold in the
storms of life,
When the clouds unfold
their wings of strife?
When the strong tides lift,
and the cables strain,
Will your anchor drift
or firm remain?

*We have an anchor
that keeps the soul
Stedfast and sure
while the billows roll,
Fastened to the Rock
which cannot move,
Grounded firm and deep
in the Saviour's love.*

Will your anchor hold
in the straits of fear,
When the breakers roar
and the reef is near;
While the surges rage,
and the wild winds blow,
shall the angry waves
then your bark o'erflow.

Will your anchor hold
in the floods of death,
When the waters cold
chill our latest breath;
On the rising tide
you can never fail,
while your anchor holds
within the veil.

Will your eyes behold
through the morning light
the city of gold
and the harbour bright?
will you anchor safe
by the heav'nly shore
When life's storms are past
For evermore?

The Nicene Creed – what we believe

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven**

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

Prayers

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Notices

Hymn: Make way, make way (*during which the collection will be taken*)

Make way, make way
For Christ the King
In splendour arrives
Fling wide the gates and welcome
Him Into your lives

Make way! (Make way!)
Make way! (Make way!)
For the King of kings
(For the King of kings)
Make way! (Make way!)
Make way! (Make way!)
And let His kingdom in

He comes the broken hearts to
heal
The prisoners to free
The deaf shall hear, the lame shall
dance
The blind shall see

And those who mourn with
heavy hearts
Who weep and sigh
With laughter, joy and royal
crown
He'll beautify

We call you now to worship Him
As Lord of all
To have no gods before Him
Their thrones must fall!

Blessing

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