



## 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent 9 December 2018



**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia! Alleluia! Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight, and all flesh shall see the salvation of God. **Response: Alleluia!**

### **Advent calendar by Rowan Williams**

He will come like last leaf's fall.  
One night when the November wind  
has flayed the trees to the bone, and earth  
wakes choking on the mould,  
the soft shroud's folding.

*Continued overleaf*

### **This morning's readings and prayers**

**Baruch 5.1-9** (reader: Jenny Black); Benedictus,

**Philippians 1.3-11** (reader: Trena Radcliffe);

**Luke 3.1-6** (Gospeller: Mark Hewerdine);

Intercessor: Mark Hewerdine

### **At the lighting of the Second Advent candle**

Lord Jesus, light of the world, the prophets said you  
would bring peace and save your people in trouble.  
Give peace in our hearts at Christmas and show all the  
world God's love.

### **Collect for 2nd Sunday of Advent\***

God of all hope and joy, open our hearts in welcome, that  
your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a  
dwelling prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with  
you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and for ever. Amen.

### **Post-Communion: 2nd Sunday of Advent**

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.

*\*The Anglican Church in New Zealand uses this Collect on the  
Second Sunday of Advent.*

### **Next Sunday, Third Sunday of Advent** (Year C readings now)

**Zephaniah 3.14-20** (reader: Diane Wynn); Isaiah 12.2-6; **Philippians 4.4-7** (reader: Lewis Oliver);

**Luke 3.7-18** (Gospeller: Opal Walsh); Intercessor: Judy/Leslie Fletcher

## Advent calendar by Rowan Williams (continued)

He will come like frost.

One morning when the shrinking earth  
opens on mist, to find itself  
arrested in the net  
of alien, sword-set beauty.

He will come like dark.

One evening when the bursting red  
December sun draws up the sheet  
and penny-masks its eye to yield  
the star-snowed fields of sky.

He will come, will come,

will come like crying in the night,  
like blood, like breaking,  
as the earth writhes to toss him free.  
He will come like child.

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### Today

10.30am at St Nick's: Christingle & 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration with Bishop Mark.  
3.00pm Organ recital: *Songs from the Shows* with Robert Nicholls. Admission free, with refreshments

### This week and further ahead

Monday 10 December 7.30pm in the Vestry: Advent study group on Rowan Williams' book *Being Human*

Wednesday 12 December ♪ ♪ Carols around the Courts 7.15pm Mayes Court 8.15pm Oak Court ♪ ♪

Thursday 13 December 10.00am Holy Communion in the Vestry

Tuesday 18 December ♪ ♪ Carols around the Courts 7.15pm Royle Court 8.15pm Rowan Court ♪ ♪  
(Note: No Book Group meeting)

Sunday 23 December ♪ ♪ 6.30pm St Chads Carol Service. Interested in joining our Extended Choir to a couple of easy special carols? Please speak to Robert at an early date. Rehearsal nearer the time

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**Create a Reverse Advent calendar for the Food Bank!** Find a box and put a food item or a Christmas treat in it for every day in Advent – bring to church by 23 December for taking to the Food Bank.

### This is what the Trussell Trust said last year:

“While food bank use is on the rise throughout the year in the UK, the Trussell Trust typically sees a 45% spike in referrals for the three-day emergency food parcels in the two weeks before Christmas. There’s already a concern food banks won’t be able to meet this soaring need.

“Reverse advent calendars are a great idea, and yet another example of how local communities are taking action to stop their neighbours going hungry.”