

Beaminster Area Team

God our Father, renew our hope. By the Holy Spirit's power, strengthen us to pray readily serve joyfully and grow abundantly rejoicing in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Week: 19th December 2021, Fourth Sunday of Advent

Old Testament: Micah 5: 2-5a

Psalm: Psalm 80: 1-8

New Testament: Hebrews 10:5-10

Gospel: Luke 1: 39-45 (46-55)

Reflection on the Gospel reading, written by Revd. Jo Neary

This Advent I committed to preach the Old Testament which took a journey through the different prophets: Jeremiah, Malachi, Zephaniah and now Micah. Each offered their own voice on hope, on being cleansed, on the joy of God's redemption and the looking forward to the coming of the Messiah. Their message of repentance, justice, hope, restoration and redemption speaks into their particular historical context and forward to Jesus and beyond. We still long for hope, we still recognise our need for redemption, we still desire holiness. We pray for the prophets.

Lord God, we bless you for those who, without much light but with great longing, looked for the coming of salvation for the whole human race, and, through suffering and joy, through harsh oppression and hard-won freedom, at great cost and with great resilience, prepared for the Day. For we have entered into their joy and by their stripes we are being healed. Thanks to be God, Amen. *Prayer by Ian M Fraser*

collect for the Fourth Sunday of Advent.

God our redeemer,
who prepared the Blessed Virgin
Mary to be the mother of your Son:
grant that, as she looked for his
coming as our saviour, so we may
be ready to greet him when he
comes again as our judge; who is
alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

A Useful Telephone Link from The Church of England. This is a free number where you can listen to prayers, reflections and hymns and join in worship with others.



Worship to enjoy at home

BBC Radio 4, 8.10am Sunday Morning Worship, Songs of Praise BBC1 1.15pm