St. Cyprian's Church

Sunday 14th December 2025
Advent 3

Hymns for today

Opening	342	Awake, Awake Fling off the Night
Gradual	422	Tell out my soul
Offertory Communion	30 251	Hark the glad sound, the Saviour comes there's a wideness in god's mercy (3, 5, 7, 8)
Closing	25	The Advent of our King

Anglican Cycle of Prayer The Church of Bangladesh

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer Bishop Nick Bundock; Porvoo Communion: The Church of Ireland; Diocesan Chancellor (Bruce Erroch); Diocesan Registrar (Ronald Inglis). St Bride's, Glasgow (Peter Bradley). St Andrew's, Milngavie (Andrea Hagenbuch, Fraser Gold).

Those on our prayer list: For the families of George Carswell and Gregor Duncan; Revs. Les and Lucy Ireland, Agnes Rose; Bill Fergus; Rosa Revell and her sister; Barbara Fairlee, Sheila and Shaunda; Ruth Mitchell; Kennedy Fraser; Duncan Naysmith; Jean Dick; Margaret Conway; Susan Frost; Karen Rose; Tom and Lynda; Jean Hindle; Peter Bladon; Helen Kerr; Glennis Tavener, Jean McLean, and those who are named in the Prayer Book at the back of the church.

Collect of the Day

Stir up our prayers, Lord, and hear us: that they who are sorrowful and suffering may rejoice at the Advent of your only-begotten Son; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. **Amen**.

Notices

- Advent Book Group Thursdays 18 December, at 7pm in the Choir Room. All are welcome.
- BIG Christmas Card! Once again this year we have a big Christmas Card for everyone to sign to save from sending multiple cards out and to raise money for our general fund. The card will be available between now and Christmas.
- Coping at Christmas breathing space and quiet crafting/conversation time will be available in the choir room Tuesday, 16 December 1- 230.
- I4 December, 5pm, Advent Lessons and Carols
- T7 December, 7pm, Blue Christmas Service for those who would benefit from a slowed down service to allow space for a variety of emotions, including grief or sorrow.
- 20 December, 730pm, Music @ St Cyprian's Ensemble R6 concert
- 25 December, Christmas Day Worship! 1030am

The Rev. Audrey O'Brien Stewart

Priest in Charge

- rector@stcyprianslenzie.com
- © 07399 571 440
- My usual days off are Friday & Saturday

First Reading

Isaiah 35:1-10

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you." Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it. but it shall be for God's people; no traveller, not even fools, shall go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness,

Psalm 146:4-9

4 Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help! whose hope is in the Lord their God;

and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

- 5 Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; who keeps his promise for ever;
- 6 Who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger.

- 7 The Lord sets the prisoners free; the Lord opens the eyes of the blind; the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;
- 8 The Lord loves the righteous; the Lord cares for the stranger; he sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.
- 9 The Lord shall reign for ever, your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.

 Hallelujah!

Epistle

James 5: 7:10

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

The Gospel

Matthew 11: 2-11

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me." As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written.

'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.'

"Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."