

**PASTORAL CARE:** Rectory phone number: 01475 732441  
Answerphone available.

**FACEBOOK:** any photos or items for sharing on the church page, please contact Ian Hanley via the facebook page.



**REFRESHMENTS served in the hall next door, after the service. PLEASE JOIN US!**



**Christmas Hamper/Raffle:** tickets at £1.00 from Gwyneth, after the service from back of church. Always a great bundle of seasonal goodies!

**MIDWEEK COMMUNION:** A quiet, reflective pause in our week's activity to take the Sacrament and pray. Please join us! **WEDNESDAY** at 11.30am.

**TINSEL WREATH-MAKING:** meeting in the church hall on Sat 9<sup>th</sup> Dec, 10am. £5.00 to cover refreshments and materials. Please put your name on the sheet at back of church if interested. Good chat and good fun!



the season!

THANK YOU to our special Christmas Tree Pixies for putting up the tree and making it look so lovely for

**ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST  
SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
GREENOCK**

3<sup>rd</sup> December 2023  
1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of ADVENT



**BEGINNING OF WORSHIP:** Please stand at the sound of the bell, to begin our worship. Thank you.

**FIRST HYMN:** 543 – Longing for light

**COLLECT:** Stir up your power, Lord and come: that with you as our protector, we may be rescued from our sins; and with you as our deliverer, we may be set free ; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God world without end. Amen.

**READINGS:** Isaiah 64:1-9 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

**GRADUAL HYMN:** 82 – Pray that Jerusalem may have

**GOSPEL:** Mark 13:24-37

**OFFERTORY HYMN:** 273 - O come, o come, Emmanuel

**If you are a regular communicant at your own church, you are warmly invited to receive Communion here. After receiving we return to our seats and offer silent thanksgiving prayer to God. NB: Intinction (dipping the wafer) is not permitted. Thank you.**

**FINAL HYMN:** 277 – Hark! The glad sound

**GLUTEN-FREE:** if you would like to request a gluten-free wafer for communion, please let one of the door-stewards know, **before the start of the service.** Feel free to remind the Priest you are 'gluten-free' when you go forward to receive.



**Jennifer, David, Robert, Katie, Colin, Alison, Mary. Nursing Homes: Jim, Derek, Vickie, Elsie, Irene, Robert, Catherine, Beatrice.**

**Year's Mind: Isabella Anderson (4<sup>th</sup>), Betty McLaren (7<sup>th</sup>).**



**STARTER PACKS INVERCLYDE:**  
Thank you once again for your generosity in supporting Starter Packs. Baskets for donations at back of church.

**MUSIC NOTES:** The organ music today by German composers is



based on the chorale 'Wachet auf! Ruft uns die Stimme' (Sleepers wake! The night is flying', a translation of which can be found at Hymn 278 in our book. Before the service, two contrasting

Chorale Preludes by JS Bach's cousin Johann Gottfried Walther. Afterwards, the Chorale=Improvisation on 'Wachet auf' by Sigfried Karg-Elert (1877-1933); by turns joyful, stormy and contemplative, the ending is – unexpectedly – quiet and subdued in anticipation of the bridegroom's arrival. Today's anthem is 'Advent Message' by English organist-composer Martin How. Our Gradual hymn is a metrical version of Ps 122, per the Lectionary readings for Advent 1.

**GREENOCK PHILHARMONIC CHRISTMAS CONCERT:** Sat 16<sup>th</sup> Dec, 7.30pm, Lyle Kirk, Union Street. Tickets £12, Under 18s Free. Featuring Riverside Brass, this is the first concert under the baton of new conductor, Nicholas Wilks. Modern and ancient classics are included in the programme, and congregational favourites to join in with. Contact 07847 250 529 or email [info@greenockphilharmonic.co.uk](mailto:info@greenockphilharmonic.co.uk)

Tickets are also available on the door.

**ADVENT SUNDAY AGM:** The AGM takes place TODAY during the 11am service, followed by a soup lunch in the hall afterwards. Everyone invited! The meeting will take place after a shortened Eucharist.

**ST JOHN'S GINGER WINE:** will be on sale at the Advent Lunch! Also, delicious **HOME MADE APPLE AND CRANBERRY CHUTNEYS!** Thank you to Jan and Graham Cannon and to Sandra Rorison, including those who will be assisting with the lunch today.



**CAROLS AT ST JOHN'S:** Sun 17<sup>th</sup> Dec, 4.00pm. A service of readings and seasonal music. Bring family, friends and neighbours! Mulled wine and mince-pies! Sing some of your favourites and enjoy the music of the season.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR DECEMBER:** will take the form of Christmas crafting for the children, as part of their classes for the next three Sundays. Leaving for the hall during the singing of the first hymn, with Cath and her assistants.

