

**PASTORAL CARE:** Rectory phone number: 01475 732441  
Answerphone available. **CHURCH INFORMATION:** website  
www.greenock.church.scot Check it out!

**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! ANY RAFFLE GIFTS (wrapped if possible) and HAMPER DONATIONS, please leave with Sandra or at

back of church clearly labelled.

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



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

*the season!*

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

10<sup>th</sup> December 2023



2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF *Advent*

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

**FIRST HYMN:** 274 – Comfort, comfort now my people

**COLLECT:** Stir up our hearts, Lord, to prepare the way of your only-begotten Son: that in his coming we might serve you with our hearts made pure ; through that same 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 40:1-11 2 Peter 3:8-15a

**GRADUAL HYMN:** 48 – His large and great dominion

**GOSPEL:** Mark 1:1-8

**OFFERTORY HYMN:** 334 – On Jordan's bank

**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:** 283 - The voice of God

**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, Catherine, Beatrice.**

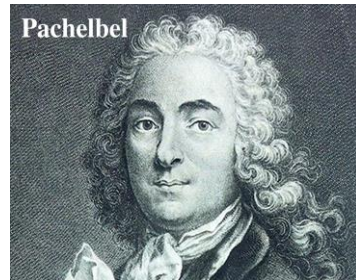
**Year's Mind: Alexander Clark, Phoebe Kerr (10<sup>th</sup>), Nessie Preston (12<sup>th</sup>),**

**Howard Wilson (15<sup>th</sup>), Hugh Gallagher, John C Dyer, Revd Ted Pearson, Mary Watters (16<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:** Two pieces for Advent before the service: 'Veni Emmanuel' (O come, O come Emmanuel) by Philip Moore (2014), a mystical and contemplative piece; then a 1947 meditation on the plainsong hymn 'Rorate coeli' (Drop down ye heavens from above) by Jeanne Demessieux - a masterpiece of simple serenity. Today's anthem is the Rorate Coeli, sung to the original plainsong. Afterwards, four variations on 'Freu dich sehr' by Johann Pachelbel (of 'Canon' fame) – this Lutheran chorale is often associated with feasts of St John the Baptist, and we sing it as today's introit hymn.



**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.

**ST JOHN'S GINGER WINE:** now available from back of church.



**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. If you can help with the refreshments please see the Rector.



**SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR DECEMBER:** will take the form of Christmas activities for the children, for the remaining Sundays. Leaving for the hall during the singing of the first

hymn, with Cath and her assistants.

**RECTORY CHRISTMAS DROP-IN:** Tues 12<sup>th</sup> Dec from 4-7pm. 96 Finnart Street, Greenock. For nibbles and drinks. All welcome!

**ADVENT WREATH PRAYER: 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 CHRISTMASTIDE AND SHOW ALL THE WORLD GOD'S LOVE. AMEN**

**ADVENT 4/CHRISTMAS EVE:** Combined Eucharist and Crib Service, 24<sup>th</sup> Dec, 11.00am.

Midnight Communion: 11.30pm.

**CHRISTMAS DAY:** 10.30am – Sung Eucharist.

