

Dec 5, 21 — Advent 2, Online, Retail Chaplaincy with Rev Mark Ball

Malachi 3:1-4

Luke 3

Christmas is coming — StF 166

Colours of day — StF 167 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ToLdPZ8aqq8>

Praise to the God who clears the way — StF 183

Into the darkness of this world — StF 173

==ORDER OF SERVICE==

Call to worship/Advent candles — JPIT, Advent 2

‘Get yourself up on a high mountain, O Zion, bearer of good news,

Lift up your voice mightily, O Jerusalem, bearer of good news;

lift it up, do not fear.

Say to the cities of Judah, “Here is your God!” (from Isaiah)

First candle lit, JPIT symbol hung on tree

Christmas is Coming — StF 166, vs 1, 2

Christmas is coming, the Church is glad to sing,

And let the advent candles brightly burn in a ring.

1. The first is for God’s promise to put the wrong things right,
And bring to earth’s darkness the hope of love and light....
2. The second for the prophets who said that Christ would come,
With good news for many and angry words for some.
■ John Bell

Advent liturgy — for peacemakers and prophets who proclaim that God is in our midst

Chaplaincy Everywhere video

Colours of day — StF 167

Malachi 3:1-4

Luke 3

Interview with Mark Ball

Praise to the God who clears the way — StF 183

Intercessions — Bluewater chaplains

Into the darkness of this world — StF 173

Benediction

Malachi 3:1-4

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me,
and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple.

The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—
indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts.

But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap;

he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver,

and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver,
until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness.

Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD
as in the days of old and as in former years.

Luke 3:1-6

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius,

when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee,

and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis,

and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas,
the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness.

He went into all the region around the Jordan,

proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins,

as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

“Prepare the way of the Lord,

make his paths straight.

Every valley shall be filled,

and every mountain and hill shall be made low,

and the crooked shall be made straight,

and the rough ways made smooth;

and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.”

1. What is a 'retail chaplain'? What is your role?
2. How do today's lectionary readings connect with retail chaplaincy, especially during the 'run up' to Christmas (what we know as Advent)?

What is the reality of pre-Christmas retail?

What is the 'message' of Malachi for retail staff?

3. How can we in our church congregations pray for retail staff?
Are there practical actions we can take?

*Christmas is coming, the Church is glad to sing,
And let the advent candles brightly burn in a ring.*

1. The first is for God's promise to put the wrong things right
And bring to earth's darkness the hope of love and light.

*Christmas is coming, the Church is glad to sing,
And let the advent candles brightly burn in a ring.*

2. The second for the prophets who said that Christ would come,
With good news for many and angry words for some.

■ John Bell

1. Colours of day dawn into the mind,
The sun has come up, the night is behind.
Go down to the city, into the street,
And let's give the message to the people we meet.

*So light up the fire and let the flame burn,
Open the door, let Jesus return.
Rake seeds of his Spirit, let the fruit grow,
Tell the people of Jesus, let his love show.*

2. Go through the park, on into the town;
The sun still shines on; it never goes down.
The light of the world is risen again;
The people of darkness are needing a friend.

3. Open your eyes, look into the sky,
the darkness has come, the sun came to die.
The evening draws on, the sun disappears,
But Jesus is living, his Spirit is near.

—Sue McClellan, John Paculabo, Keith Ryecroft

1. Praise to the God who clears the way
Preparing room and space;
For power and pride will lose their way
As peace comes in their place.

2. Praise to the God who comes to judge
The truth of word and deed,
Who calls our minds and wills to change
Rebuking wealth and greed.

3. Praise to the God who waits with us
For hope and joy to reign,
Who shares our suffering and our loss,
Embodied in our pain.

4. Praise to the God who comes to bring
Comfort to all who mourn,
The whole creation 'Glory' sings
as Christ the light is born.

■ Jan Berry

1. Into the darkness of this world,
Into the shadows of the night;
Into this loveless place you came,
Lightened our burdens, eased our pain
And made these hearts your home.
Into the darkness once again,
O come, Lord Jesus, come.

*Come with your love to make us whole
Come with your light to lead us on,
Driving the darkness far from our souls:
O come, Lord Jesus, come.*

2. Into the longing of our souls,
Into these heavy hearts of stone,
Shine on us now your piercing light,
Order our lives and souls aright,
By grace and love unknown.
Until in you our hearts unite —
O come, Lord Jesus, come.

*Come with your love to make us whole
Come with your light to lead us on,
Driving the darkness far from our souls:
O come, Lord Jesus, come.*

3. O Holy Child, Emmanuel,
Hope of the ages, God with us,
Visit again this broken place,

Till all the earth declares your praise
And your great mercies own.
Now let you love be born in us,
O come Lord Jesus, come.

*Come in your glory, take your place,
Jesus the Name above all names,
We long to see you face to face,
O come, Lord Jesus, come.*

■ Maggie Dawn