

### **Collect Contemporary**

O Lord Jesus Christ,  
who at your first coming sent your messenger  
to prepare your way before you:  
grant that the ministers and stewards  
of your mysteries  
may likewise so prepare and make  
ready your way  
by turning the hearts of the  
disobedient to the wisdom of the just,  
that at your second coming to judge  
the world  
we may be found an acceptable  
people in your sight;  
for you are alive and reign with the  
Father  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**Amen**

### **Collect Traditional**

O Lord Jesus Christ,  
who at thy first coming didst send thy messenger  
to prepare thy way before thee:  
grant that the ministers and stewards  
of thy mysteries  
may likewise so prepare and make  
ready thy way  
by turning the hearts of the  
disobedient to the wisdom of the just,  
that at thy second coming to judge  
the world  
we may be found an acceptable  
people in thy sight;  
who livest and reignest with the  
Father and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**Amen**

### **Old Testament Reading**

#### **Isaiah 35.1-10**

<sup>1</sup> The wilderness and the dry land shall  
be glad,  
the desert shall rejoice and  
blossom;  
like the crocus <sup>2</sup> 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.  
<sup>3</sup> Strengthen the weak hands,  
and make firm the feeble knees.  
<sup>4</sup> 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.'  
<sup>5</sup> Then the eyes of the blind shall be  
opened,  
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;  
<sup>6</sup> 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;  
<sup>7</sup> 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.

<sup>8</sup> 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.  
<sup>9</sup> 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.  
<sup>10</sup> 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,  
and sorrow and sighing shall flee  
away.

### **Gospel Reading**

#### **Matthew 11.2-11**

<sup>2</sup> When John heard in prison what the  
Messiah was doing, he sent word by  
his disciples <sup>3</sup> and said to him, 'Are you  
the one who is to come, or are we to  
wait for another?' <sup>4</sup> Jesus answered  
them, 'Go and tell John what you hear  
and see: <sup>5</sup> 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. <sup>6</sup> And blessed is anyone who  
takes no offence at me.'  
<sup>7</sup> 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? <sup>8</sup> What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. <sup>9</sup> What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. <sup>10</sup> 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."  
<sup>11</sup> 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



**FOR YOUR PRAYERS**

To have someone prayed for or remembered please contact the Benefice Office.  
 A new list will start the first Sunday each month.

**ST JOHN**

***Those who are ill and their carers:***  
 Margaret Russell, Christine Gilbert, Pat Crowe, Jo Hearn, Ann Kinson, Allan Law

**Post Communion Contemporary**  
 We give you thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts;  
 kindle in us the fire of your Spirit that when your Christ comes again we may shine as lights before his face;  
 who is alive and reigns now and for ever.  
**Amen**

**Post Communion Traditional**  
 We give thee thanks, O Lord, for these thy heavenly gifts;  
 kindle in us the fire of thy Spirit that when our Saviour Christ shall come again we may shine as lights before his face;  
 who liveth and reigneth now and for ever.  
**Amen**

**FOR YOUR PRAYERS**

To have someone prayed for or remembered please contact the Benefice Office.  
 A new list will start the first Sunday each month.

**ST MICHAEL**

***Those newly in need of prayer***  
 Paul Clarke, Sheila Vaughan, Felicity Woodfield

***Those in continuing special need of prayer:***  
 Jamie, Sam Bassett, Mark Berry, Dorothy Clayton, Dottie Collins, Alison Cox-Toplis, Sadie Hannon, Robert Harris, Bill Hill, Queenie Jones, James Knight, Marielouise Oliver, Arthur Palin, Nick Rutter, John Tipper, Renee Wellings

**The United Benefice of St Michael on Greenhill, Lichfield with St John, Wall**

**SERVICE DETAILS**  
**15<sup>th</sup> December**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent**

**ST MICHAEL**

**8:00am**      **Holy Communion**  
**President:**    Revd Ruth Bull

**10:00am**    **Holy Communion**  
**President:**    Revd Ruth Bull  
**Deacon:**      Trevor James

<b>Hymns</b>	Processional	52
	Gradual	38
	Offertory	54
	Communion	438
	Recessional	30

**Intercessions**  
 Faithful God:  
**You are the rock we stand on.**

**4:30pm**      **Messy Church**

.....  
**ST JOHN**

**10:00am**    **Holy Communion**  
**President:**    Revd Chris Baker  
**Preacher:**    Lesley Allen

<b>Hymns</b>	Processional	196
	Gradual	172
	Offertory	535
	Recessional	367