

The Sundays in Advent

Advent is a season of prayer preparation, of making ready for the coming of our King. As He came in Prophecy, so also He has indeed come already in the Flesh. He comes now in His Means of Grace, given us to keep and preserve us steadfast in faith until His Coming in Glory.

Advent begins with the account of the Triumphal Entry of our Lord into Jerusalem (*Ad Te Levavi*, Matthew 21:1-9), marking our entrance into a new year of God's Grace. The King comes! As the budding fig tree alerts all to the coming summer, so do we see the signs of the imminent coming of our Lord (*Populus Zion*, Luke 21:25-33). John the Baptizer sees the signs even through prison bars as the blind see and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, the dead are raised and the poor have the Gospel preached to them, bringing hope in the midst of penitent preparation (*Gaudete*, Matthew 11:2-10), fulfilling the prophecy of Isaiah. And St. John, the Forerunner, who makes straight the Way of the Lord as he calls the people to repentance, promises One who is preferred before him will come after him, One who will come soon (*Rorate Coeli*, John 1:19-28). Repent, for the King comes!

Cover Art: John the Baptizer Points To Christ

Stained Glass Window by Sir John Ninian Comper, 1896 A. ✠ D.

St. John the Baptist Church, East Markham, Nottinghamshire, England

Sir John Ninian Comper was an Arts and Crafts era architect who worked on late Gothic Revival churches. The pictured window was an early work of Comper, showing rich medieval revivalism. Perhaps Comper's most famous work in glass are the windows on the north wall of the Nave of Westminster Abbey, under which he was interred after his death in 1960.

The Season



Of Advent