



Proclaim

Saturday 14th December 2024



Image from PickPik.

Scripture: Matthew 17:9-13

As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, 'Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.' And the disciples asked him, 'Why, then, do the scribes say that Elijah must come first?' He replied, 'Elijah is indeed coming and will restore all things; but I tell you that Elijah has already come, and they did not recognize him, but they did to him whatever they pleased. So also the Son of Man is about to suffer at their hands.' Then the disciples understood that he was speaking to them about John the Baptist.

To reflect

"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" Luke 3.1-2.

Proclaiming, declaring solemnly, in today's Daily Eucharist Gospel reading we have Jesus declaring who John the Baptist was and is to Peter, James and John the brother of James at the Transfiguration. Last Sunday's Gospel had John the Baptist proclaiming that he was there to make the ways straight for the one who he was announcing, making way for and proclaiming as the Messiah.

What things do you want to announce, to declare solemnly in this Advent Season. It might be the promise of love, hope, peace and joy; it might be God's everlasting saving love of humanity, it might be that the good news of Jesus coming to earth for all...

The forerunner by Carol Dixon

Announce
to the world
'God is coming!'

Proclaim
the message
'The Lord is here!'

Build
new roads,
new avenues of hope
for all people.

Lord of the wild desert places,
we praise and adore you
for your refreshing message
of repentance, forgiveness,
and restoration.

Thank you for sending John,
as messenger -forerunner of Jesus –
to people wandering in the wilderness
of disobedience and despondency.

Cleanse and renew us
with your liberating love;
bathe us in your peace,
so that we are prepared
to take your Word to the world.

Lord of the supermarket and leisure centre
we praise and adore you
for your blazing message
of hope, reconciliation,
and renewal.

Thank you for sending us,
as announcers -followers of Jesus –
to people fumbling in the fog
of despair and disillusionment.

Set us free
with your purifying power;
in flame us with your joy,
so that we are ready
to broadcast your Word in our day.

From the United Reform Church Prayer Handbook 1992

To Listen (these and other suggestions can be found on a Spotify playlist at
<https://open.spotify.com/playlist/0F5bU2sf4OiOtQY3q78Rf2?si=a99cbbf61e7d4587>*)*

- 'The Lord Will Hear the Just – Proclaim God's Marvelous Deeds' by Kenneth W. Louis, one version is by James Abbingdon *et al.* This is taken from the Mass of St Cyprian and is based on Psalm 34:18; 37:39; 100:4–5; Psalm 96:1–3,10.
- 'Proclaim God's Greatness' by Samuel Adler, one version is by Gloriæ Dei Cantores.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.