



**Sunday Service**  
**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2020**

**The Third Sunday of Advent**

**Opening Prayer**

Almighty God, you have given us your Word and your Holy Spirit to inspire our worship of you. Help us to hold firm, in these dark days, to the joyful hope of everlasting life which you have given us in your Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

**Bible reading**

<sup>9</sup>As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. <sup>10</sup>If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love. <sup>11</sup>I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. <sup>12</sup>My command is this: love each other as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup>Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. <sup>14</sup>You are my friends if you do what I command. <sup>15</sup>I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. <sup>16</sup>You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit - fruit that will last - and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. <sup>17</sup>This is my command: love each other.

John 15 : 9 - 17

**Reflection :**    **Live in the Love**

Anthony Rigby

**Prayer**

Dear Heavenly Father, it is both thrilling and humbling to know that Christ loves the Church with the same profound passion that the Father loves the Son and the Son loves the Father. Just as the Father has loved Christ, He also loves me, it is staggering to realise how deeply we are loved by You, and Jesus Christ, Whom You sent to release us from sin and death. We pray that we would learn to abide in His love moment by moment and day by day. Keep us ever looking to Jesus and resting in His love. This we ask in His precious name, AMEN.

**Final Blessing**

May God the Father, who loved the world so much that he sent his only Son, give you grace to prepare for life eternal. And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. Amen.