

For the safety of those worshipping in our buildings and in line with current Church of England guidelines:

*Please use the **hand sanitiser** stations when you enter the church, and before and after communion and when you leave.*

*Please **remain in the seat** the steward directed you to upon your arrival.*

*The **wearing of masks is mandatory** in church, please remove your mask only when receiving communion.*

At the distribution of communion please wait in your seat until the steward directs you to go forward.

At the end of our worship, please stay seated, until the steward indicates you can safely leave.

*Please **take this service sheet home with you.***

Sadly, there will be no gathering afterwards, and the toilets are only available in emergencies.

*Personal **photographs you take in our church**, with children other than your own in them, are not to be published on social media sites (Instagram, Facebook etc.)*

The recording of this service will be available later today online:

<https://rebrand.ly/saintsandhallows>

GREETING

In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

All Amen.

The Lord be with you,

All and also with you.

Words of welcome or introduction may be said.

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

**All Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open, all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:**

cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

CONFESSION

When the Lord comes,
he will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness,
and will disclose the purposes of the heart.

Therefore in the light of Christ let us confess our sins.

**All Lord God, we have sinned against you;
we have done evil in your sight.
We are sorry and repent.
Have mercy on us according to your love.
Wash away our wrongdoing and cleanse us from our sin.
Renew a right spirit within us
and restore to us the joy of your salvation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

May almighty God have mercy on you,
forgive your sins,
and bring you to everlasting life,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

COLLECT

The president introduces a period of silent prayer.

Let us pray,
that we may be ready when the Lord comes.

The Collect is said.

Almighty God,
purify our hearts and minds,
that when your Son Jesus Christ
comes again as judge and saviour
we may be ready to receive him,
who is our Lord and our God.

All Amen.

READING Isaiah 40.1-11

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins.

A voice cries out: 'In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.'

A voice says, 'Cry out!' And I said, 'What shall I cry?'

All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, 'Here is your God!' See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Silence may be kept.

GOSPEL READING Mark 1.1-8

Alleluia, alleluia.

Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.

All Alleluia.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

All Glory to you, O Lord.

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight"',

John the baptiser appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptised by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, 'The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptised you with water; but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

After the Sermon silence may be kept.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Let us declare our faith in God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**All We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.
We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love.
We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us with power from on high.
We believe in one God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Silence may be kept.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

In joyful expectation of his coming to our aid
we pray to Jesus.

This response may be included:

Lord, hear us.

All Lord, graciously hear us.

And at the end

Merciful Father,

**All accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Silence is kept.

The president says

Come, Lord Jesus, do not delay;
give new courage to your people who trust in your love.
By your coming,
raise us to share in the joy of your kingdom
on earth as in heaven
where you live and reign with the Father and the Spirit,
one God for ever and ever.

All Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT RING

God our Father,
you spoke to the prophets of old
of a Saviour who would bring peace.
You helped them to spread the joyful message
of his coming kingdom.

Help us, as we prepare to celebrate his birth,
to share with those around us
the good news of your power and love.
We ask this through Jesus Christ,
the light who is coming into the world.

All Amen.

**All Lord Jesus, light of the world,
the prophets said you would bring peace
and save your people in trouble.
Give peace in our hearts at Christmas
and show all the world God's love. Amen .**

PEACE

May the God of peace make you completely holy,
ready for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All And also with you.

PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

As the grain once scattered in the fields
and the grapes once dispersed on the hillside
are now reunited on this table in bread and wine,
so, Lord, may your whole Church soon be gathered together
from the corners of the earth into your kingdom.

All Amen.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

**All The Lord be with you,
 and also with you.**

**All Lift up your hearts.
 We lift them to the Lord.**

**All Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
 It is right to give thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right and good to give you thanks and praise,
almighty God and everlasting Father,
through Jesus Christ your Son.

For when he humbled himself to come among us in human flesh,
he fulfilled the plan you formed before the foundation of the world
to open for us the way of salvation.

Confident that your promise will be fulfilled,
we now watch for the day
when Christ our Lord will come again in glory.

And so we join our voices with angels and archangels
and with all the company of heaven to proclaim your glory,
for ever praising you and saying:

**All Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
 heaven and earth are full of your glory.
 Hosanna in the highest.**

Accept our praises, heavenly Father,
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,
and as we follow his example and obey his command,
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us his body and his blood;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:

Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.

Therefore, heavenly Father,
we remember his offering of himself
made once for all upon the cross;
we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;
we look for the coming of your kingdom,
and with this bread and this cup
we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

All Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Accept through him, our great high priest,
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts
in the presence of your divine majesty,
renew us by your Spirit,
inspire us with your love
and unite us in the body of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,
we worship you, Father almighty,
in songs of everlasting praise:

**All Blessing and honour and glory and power
be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Awaiting his coming in glory,
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray.

<p>All Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.</p>	<p><i>[or]</i></p>	<p>Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.</p>
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BREAKING OF THE BREAD

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

All **Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

All **Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us peace.**

GIVING OF COMMUNION

Draw near with faith.
Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you,
and his blood which he shed for you.

Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you,
and feed on him in your hearts
by faith with thanksgiving.

WORDS OF DISTRIBUTION said to all here

The body of Christ keep you in eternal life.
All **Amen.**

Please wait to be directed forward to receive communion in one kind only which is distributed in silence.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Father in heaven,
who sent your Son to redeem the world
and will send him again to be our judge:
give us grace so to imitate him
in the humility and purity of his first coming
that, when he comes again,
we may be ready to greet him
with joyful love and firm faith;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

NOTICES

BLESSING

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you,
scatter the darkness from before your path,
and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

Our Lord says, 'I am coming soon.'

All **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

May the Lord, when he comes, find us watching and waiting.

All **Amen.**

The ministers and people depart.

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Invitation to Confession © 1988 Continuum (Mowbray) (Adapted)

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OUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR

Those who suffer in body, mind or spirit, among them Christian S, Sue P, Roger P, Richard H, Tim C, Kay G, Pam B, Philip B.

The housebound Ruth S, Margaret O, Diana B.

The Church the Reformed Episcopal Church of Spain (Extra Provincial to the Archbishop of Canterbury); The Rt Revd Carlos López-Lozano, Bishop of Spanish Reformed Episcopal Church; The Porvoo Churches – Chester, Kuopio.

If you would like to add a name to our prayer list, first obtain the consent of the person you wish us to pray for, then tell the names to Rev Christine.

REMEMBER THE DEPARTED

Those whose anniversaries fall on this week Arthur Toyer, Bill Clayson, Anthony Hayers, Margaret Cooke, Jean Lofts, Frank Sadler, Jack Lawrence, Margaret Ellison, Peter Barrett, Jason Slate, Gwen Timpson, Russell Fletcher, Alison Clark, Frank Pierce, Alan Frank Knight, Dora Foskitt, Walter George Swain, Hilda Grace Marriot, Phyllis Ward, Derreck Pierce, James William Eades, Joan Stephenson, Eddie McHugh

NOTICES

Alongside our '**Light in the Darkness' Christmas Display** in the Swansgate centre, a **bare Christmas Tree** can be found in All Hallows along with star decorations. Visitors are invited to write the names of people who find Christmas difficult or situations which need special prayer at this time of year. There are gift bags for visitors to help them to find the light in the darkness this Christmas. The prayers on the tree will be offered during our worship on Christmas Eve. The church will be open on 8th, 9th, 15th, 16th & 19th December from 10.30am to 2pm. Please do support this joint mission activity by spreading the word about the display and the extended church opening hours.

Please note that the **Nativity Service** is via Zoom from ALL SAINTS church at 4pm on Christmas Eve (to allow us all time to join in with the national initiative to sing carols on our doorsteps at 6pm).

First steps to growing the Kingdom – the first steps, the foundations if you like, of growing the Kingdom is to provide the church family with opportunities to deepen their relationship with God. The **Advent Course** is just such an opportunity. If we are serious about wanting our churches to thrive, we need first of all deepen our relationship with God and with each other. That is demanding, it takes time and energy both of which in our modern busy lives can be in short supply. Is a thriving church family a priority for you? If so, perhaps the first step is sign up for the Advent course (if you haven't already!). If you don't have access to the internet, you can dial into the group.

Reverend Paula

Our Advent Course started last week, led by Canon Margaret, and newcomers are still welcome to join in, every Thurs at 19:30 via Zoom. Email Rev Paula for the link.

Magazine deadline Sun 6 Dec.

All Hallows is closed on Sat 12 Dec.

We collect presents for children in need at the Sun 13 Dec services. Please donate new, unwrapped toys for under 5s. If you are unable to get to church, tell our clergy or the Benefice Office, and we will arrange collection.

Bethlehem Mass 24 Dec 20:00, All Hallows – if you would like to attend, please sign up on the sheet in church, so we can arrange seating following the safety measures.

All Hallows' Christmas Quiz is available now from Bob and Margaret Addie or from the church, when open, for £1, with cash prizes. Closing date 6 Jan 2021.

To add a notice, contact Agnes at the Benefice Office.

DIARY

Sun 6 Dec

Advent 2

8:00	All Saints	Eucharist
9:15	All Saints	Eucharist
11:15	All Hallows	Eucharist
18:00	via Zoom	Compline

Tue 8 Dec

8:30	via Zoom	Morning prayer
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Wed 9 Dec

9:00	All Saints	AS School Christingle
12:15	All Hallows	Midweek Eucharist
17:30	via Zoom	Evening prayer
19:00	All Saints	Choir practice

Thurs 10 Dec

8:30	via Zoom	Morning prayer
10:00	All Saints	Holy Communion
19:30	via Zoom	Advent Course

Sat 12 Dec

all day	All Hallows closed	
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Sun 13 Dec

Advent 3

8:00	All Saints	Eucharist
9:15	All Saints	Eucharist
11:15	All Hallows	Eucharist with baptism
18:00	via Zoom	Compline

Please take this folio with you

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