



Holy Communion with Baptism

Third Sunday of Advent

13 December 2020

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.*

***Remain in the seat** the steward directed you to upon your arrival. At the distribution of communion please wait in your seat until the steward directs you to go forward.*

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

At the end of our worship 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. 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*Personal **photographs you take in our church**, with children other than your own in them, are not to be published on social media sites (Instagram, Facebook etc.)*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 grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all,

All and also with you.

Words of welcome or introduction may be said.

Our Lord Jesus Christ has told us
that to enter the kingdom of heaven
we must be born again of water and the Spirit,
and has given us baptism as the sign and seal of this new birth.

Here we are washed by the Holy Spirit and made clean.
Here we are clothed with Christ,
dying to sin that we may live his risen life.

As children of God, we have a new dignity,
and God calls us to fullness of life.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT RING

God our Father,
you gave to Zechariah and Elisabeth in their old age a son called John.
He grew up strong in spirit,
prepared the people for the coming of the Lord,
and baptised them in the Jordan to wash away their sins.

Help us who have been baptised into Christ
to be ready to welcome him into our hearts,
and to grow strong in faith by the power of the Spirit.
We ask this through Jesus Christ,
the light who is coming into the world.

All **Amen.**

All **Lord Jesus, light of the world,
John told the people to prepare, for you were very near.
As Christmas grows closer day by day,
help us to be ready to welcome you now. Amen.**

COLLECT

Heavenly Father,
by the power of your Holy Spirit
you give to your faithful people new life in the water of baptism.
Guide and strengthen us by the same Spirit,
that we who are born again may serve you in faith and love,
and grow into the full stature of your Son Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

READING Isaiah 61.1-4,8-11

The servant of the Lord said:

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the broken-hearted, to

proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the LORD's favour, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion – to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.

They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, to display his glory. They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations.

For I the LORD love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed. I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

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 John 1.6-8,19-28

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 John.

All Glory to you, O Lord.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, 'I am not the Messiah.' And they asked him, 'What then? Are you Elijah?'

He said, 'I am not.' 'Are you the prophet?' He answered, 'No.' Then they said to him, 'Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?' He said, 'I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, "Make straight the way of the Lord"', as the prophet Isaiah said.

Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, 'Why then are you baptising if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?' John answered them, 'I baptise with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal.' This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptising.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

After the Sermon silence may be kept.

PRESENTATION OF THE BAPTISM CANDIDATE

The candidate to be baptised is invited to join the minister who addresses the whole congregation.

Faith is the gift of God to his people.

In baptism the Lord is adding to our number those whom he is calling.

We thank God for *Richard* who has come to be baptised today.

Christ loves him and welcomes him into his Church.

So I ask you all:

Will you support *Richard* as he begins his journey of faith?

All We will.

Will you help him to live and grow within God's family?

All We will.

THE DECISION

The minister says to the candidate:

We all wander far from God and lose our way.

Christ comes to find us and welcomes us home.

In baptism we respond to his call.

Therefore I ask you:

Do you turn away from sin?

The candidate replies:

I do.

Do you reject evil?

I do.

Do you turn to Christ as saviour?

I do.

Do you trust in him as Lord?

I do.

SIGNING WITH THE CROSS

The minister makes the sign of the cross using the oil of Chrism on the forehead of the candidate saying:

Richard Charles Thompson,

Christ claims you for his own. Receive the sign of his cross.

Do not be ashamed of Christ crucified. You are his forever.

**All Stand bravely with him against all powers of evil,
and remain faithful to Christ to the end of your life.**

May almighty God deliver you from the powers of darkness,
restore in you the image of his glory,
and lead you in the light and obedience of Christ.

All Amen.

PRAYER OVER THE WATER

The minister and the candidate gather at the font.

We praise you, loving Father,

for the gift of the your Son Jesus.

He was baptised in the River Jordan,

where your Spirit came upon him and revealed him as the Son you love.

He sent his followers to baptise all who turn to him.

Now, Father, we ask you to bless this water,

that those who are baptised in it may be cleansed in the water of life,

and, filled with your Spirit,

may know that they are loved as your children,

safe in Christ for ever.

All Amen.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Let us affirm,
together with *Richard* who is being baptised,
our common faith in Jesus Christ.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,
source of all being and life, the one for whom we exist?

All I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,
who took our human nature, died for us and rose again?

All I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,
who gives life to the people of God
and makes Christ known in the world?

All I believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

All This is our faith.

We believe and trust in one God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

BAPTISM

The minister pours water on the candidate, saying:

Richard Charles,
I baptise you in the name of the Father,
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All Amen.

WELCOME AND PEACE

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism.
By one Spirit we are all baptised into one body.

**All We welcome you into the fellowship of faith;
we are children of the same heavenly Father;
we welcome you.**

We are all one in Christ Jesus.
We belong to him through faith,
heirs of the promise of the Spirit of peace.

**All The peace of the Lord be always with you,
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.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you
All and also with you.

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

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

It is right to praise you, Father, Lord of all creation;
in your love you made us for yourself.
When we turned away you did not reject us,
but came to meet us in your Son.
**All You embraced us as your children
and welcomed us to sit and eat with you.**

In Christ you shared our life
that we might live in him and he in us.
**All He opened his arms of love upon the cross
and made for all the perfect sacrifice for sin.**

On the night he was betrayed,
at supper with his friends
he took bread, and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to them, saying:

Take, eat;
this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.
**All Father, we do this in remembrance of him:
his body is the bread of life.**

At the end of supper,
taking the cup of wine,
he gave you thanks, and said:

Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins;
do this in remembrance of me.

All **Father, we do this in remembrance of him:
his blood is shed for all.**

As we proclaim his death
and celebrate his rising in glory,
send your Holy Spirit
that this bread and this wine
may be to us the body and blood of your dear Son.

All **As we eat and drink these holy gifts
make us one in Christ, our risen Lord.**

With your whole Church throughout the world
we offer you this sacrifice of praise
and lift our voice to join the eternal song of heaven.

All **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory,
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord,
Hosanna in the highest.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray.

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.**

[or] **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.**

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

God's holy gifts for God's holy people.

All **Jesus Christ is holy, Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

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

Eternal God, our beginning and our end,
preserve in your people the new life of baptism;
as Christ receives us on earth,
so may he guide us through the trials of this world,
and enfold us in the joy of heaven,
where you live and reign, one God for ever and ever.

All **Faithful God,
in baptism you have adopted us as your children,
made us members of the body of Christ
and chosen us as inheritors of your kingdom:
we thank you that in this Eucharist
you renew your promises within us;
empower us by your Spirit to witness and to serve,
and send us out as disciples of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

NOTICES

GIVING OF A LIGHTED CANDLE

The newly baptised is asked to come to the front. Remain standing as the minister blesses the congregation and gives the baptised a candle lit from the Paschal (Easter) candle, saying:

God has delivered us from the dominion of darkness
and has given us a place with the saints in light.

Richard, you have received the light of Christ;
walk in this light all the days of your life.

**All Shine as a light in the world
to the glory of God the Father**

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

God, who in his Christ gives us
a spring of water welling up to eternal life,
perfect in you the image of his glory;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you, and remain with you always.

All Amen.

Go in the light and peace of Christ.

All Thanks be to God.

The ministers and people depart.

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 Falkland Islands (Extra-Provincial to Canterbury), The Rt Revd Timothy Thornton, Bishop to the Forces and Bishop to the Falkland Islands; The Porvoo Churches – Southwell and Nottingham, Borg.

Those baptised today Richard Charles Thompson.

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 Phyllis Russell, Gladys Walker, Edwin Steele, Horace Martin, Jonathan Harris, Lily Patrick, Winifred (Pat) Worley, Sheila Harrison, John Parkin, Geoffrey Manning, James Reginald Boulden, Molly Celia (Hilda) Lovell, Mabel Howard Freeman, Margarete Ellen Mason, Sydney Frank Woodhamsm, Anne-Marie Charlton, Mary Morgan, Mavis Marion Charlton, Rex Line, Marjorie Steele, Shiela Kingston, Anthony Michael Buckmaster, Gustav Petrikat, Michael Alan Houghton, Betty Irene Oram, Alice Jane Waite, Lily Pike.

NOTICES

Do you shop online? The Diocese has partnered with an online fundraiser, and we are now registered with it:

www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/allsaintschurchwellingborough

www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/allhallowschurchwellingborough

When you sign up on the above sites as a supporter, 4400 shops (including the big names like Amazon, Argos etc.) will donate for free every time you shop with them online. Any questions, please let Chris Haynes know.

Join our Advent Course, led by Canon Margaret, on Thurs at 19:30 via Zoom. Email Rev Paula for the link.

Our Nine Lesson & Carols will be available on YouTube from 20 Dec 18:00.

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.

Family Nativity Service via Zoom Christmas Eve Thurs 24 Dec 16:00. Why not join the Zoom dressed as your favourite nativity character? For the link email us at officeallsaints@btinternet.com.

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

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 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 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

DIARY

Tue 15 Dec

8:30	via Zoom	Morning prayer
10:30-14:00	All Hallows	open to visitors

Wed 16 Dec

10:30-14:00	All Hallows	open to visitors
12:15	All Hallows	Midweek Eucharist
17:30	via Zoom	Evening prayer
19:00	All Saints	Choir practice

Thurs 17 Dec

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

Sat 19 Dec

10:30-14:00	All Hallows	open to visitors
-------------	-------------	------------------

Sun 20 Dec

Advent 4

8:00	All Saints	Eucharist
9:15	All Saints	Eucharist
11:15	All Hallows	Eucharist
18:00	Youtube	Nine Lessons & Carols

Copyright acknowledgement (where not already indicated)

Some material included in this service is copyright: © 1989 National Council of the Churches of Christ, USA

Some material included in this service is copyright: © The Archbishops' Councils 2000, 2002, 2004