



## Holy Communion

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*Personal **photographs you take in our church**, with children other than your own in them, are not to be published on social media sites (Instagram, Facebook etc.)*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

God for whom we watch and wait,  
you sent John the Baptist  
to prepare the way of your Son:  
give us courage to speak the truth,  
to hunger for justice,  
and to suffer for the cause of right,  
with Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All Amen.**

## **READING 1 Thessalonians 5.16-24**

My brothers and sisters, rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil.

May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

*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.*

## **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 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.**

## **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.**

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

He is the one foretold by all the prophets,  
whom the Virgin Mother bore with love beyond all telling.  
John the Baptist was his herald  
and made him known when at last he came.

In his love Christ fills us with joy  
as we prepare to celebrate his birth,  
so that when he comes again he may find us watching in prayer,  
our hearts filled with wonder and praise.

And so, with angels and archangels,  
and with all the company of heaven,  
we proclaim your glory,  
and join in their unending hymn of praise:

**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.

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**

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

We give you thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts;  
kindle in us the fire of your Spirit  
that when your Christ comes again  
we may shine as lights before his face;  
who is alive and reigns now and for ever.

**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.*

*Copyright acknowledgement (where not already indicated)*

*Invitation to Confession (1st Sun. of Advent to Christmas Eve) © 1988 Continuum (Mowbray) (Adapted)*

*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' Council 2000*

*Some material included in this service is copyright: © The Archbishops' Council 2002*

*Collect (3rd of Advent, Additional) © The Archbishops' Council 2004*

*Blessing (1st Sun. of Advent until Christmas Eve) © The Crown/Cambridge University Press: The Book of  
Common Prayer (1662)*

*Post Communion (3rd of Advent) © Westcott House, Cambridge*

## **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.

*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 Woodhams, 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](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/allsaintschurchwellingborough)

[www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/allhallowschurchwellingborough](http://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.

**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](mailto:officeallsaints@btinternet.com).

**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 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 15, 16 & 19 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*

## 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

**Please take this folio with you**

### All Saints and All Hallows, Wellingborough

phone: 01933 278484

email: [officeallsaints@btinternet.com](mailto:officeallsaints@btinternet.com)

[officeallhallows@btinternet.com](mailto:officeallhallows@btinternet.com)

website: [allhallowsandallsaintswellingborough.co.uk](http://allhallowsandallsaintswellingborough.co.uk)