

Holy Communion

Second Sunday of Advent 5 December 2021

A warm welcome to our worship this morning. Whether a regular or a visitor it is good to have you here. At All Hallows we continue to take precautions to keep everyone as safe as possible as we worship, the details of these are below. We hope that you find peace and spiritual refreshment this morning as we journey through the season of Advent.

We continue to observe **social distancing rules** in our church during worship.

We encourage you to use the **hand sanitiser** stations when you arrive, before and after communion, and when you leave. Please wear a **face mask** when you are moving around the church. You may remove your mask whilst sitting in your pew, and for a brief period when receiving communion. We continue to take **communion** in one kind only.

Please take this service sheet home with you. Tea and coffee will be served after the service from the back of church. A one way system will be in place, we would ask that you get your drink and sit in a pew to chat to avoid crowding at the coffee station.

Personal photographs you take in our church, with children other than your own in them, are not to be published on social media sites (Instagram, Facebook etc.)

We stand as the bell sounds to mark the beginning of our worship. The minister(s) and Child Bishop process into the church.

WELCOME

We remain standing as the minister welcomes us to the service.

HYMN

- In Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry announces that the Lord is nigh; awake and hearken, for he brings glad tidings from the King of kings.
- Then cleansed be every breast from sin; make straight the way for God within; prepare we in our hearts a home, where such a mighty guest may come.

- For thou art our salvation, Lord, our refuge and our great reward; without thy grace we waste away, like flowers that wither and decay.
- To heal the sick stretch out thine hand, and bid the fallen sinner stand; shine forth, and let thy light restore earth's own true loveliness once more.
- All praise, eternal Son, to thee whose advent sets thy people free, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost for evermore.

Jordanis oras praevia, Charles Coffin (1676–1749) tr. John Chandler (1806–1876)

GREETING

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

The Lord be with you, and also with you.

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

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.

God, be gracious to us and bless us, and make your face shine upon us: Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

May your ways be known on the earth, your saving power among the nations: Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

You, Lord, have made known your salvation, and reveal your justice in the sight of the nations. Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

May the God of love and power forgive you and free you from your sins, help and strengthen you by his Spirit and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

COLLECT

The president introduces a period of silent prayer with the words 'Let us pray' or a more specific bidding. 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.

Amen.

FIRST READING Malachi 3.1-4

Thus says the Lord God:

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight – indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness.

Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Silence may be kept.

PSALM Luke 1.68-79 (Benedictus)

- 1 Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel, who has come to his people and set them free.
- 2 He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour, born of the house of his servant David.
- Through his holy prophets God promised of old to save us from our enemies, from the hands of all that hate us,
- 4 To show mercy to our ancestors, and to remember his holy covenant.
- This was the oath God sworeto our father Abraham:to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
- Free to worship him without fear, holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.
- 7 And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,
- To give his people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of all their sins.
- 9 In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
- To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

HYMN

- Hark the glad sound! the Saviour comes,
 the Saviour promised long:
 let every heart prepare a throne,
 and every voice a song.
- 2 He comes, the prisoners to release in Satan's bondage held; the gates of brass before him burst, the iron fetters yield.
- 3 He comes, the broken heart to bind, the bleeding soul to cure, and with the treasures of his grace to enrich the humble poor.
- 4 Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace, thy welcome shall proclaim; and heaven's eternal arches ring with thy belovèd name.

Philip Doddridge (1702–1751) based on Luke 4.18-19

SECOND READING Philippians 1.3-11

My brothers and sisters, I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ.

It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defence and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus.

And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

At the end the reader may say:

This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Silence may be kept.

GOSPEL READING Luke 3.1-6



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

Repeat the Alleluia.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke. Glory to you, O Lord.

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,

'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

After the Sermon silence may be kept.

CREED

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

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,

God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. 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. Lord, graciously hear us.

And at the end:

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

Silence is kept.

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.

Amen

LIGHTING THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE - PROPHETS

Child Bishop Jesus said,

'Do not think that I have come to abolish the law and the prophets: I have not come to abolish them but to fulfil them.'

Amen. Come soon, Lord Jesus!

The second candle is lit.

Child Bishop Jesus is the light of the world.

A light no darkness can ever put out.

We sing together:

Prophet voices loudly crying, making pathways clear; glimpsing glory, self-denying, calling all to hear. Through their message - challenged, shaken hearts awaken: God is near!

Mark Earey © 2002 Mark Earey

PEACE

CL:LLD:L

Child Bishop 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, and also with you.

HYMN

1 Brother, sister, let me serve you, let me be as Christ to you; pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too.

- We are pilgrims on a journey, and companions on the road, we are here to help each other walk the mile and bear the load.
- I will hold the Christ-light for you in the night-time of your fear;
 I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.
- I will weep when you are weeping; when you laugh, I'll laugh with you; I will share your joy and sorrow till we've seen this journey through.
- 5 When we sing to God in heaven, we shall find such harmony, born of all we've known together of Christ's love and agony.
- 6 Brother, sister, let me serve you, let me be as Christ to you; pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too.

Richard A. M. Gillard (b. 1953)

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PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

As this bread was scattered and then gathered and made one, so may your Church be gathered into your Kingdom.

Glory to you, O God, for ever.

Wisdom has built her a house; she has mixed her wine; she has set her table. Glory to you, O God, for ever.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

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 singing:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness; grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit, and according to your holy will, these gifts of bread and wine may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

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.

Great is the mystery of faith: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross, his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world; rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming in glory, we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, we bring before you this bread and this cup and we thank you for counting us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people and gather into one in your kingdom all who share this one bread and one cup, so that we, in the company of [N and] all the saints, may praise and glorify you for ever, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

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

The president breaks the consecrated bread.

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ. Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

GIVING OF COMMUNION

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Blessed are those who are called to his supper. Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word, and I shall be healed.

Please wait to be directed forward to receive communion.

ANTHEM People Look East (traditional Basque carol)

HYMN

- 1 'Come to me', says Jesus, 'all who are distressed; take my yoke upon you, I will give you rest.
- I am meek and humble, find, with me, release from false airs and graces; come, and be at peace.'
- 3 Hear the call of Jesus, come, be deeply blessed; his the invitation, you the honoured guest.

- 4 Here, where bread is broken, here, where wine is poured, thankfully receive him, find your faith restored.
- 5 Pardon, feed and heal us, humble, courteous Lord, gracious host, for ever honoured and adored.

Alan Gaunt (b. 1935) Words: © 1997, Stainer & Bell Ltd, London, England. Used by permission.

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.

Amen.

Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice.

Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.

NOTICES

HYMN

Hills of the North, rejoice, river and mountain-spring, hark to the advent voice : valley and lowland, sing. Christ comes in righteousness and love, he brings salvation from above.

- 2 Isles of the Southern seas, sing to the listening earth, carry on every breeze hope of a world's new birth:
 In Christ shall all be made anew, his word is sure, his promise true.
 - 3 Lands of the East, arise, he is your brightest morn, greet him with joyous eyes, praise shall his path adorn: your seers have longed to know their Lord; to you he comes, the final word.
 - 4 Shores of the utmost West, lands of the setting sun, welcome the heavenly guest in whom the dawn has come: he brings a never-ending light who triumphed o'er our darkest night.
 - 5 Shout, as you journey home, songs be in every mouth, lo, from the North they come, from East and West and South: in Jesus all shall find their rest, in him the universe be blest.

Editors of English Praise, 1975 based on Charles Ernest Oakley (1832–1865)

BLESSING

Child Bishop Our Lord says, 'I am coming soon.'

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

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

The people and ministers depart.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY Leonn Boellmann: Minuet from "Suite Gothique"

OUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR

Those who suffer in body, mind or spirit, among them Richard H, Tim C, Kay G, Veronica D, Fred R, Jonathan, Diane J, Fr Stephen S, Ron W, Wendy S, Julie V, Margaret C, Kath T.

The housebound and those in residential homes: Diana B, Cedric G.

If you would like to add a name to our prayer list, please obtain the consent of the person you wish us to pray for. Then tell Rev Christine whom to pray for and the reason why.

REMEMBER THE DEPARTED

Those whose anniversaries fell on this past week: Alison Clark, Frank Pierce, Alan Frank Knight, Dora Foskitt, Walter George Swain, Hilda Grace Marriot, Phyllis Ward, Derreck Pierce, James William Eades, Arthur Toyer, Bill Clayson, Anthony Hayers, Margaret Cooke, Jean Lofts, Frank Sadler, Jack Lawrence, Margaret Ellison, Peter Barrett, Jason Slate.

Those who died recently, among them Gurdeep Kasba. We pray for those who mourn.

NOTICES

Christmas Market organised by the town council Sat 11 Dec 10:00-15:00. It will end with the Town Carol Service outside All Hallows Church with free refreshments. Please do come along and support this event.

Our Advent Course - The Art of Advent has started via Zoom (Thursdays 19:00), but newcomers are still welcome to join. Please let Agnes know if you would like the Zoom link which will be sent out on Wednesdays.

Our nativity play is being held on line via Zoom on 24 Dec at 16:00. This is open to all, please do come along and support our children who will be taking part. Please contact Agnes and let her know you would like the link.

Please support All Saints' little shop in the library corner of the church each Sunday, with items for sale and a chance to win valuable prizes on our Lucky Numbers board.

The Children's Society boxholders please bring their boxes to All Saints for the annual opening, and leave them at the back of church or give them to the wardens. If you prefer, Lynne Burton can collect it from your home, please contact her on 01933 677093 to arrange a suitable time.

Magazine deadline: today. Please send your articles to Stephen (sfo@mypiano.com)

DIARY

Tues 7 Dec	Ambrose	
8:30 - 9:00	Zoom	Morning Prayer
10:30 - 11:30	All Hallows	Funeral
13:30 - 14:30	All Saints	School visit
Wed 8 Dec	Conception	
10:30 - 12:15	All Hallows	open to the public
12:15 - 13:00	All Hallows	Midweek Eucharist
17:30 - 18:00	Zoom	Evening Prayer
Thurs 9 Dec		
8:30 - 9:00	Zoom	Morning Prayer
10:00 - 10:30	All Saints	Holy Communion
19:30 - 20:30	Zoom	Advent Course
Fri 10 Dec		
19:00 - 20:00	All Hallows	choir practice
19:30 - 20:00	All Saints	choir practice
Sat 11 Dec		
10:30 - 12:30	All Hallows	open to the public
15:00 - 16:00	All Hallows	outside - Town Carol Service
Sun 12 Dec	Advent 3	
9:15 - 10:30	All Saints	Eucharist
11:15 - 12:30	All Hallows	Eucharist
18:00 - 18:30	Zoom	Compline

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