



Holy Communion

Second Sunday of Advent
4 December 2022

A warm welcome to our worship this morning. Whether a regular or a visitor, it is good to have you here.

Personal photographs you take in our church, with children other than your own in them, are not to be published on social media sites (Instagram, Facebook etc.)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. As we sing our first hymn the altar party and choir process into church.

HYMN

- 1 On 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.
- 2 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.
- 3 For thou art our salvation, Lord,
our refuge and our great reward;
without thy grace we waste away,
like flowers that wither and decay.
- 4 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.
- 5 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) translated by John Chandler (1806-1876)

GREETING

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

All Amen.

Minister The Lord be with you,

All and also with you.

Words of welcome may be said.

LIGHTING THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE – THE PROPHETS

Minister 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.'

All Amen. Come soon, Lord Jesus!

The second candle is lit.

Minister 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.

Choir/All 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

CONFESSION

Deacon 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.

Minister Turn to us again, O God our Saviour,
and let your anger cease from us:
Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

Minister Show us your mercy, O Lord,
and grant us your salvation:
Christ, have mercy.

All Christ, have mercy.

Minister Your salvation is near for those that fear you,
that glory may dwell in our land:
Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

ABSOLUTION

Minister May the God of all healing and forgiveness
draw you to himself,
that you may behold the glory of his Son,
the Word made flesh,
and be cleansed from all your sins
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All 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.

All Amen.

FIRST READING Isaiah 11.1-10

A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth

with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.

On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Silence may be kept.

SECOND READING Romans 15.4-13

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy.

As it is written,

'Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name';

and again he says,

'Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people';

and again,

'Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him';

and again Isaiah says,

'The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope.'

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Silence may be kept.

HYMN

- 1 The Lord will come and not be slow,
his footsteps cannot err;
before him righteousness shall go,
his royal harbinger.
- 2 Truth from the earth, like to a flower,
shall bud and blossom then;
and justice, from her heavenly bower,
look down on mortals all.
- 3 Rise, God, judge thou the earth in might,
this wicked earth redress;
for thou art he who shalt by right
the nations all possess.
- 4 The nations all whom thou hast made
shall come, and all shall frame
to bow them low before thee, Lord,
and glorify thy name.
- 5 For great thou art, and wonders great
by thy strong hand are done:
thou in thy everlasting seat
remainest God alone.

John Milton, the elder (c.1563–1647) based on verses from Psalms 82, 85, 86

GOSPEL READING Matthew 3.1-12

Choir/All Alleluia!

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

Choir/All Alleluia!

Deacon Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

All Glory to you, O Lord.

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.' This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
"Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight."'

Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing-floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

After the Sermon silence may be kept.

CREED

Minister 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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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

This response may be included:

Lord, in your mercy,
All hear our prayer.

And at the end:

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

Silence is kept.

Minister 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.

PEACE

Minister In the tender mercy of our God,
the dayspring from on high shall break upon us,
to give light to those who dwell in darkness
and in the shadow of death
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

cf Luke 1.78,79

The peace of the Lord be with you.
All And also with you.

PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

HYMN

1 The kingdom of God is justice and joy,
for Jesus restores what sin would destroy;
God's power and glory in Jesus we know,
and here and hereafter the kingdom shall grow.

- 2 The kingdom of God is mercy and grace,
the captives are freed, the sinners find place,
the outcast are welcomed God's banquet to share,
and hope is awakened instead of despair.
- 3 The kingdom of God is challenge and choice,
believe the good news, repent and rejoice!
His love for us sinners brought Christ to his cross,
our crisis of judgement for gain or for loss.
- 4 God's kingdom is come, the gift and the goal,
in Jesus begun, in heaven made whole;
the heirs of the kingdom shall answer his call,
and all things cry 'Glory!' to God all in all.

Bryn Rees (1911–1983) Words: © Alexander Scott

TABLE PRAYER

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

All Glory to you, O God, for ever.

Minister Wisdom has built her a house;
she has mixed her wine; she has set her table.

All Glory to you, O God, for ever.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

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

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

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

Minister 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 signing:

**Choir/All 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.**

Minister We praise and bless you, loving Father,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;
and as we obey his command,
send your Holy Spirit,
that broken bread and wine outpoured
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died
he had supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he praised you.
He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:

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

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:

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.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice
made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,
we proclaim his death and resurrection
until he comes in glory.

Deacon Great is the mystery of faith.

**Choir/All Christ has died; Christ is risen;
Christ will come again.**

Minister Lord of all life,
help us to work together for that day
when your kingdom comes
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people,
gather us in your loving arms
and bring us with [*N and*] all the saints
to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,
for ever and ever.

All Amen.

Silence may be kept.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

**All 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.

Minister 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.**

Choir/All **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

Minister Jesus is the Lamb of God
who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

All **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.

MOTET The Angel Gabriel (traditional Advent carol)

The Angel Gabriel from heaven came,
His wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame;
'All hail' said he, 'thou lowly maiden Mary,
Most highly favoured lady', Gloria!

For now a blessed Mother thou shalt be,
All generations laud and honour thee,
Thy Son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold.
Most highly favoured lady, Gloria!

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head,
'To me be as it pleaseth God', she said,
My soul shall laud and magnify his holy Name',
Most highly favoured lady', Gloria!

Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ was born
in Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn,
And Christian folk throughout the world will ever say
'Most highly favoured lady', Gloria!

HYMN

- 1 Come, thou long-expected Jesus,
 born to set thy people free;
 from our fears and sins release us;
 let us find our rest in thee.
- 2 Israel's strength and consolation,
 hope of all the earth thou art;
 dear desire of every nation,
 joy of every longing heart.
- 3 Born thy people to deliver;
 born a child and yet a king;
 born to reign in us for ever;
 now thy gracious kingdom bring.
- 4 By thy own eternal Spirit,
 rule in all our hearts alone:
 by thy all-sufficient merit,
 raise us to thy glorious throne.

Charles Wesley (1707–1788)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Minister 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 **Father of all, we give you thanks and praise,
 that when we were still far off
 you met us in your Son and brought us home.
 Dying and living, he declared your love,
 gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.
 May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;
 we who drink his cup bring life to others;
 we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.
 Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,
 so we and all your children shall be free,**

and the whole earth live to praise your name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

NOTICES

HYMN

1 Long ago, prophets knew
Christ would come, born a Jew,
come to make all things new;
bear his people's burden,
freely love and pardon.

Chorus *Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring!*
sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!
When he comes, when he comes,
who will make him welcome?

2 God in time, God in man,
this is God's timeless plan:
he will come, as a man,
born himself of woman,
God divinely human.

3 Mary, hail! Though afraid,
she believed, she obeyed.
In her womb, God is laid:
till the time expected,
nurtured and protected,

4 Journey ends! Where afar
Bethlem shines, like a star,
stable door stands ajar.
Unborn Son of Mary,
Saviour, do not tarry!

Chorus *Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring!*
sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!
Jesus comes! Jesus comes!
We will make him welcome!

Fred Pratt Green (1903–2000)

Words: © 1971, Stainer & Bell Ltd, London, England. Used by permission

BLESSING

Minister 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.

DISMISSAL

Deacon Our Lord says, 'I am coming soon.'

All Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

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

All Amen.

The people and ministers depart.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY J. S. Bach: Prelude & Fugue in D minor

Copyright acknowledgement (where not already indicated above):

setting: St Thomas' Mass

*Post Communion (2nd of Advent) © 1980, 1986 Mowbray, a Cassell Imprint: Prayers for the Alternative Services
comp. David Silk*

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

Absolution (Epiphany) © Right Revd Kenneth Stevenson, 1989

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

Collect (2nd of Advent, Additional) © The Archbishops' Council 2004

Kyrie Confession (Advent) © The Archbishops' Council 2005

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

Where otherwise not stated, hymns are reproduced from Ancient & Modern Electronic Words Edition

OUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR

Those who suffer in **body, mind or spirit**, among them Richard H, Kay G, Jonathan,, Kath T, June M, Jenny A, Andrew E, Hilly S, Hannah and family.

The housebound and those in residential homes: Shirley C, Diana B.

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 Pat Thomas whom to pray for and the reason why.

REMEMBER THE DEPARTED

Those who have died recently among them Ron Woodbridge and Gwendoline Hustwait

Those whose anniversaries fell on this past week: Winifred Mary Cooper, Isabel Galilee, Alison Clark, Frank Pierce, Alan Frank Knight, Dora Foskitt, Walter George Swain, Hilda Grace Marriot, Phyllis Ward, Derreck Pierce, James William Eades, Constance Bailey, Edith Blaber, Robert Jeffery Odell, Mary Parkin, May Wallis, Iris Robins, Eileen Falkner, David Innis, Terrance Daniel Smith, Arthur Toyer, Bill Clayson, Anthony Hayers, Margaret Cooke.

NOTICES

Festival of Carols Tuesday 20 December 19:30, All Hallows.

Advent Course Thursdays 19:00-20:30, via Zoom. You can still join by emailing the Church Office for the link, or find it on our Facebook pages.

Lighting up the darkness – a Wellingborough Interfaith Group Christmas celebration with Christingle, Saturday 10 December 14:00-16:00, Victoria Centre.

Wellingborough Singers' concert Saturday 10 December 17:00, United Reformed Church. Tickets available at the door.

Children's Society box holders please bring your boxes to church for the annual opening. Alternatively ask Lynne Burton (phone: 01933 677093) to collect your box.

All Hallows' Christmas Quiz is now available. Cost £1. Please contact either Bob or Margaret at All Hallows.

Would you like to help with our Christingle and Nativity services? Publicity, stewarding, helping with the service, making Christingles, etc. Please contact Pat Thomas or Angie if you can contribute in any way to spreading the Good News to the young families in our community.

Do you enjoy singing? Join the church choirs for the Carol Service on 20 December - have a word with Tony (07867 554476, TonyE1960@aol.com).

DIARY

Mon 5 Dec

Tues 6 Dec

Nicholas

9:00-9:30

Zoom

Morning Prayer

9:30-12:00

All Hallows' Hall

coffee shop

Wed 7 Dec

Ambrose

9:30-12:00

All Hallows' Hall

coffee shop

10:30-12:30

All Hallows

open to the public

12:15-13:00

All Hallows

Midweek Eucharist

19:00-20:00

All Saints

AS choir practice

Thurs 8 Dec

Conception of BVM

9:00-9:30

Zoom

Morning Prayer

10:00-10:30

All Saints

Holy Communion

19:00-20:00

All Hallows

Handbell practice

Fri 9 Dec

9:30-12:00

All Hallows' Hall

coffee shop

19:00-20:30

All Hallows

AH choir practice

Sat 10 Dec

9:30-12:00

All Hallows' Hall

coffee shop

10:30-12:30

All Hallows

open to the public

14:00-16:00

Victoria Centre

Interfaith Group: Lighting up the darkness

Sun 11 Dec

Advent 3

9:15-10:30

All Saints

Eucharist

11:15-12:30

All Hallows

Eucharist

16:00-17:00

All Saints

Christingle

18:00-19:00

Zoom

Compline

All Saints and All Hallows, Wellingborough

phone: 01933 278484

email: office@allhallowsandallsaintswellingborough.co.uk

website: allhallowsandallsaintswellingborough.co.uk