



Holy Communion

All Hallows Church

Second Sunday before Advent

19 November 2023

A warm welcome to our worship this morning. Whether you are here for the first time or a more regular worshipper, we are delighted to have you with us, and we hope that you will enjoy the service.

All that you need to follow the service from beginning to end is contained in this leaflet. If you would prefer a large print copy, please indicate this to the person who gave you this leaflet. Please join in the responses in bold.

Refreshments are served before the service, feel free to take your drink to your pew for the start of the service.

There is no cash collection taken during the service, however, we welcome donations (large and small!) towards our mission and ever increasing maintenance costs. These can be left in the collection plate or be made using our contactless card machine, both of which can be found near the entrance of the church.

HYMN

1 O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
consider all the works thy hand hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
thy power throughout the universe displayed:

*Chorus Then sings my soul, my Saviour God to thee,
'How great thou art! How great thou art!'
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God to thee,
'How great thou art! How great thou art!'*

2 When through the woods and forest glades I wander
and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur,
and hear the brook, and feel the gentle breeze:

3 And when I think that God, his Son not sparing,
sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,
that on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,
he bled and died to take away my sin:

4 When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
 and take me home — what joy shall fill my heart!
 Then shall I bow in humble adoration
 and there proclaim, 'My God, how great thou art!'

Stuart K. Hine (1899–1989)

Words and Music: © 1953 The Stuart Hine Trust / Kingsway Communications Ltd

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.

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

Deacon Jesus says, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.'
 So let us turn away from sin and turn to Christ,
 confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

All Most merciful God,
 Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
 we confess that we have sinned
 in thought, word and deed.
 We have not loved you with our whole heart.
 We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
 In your mercy
 forgive what we have been,
 help us to amend what we are,

and direct what we shall be;
that we may do justly, love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.

ABSOLUTION

Minister May the Father of all mercies
cleanse you from your sins,
and restore you in his image
to the praise and glory of his name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

GLORIA

All/choir Glory to God in the highest and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Glory to God in the highest and peace to his people on earth.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father;
receive our prayer.

Glory to God in the highest and peace to his people on earth.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.

Glory to God in the highest and peace to his people on earth. 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.

Heavenly Lord,
you long for the world's salvation:
stir us from apathy,
restrain us from excess
and revive in us new hope

that all creation will one day be healed
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

FIRST READING Zephaniah 1.7,12-18

Be silent before the Lord GOD! For the day of the LORD is at hand; the LORD has prepared a sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests. At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people who rest complacently on their dregs, those who say in their hearts, 'The LORD will not do good, nor will he do harm.' Their wealth shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them.

The great day of the LORD is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter, the warrior cries aloud there. That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements.

I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind; because they have sinned against the LORD, their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung. Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the LORD's wrath; in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed; for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

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 1 Thessalonians 5.1-11

Concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, 'There is peace and security,' then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labour pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through

our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

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 Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there is hatred, let me bring your love.
Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord,
and where there's doubt, true faith in you.

*Chorus O Master, grant that I may never seek
so much to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved, as to love with all my soul.*

2 Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope.
Where there is darkness, let me bring your light;
and where there's sadness, ever joy.

3 Make me a channel of your peace.
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
in giving of ourselves that we receive,
and in dying that we're born to eternal life.

*Sebastian Temple (1928–1997) from a prayer attributed to St Francis of Assisi (1182–1226)
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GOSPEL READING Matthew 25.14-30

All/choir Alleluia!

Cantor Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord.
Peace in heaven and glory in the highest heaven.

All/choir Alleluia!

Deacon Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said to his disciples,

'The kingdom of heaven is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.

'After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, "Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents." His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, "Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents." His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master."

Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, "Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours."

'But his master replied, "You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

After the Sermon silence may be kept.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

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 We pray for the coming of God's kingdom.

This response may be included:

All Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

And at the end:

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

Silence is kept.

PEACE

Minister To crown all things there must be love,
to bind all together and complete the whole.
Let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts.

cf Colossians 3.14

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

Deacon Let us share with one another a sign of peace.

PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

HYMN

1 Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,
be all else but naught to me, save that thou art;

be thou my best thought in the day and the night,
both waking and sleeping, thy presence my light.

- 2 Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word,
be thou ever with me, and I with thee, Lord;
be thou my great Father, and I thy true son;
be thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.
- 3 Be thou my breastplate, my sword for the fight;
be thou my whole armour, be thou my true might;
be thou my soul's shelter, be thou my strong tower:
O raise thou me heavenward, great Power of my power.
- 4 Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise:
be thou mine inheritance now and always;
be thou and thou only the first in my heart;
O Sovereign of heaven, my treasure thou art.
- 5 High King of heaven, thou heaven's bright Sun,
O grant me its joys after victory is won;
great Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be thou my vision, O Ruler of all.

*Rop tu mo baile, a Choindiu cride (Irish, 8th century)
translated by Mary Elizabeth Byrne (1880-1931)
versified by Eleanor Henrietta Hull (1860-1935)*

TABLE PRAYER

Minister To you we come, Father of lights,
with angels and saints,
where heaven and earth unite.

May Jesus meet us in the breaking of the bread.

All Amen.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Minister The Lord is here.

All His spirit is with us.

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, our duty and our joy,
that we should always sing of your glory,
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

For you are the hope of the nations,
the builder of the city that is to come.

Your love made visible in Jesus Christ
brings home the lost,
restores the sinner
and gives dignity to the despised.

In his face your light shines out,
flooding lives with goodness and truth,
gathering into one in your kingdom
a divided and broken humanity.

Therefore with all who can give voice in your creation
we glorify your name,
for ever praising you and singing:

**All/choir 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.

**All/choir 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.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Minister 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.

All/choir 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 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.

Please wait to be directed forward to receive communion.

COMMUNION MOTET Philip Wilby: God be in my head

HYMN

- 1 How deep the Father's love for us,
how vast beyond all measure,
that he should give his only Son
to make a wretch his treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss;
the Father turns his face away,
as wounds which mar the chosen One
bring many souls to glory.
- 2 Behold the man upon a cross,
my sin upon his shoulders;
ashamed, I hear my mocking voice
call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held him there,
until it was accomplished;
his dying breath has brought me life —
I know that 'it is finished.'
- 3 I will not boast in anything,
no gifts, no power, no wisdom;
but I will boast in Jesus Christ,
his death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from his reward?
I cannot give an answer;
but this I know with all my heart,
his wounds have paid my ransom.

Stuart Townend (b. 1963)

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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Minister Gracious Lord,
in this holy sacrament
you give substance to our hope:
bring us at the last
to that fullness of life for which we long;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

All **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

- 1 Christ is the one who calls,
the one who loved and came,
to whom by right it falls
to bear the highest name:
and still today
our hearts are stirred
to hear his word
and walk his way.
- 2 Christ is the one who seeks,
to whom our souls are known.
The word of love he speaks
can wake a heart of stone;
for at that sound
the blind can see,
the slave is free,
the lost are found.
- 3 Christ is the one who died
forsaken and betrayed;
who, mocked and crucified,
the price of pardon paid.
Our dying Lord,
what grief and loss,
what bitter cross,
our souls restored!
- 4 Christ is the one who rose
in glory from the grave,
to share his life with those
whom once he died to save.
He drew death's sting
and broke its chains,
who lives and reigns,
our risen King.

5 Christ is the one who sends,
his story to declare;
who calls his servants friends
and gives them news to share.
His truth proclaim
in all the earth,
his matchless worth
and saving name.

*Timothy Dudley-Smith (b. 1926) Words: © Timothy Dudley-Smith in Europe and Africa
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BLESSING

Minister Christ our King make you faithful and strong to do his will,
that you may reign with him 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 Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power,
the glory, the splendour and the majesty;
All for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.

Deacon Yours, Lord, is the kingdom:
All and you are exalted as head over all. Amen.

The people and ministers depart.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY G. F. Handel: Arrival of the Queen of Sheba

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OUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR

Those who suffer in body, mind or spirit, among them Richard Hole, Kay G, Jonathan, Kath Thomas, June Morby, Jenny Attewell, Hilly S, Diana Brown, Graham Earl, Mary Ricketts, John Burton, Don Stevens.

The housebound and those in residential homes: Shirley Cockerill, Susan Poolman.

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 please email Pat Thomas (pat_hotmail.co.uk) with the name of the person to pray for and the reason why.

REMEMBER THE DEPARTED

Those whose anniversaries fell on this past week: June Clark, Stuart Coles, Alan Miles Desborough, Timothy Paul Wilford, Harry Temple, Peter Wyldes, Mary Raitt, James Flynn, Lily Patrick, Reg Owen, Terry Rainbow.

Those who died recently, among them Colin Mason. His funeral is held on Thursday 23 November at 13:15 at All Hallows. We pray for those who mourn.

NOTICES

Youth Group today 16:30, All Hallows' Hall.

All Saints' Christmas Quiz sheets are on sale. See Caroline or Pat for your copy.

Would you like to try your hand at handbell ringing? No musical knowledge is needed, just the ability to read numbers from 1 to 15. No pressure, no public performances. Sessions at All Hallows on Thursdays at 15:00. For more info see Caroline.

DIARY

Mon 20 Nov

King Edmund

9:15-11:00	All Hallows' Hall	Little Acorns pre-school group
19:00-21:00	Zoom	All Hallows' PCC meeting

Tues 21 Nov

9:00-9:30	Zoom	Morning Prayer
9:30-12:00	All Hallows' Hall	coffee shop

Wed 22 Nov

9:30-12:00	All Hallows' Hall	coffee shop
10:30-12:30	All Hallows	open to the public
12:15-12:45	All Hallows	Midweek Eucharist
19:30-21:30	All Saints, Lady Chapel	All Saints' PCC meeting

Thurs 23 Nov

Clement

9:00-9:30	Zoom	Morning Prayer
10:00-10:30	All Saints	BCP Holy Communion
13:15-14:00	All Hallows	Funeral service for Mr Colin Mason RIP

Fri 24 Nov

9:30-12:00	All Hallows' Hall	coffee shop
18:15-19:45	All Hallows	junior choir practice
19:30-21:00	All Hallows	adult choir practice

Sat 25 Nov

9:30-12:00	All Hallows' Hall	coffee shop
10:30-12:30	All Hallows	open to the public

Sun 26 Nov

Christ the King

9:15-10:15	All Saints	Family Eucharist
11:15-12:15	All Hallows	Eucharist
18:00-18:30	Zoom	Compline

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