



Holy Communion

All Hallows Church

Second Sunday of Advent

10 December 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 Come, thou Redeemer of the earth,
 and manifest thy virgin-birth:
 let every age adoring fall;
 such birth befits the God of all.
- 2 Begotten of no human will,
 but of the Spirit, thou art still
 the Word of God, in flesh arrayed,
 the Saviour, now to us displayed.
- 3 From God the Father he proceeds,
 to God the Father back he speeds,
 runs out his course to death and hell,
 returns on God's high throne to dwell.
- 4 O equal to thy Father, thou!
 Gird on thy fleshly mantle now,
 the weakness of our mortal state
 with deathless might invigorate.

5 Thy cradle here shall glitter bright,
and darkness glow with new-born light,
no more shall night extinguish day,
where love's bright beams their power display.

6 O Jesu, virgin-born, to thee
eternal praise and glory be,
whom with the Father we adore
and Holy Spirit, evermore. Amen.

Veni Redemptor gentium - St Ambrose (c.340–397) translated by John Mason Neale (1818–1866) and others

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.

All /choir 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 40.1-11

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins.

A voice cries out: 'In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.'

A voice says, 'Cry out!' And I said, 'What shall I cry?' All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever.

Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, 'Here is your God!' See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

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 2 Peter 3.8-15a

Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the

heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

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 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

GOSPEL READING Mark 1.1-8

All/choir Alleluia!

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

All/choir Alleluia!

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

All Glory to you, O Lord.

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight"',

John the baptiser appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptised by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, 'The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptised you with water; but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.'

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 always with you.

All **And also with you.**

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

PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

HYMN

1 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)

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 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 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:

**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 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.

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 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.

COMMUNION MOTET C. V. Stanford: Song of Peace

There shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse,
and a branch out of his roots; and the spirit of the Lord is upon him.
The spirit of wisdom, and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge, and of the fear of the Lord;
and He shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing

of his ears: and with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity the meek of the earth; and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked.

And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness of his reins. The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid, and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them.

They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain, for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign unto the people, and his rest shall be glorious.

HYMN

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 Hark, a thrilling voice is sounding;
'Christ is nigh,' it seems to say;
'cast away the dreams of darkness,
O ye children of the day.' | 4 That when next he comes with glory,
and the world is wrapped in fear,
with his mercy he may shield us,
and with words of love draw near. |
| 2 Wakened by the solemn warning,
let the earth-bound soul arise;
Christ, her Sun, all ill dispelling,
shines upon the morning skies. | 5 Honour, glory, might, and blessing
to the Father and the Son,
with the everlasting Spirit,
while eternal ages run. |
| 3 Lo, the Lamb, so long expected,
comes with pardon down from heaven;
let us haste, with tears of sorrow,
one and all to be forgiven; | |

*Edward Caswall (1814–1878) based on Vox clama
ecce intonat, (Latin, 5th or 6th century)*

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 **We thank you, Lord, that you have
fed us in this sacrament, united us with Christ,
and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet
prepared for all peoples. Amen.**

NOTICES

HYMN

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 Now from the heavens descending
is seen a glorious light,
the bride of Christ in splendour,
arrayed in purest white.
She is the holy city,
whose radiance is the grace
of all the saints in glory,
from every time and place. | 3 He who is throned in heaven
takes up his dwelling-place
among his chosen people,
who see him face to face.
No sound is heard of weeping,
for pain and sorrow cease,
and sin shall reign no longer,
but love and joy and peace. |
| 2 This is the hour of gladness
for bridegroom and for bride.
The Lamb's great feast is ready,
his bride is at his side.
How blest are those invited
to share his wedding-feast:
the least become the greatest,
the greatest are the least. | 4 See how a new creation
is brought at last to birth,
a new and glorious heaven,
a new and glorious earth.
Death's power for ever broken,
its empire swept away,
the promised dawn of glory
begins its endless day. |

James Quinn, SJ (1919–2010) Words: © Continuum International Publishing Group Ltd. Permission applied for

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 Peter Baseford: Veni Emmanuel

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, Marion Dent, John Burton.

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: James William Eades, Joan Stephenson, Eddie McHugh, Jose Marsh, Frederick Lee, Alexander Aron Bailey, George Renton Addie, Jack Lawrence, Margaret Ellison, Peter Barrett, Jason Slate, Margaret James, Gwen Timpson, Russell Fletcher, Hope Barbara Lawrence, Bill Raitt, Madge Clayson, Albert Raul Melchor, baby Iona.

The recently departed, among them Doreen James and Richard Llewlyn. The funeral for Mrs Doreen James RIP will be held on Thursday 21 December 2023 at 10:00 at All Saints' Church.

NOTICES

Thursday morning 10am BCP Holy Communion at All Saints has been put on hold over the winter months.

If you would like to help with Christmas flowers in any way, please let Ann Harrison know. We decorate the church on 22 December. Donations towards the cost of the flowers would be much appreciated.

Would you like to try your hand at handbell ringing? Sessions: Thursdays 15:00 All Hallows' Hall. For more info see Caroline.

Christingle today at 16:00 at All Saints. All welcome!

Tea @2 Tuesday 12 December, St Andrew's Hall.

Advent Prayer Stations Saturday 16 December 10:00-16:00, All Hallows.

SERVICES throughout ADVENT and CHRISTMAS

As usual, every Wednesday 12:15 Midweek Eucharist – All Hallows

2nd Sunday of Advent 10 December

9:15 Family Eucharist – All Saints

11:15 Eucharist – All Hallows

16:00 Christingle – All Saints

Saturday 16 December

10:00-16:00 Advent Prayer Stations – All Hallows

3rd Sunday of Advent 17 December

9:15 Family Eucharist – All Saints

11:15 Eucharist – All Hallows

18:00 Compline – Zoom

Thursday 21 December

19:00 Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols – All Saints

Christmas Eve, Sunday 24 December

10:00 Benefice Service – All Hallows

18:00 Nativity – All Saints

23:30 Midnight Mass – All Hallows

Christmas Day, Monday 25 December

8:00 Holy Communion – All Saints

9:15 Eucharist – All Saints

10:00 Eucharist – All Hallows

Sunday 31 December

10:00 Eucharist – All Saints

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WEEKLY DIARY

Mon 11 Dec

9:15-11:00	All Hallows' Hall	Little Acorns pre-school group
16:00-17:00	Zoom	AS Pastoral Team meeting

Tues 12 Dec

9:00-9:30	Zoom	Morning Prayer
9:30-12:00	All Hallows' Hall	coffee shop
9:30-10:30	All Saints	school visit
13:30-14:30	All Saints	school visit
14:00-15:00	St Andrew's Hall	Tea @2

Wed 13 Dec

Lucy

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

Thurs 14 Dec

John of the Cross

9:00-9:30	Zoom	Morning Prayer
16:00-17:00	Zoom	AH Pastoral Team meeting

Fri 15 Dec

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

Sat 16 Dec

9:30-12:00	All Hallows' Hall	coffee shop
10:00-16:00	All Hallows	Advent Prayer Stations

Sun 17 Dec

Third Sunday of Advent

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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