



## Holy Communion

### All Hallows Church

Third Sunday of Advent  
15 December 2024

*A warm welcome to our worship this morning. Whether a regular or a visitor, we are delighted to have you with us, and hope that you will enjoy the service.*

*All you need to **follow the service** is contained in this leaflet. If you would prefer a large print copy, please ask the person who gave you this leaflet. Please join in the responses in bold. Music for the mass setting is available for you on the table by the main door, if you use one please do hand it back at the end of the service.*

***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** 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 at the back of the church. Alternatively you can scan the QR code on the last page.*

## HYMN

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 O come, O come, Emmanuel,<br>and ransom captive Israel,<br>that mourns in lonely exile here,<br>until the Son of God appear:                        | 3 O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer<br>our spirits by thine advent here;<br>disperse the gloomy clouds of night,<br>and death's dark shadows put to flight: |
| <i>Chorus</i><br><i>Rejoice! Rejoice!</i><br><i>Emmanuel shall come to thee,</i><br><i>O Israel.</i>  | 4 O come, thou Key of David, come,<br>and open wide our heavenly home;<br>make safe the way that leads on high,<br>and close the path to misery:                 |
| 2 O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free<br>thine own from Satan's tyranny;<br>from depths of hell thy people save,<br>and give them victory o'er the grave: | 5 O come, O come, thou Lord of Might,<br>who to thy tribes, on Sinai's height,<br>in ancient times didst give the law<br>in cloud and majesty and awe:           |

*John Mason Neale (1818–1866) translated from Latin Advent Antiphons*

## 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 THIRD ADVENT CANDLE – John the Baptist

Minister Jesus said,  
‘No one more important than John the Baptist has ever been born;  
yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.’

**All Amen. Come soon, Lord Jesus!**

*The third candle is lit.*

Minister God our Father,  
you gave to Zechariah and Elizabeth 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/choir Advent candles tell their story as we watch and pray,  
longing for the Day of Glory, ‘Come, Lord, soon,’ we say.  
Pain and sorrow, tears and sadness changed for gladness on that Day.**

**John the Baptist, by his preaching and by water poured,  
brought to those who heard his teaching news of hope restored:  
‘Keep your vision strong and steady, and be ready for the Lord.’**

## 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 by a member of our congregation:*

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.

## FIRST READING Zephaniah 3.14-20

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The LORD has taken away the judgements against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the LORD.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

## SECOND READING Philippians 4.4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

## 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; 5  
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)*

## GOSPEL READING Luke 3.7-18

**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 Luke.

**All Glory to you, O Lord.**

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptised by him, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin 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.' And the crowds asked him, 'What then should we do?' In reply he said to them, 'Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.' Even tax-collectors came to be baptised, and they asked him, 'Teacher, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.' Soldiers also asked him, 'And we, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.' As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptise you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

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.

*A member of the congregation says the intercessions. 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.

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            Hark what a sound, and too divine for hearing,  
              stirs on the earth and trembles in the air!  
              Is it the thunder of the Lord's appearing?  
              Is it the music of his people's prayer?
- 2            Surely he cometh, and a thousand voices  
              shout to the saints, and to the deaf are dumb;  
              surely he cometh, and the earth rejoices,  
              glad in his coming who hath sworn: I come!
- 3            This hath he done, and shall we not adore him?  
              This shall he do, and can we still despair?  
              Come, let us quickly fling ourselves before him,  
              cast at his feet the burden of our care.
- 4            Through life and death, through sorrow and through sinning,  
              he shall suffice me, for he hath sufficed:  
              Christ is the end, for Christ was the beginning,  
              Christ the beginning, for the end is Christ.

*Frederic William Henry Myers (1843-1901)*

### **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.

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/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 John the Baptist 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.*

## HYMN

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1 Ye servants of the Lord,<br>each in his office wait,<br>observant of his heavenly word,<br>and watchful at his gate.             | 4 O happy servant he<br>in such a posture found!<br>he shall his Lord with rapture see,<br>and be with honour crowned.            |
| 2 Let all your lamps be bright,<br>and trim the golden flame;<br>gird up your loins as in his sight,<br>for awful is his name.     | 5 Christ shall the banquet spread<br>with his own royal hand,<br>and raise that faithful servant's head<br>amid the angelic band. |
| 3 Watch!'tis your Lord's command,<br>and while we speak, he's near;<br>mark the first signal of his hand,<br>and ready all appear. |   |

*Philip Doddridge (1702-1751)*

## COMMUNION MOTET People, look east (trad. Basque carol)

People, look East, the time is near of the crowning of the year.  
Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth, and set the table.  
People, look East, and sing today: Love the Guest is on the way.  
Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there:  
Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish.  
People, look East, and sing today: Love the Rose is on the way.  
Stars, keep the watch, when night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim,  
Shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together.  
People, look East, and sing today: Love the Star is on the way.  
Angels announce to man and beast, Him that cometh from the East.  
Set every peak and valley humming with the word, 'The Lord is coming',  
People, look East, and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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

## OUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR

Those who suffer in body, mind or spirit, among them Richard Hole, Susan Adams, Kay G, Rose Thirlwell, Diana Brown, Graham Earl, Carol, Jo Thraves, Glennis Eades, Rita Hawkes.

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

*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 email Pat Thomas (pat\_@hotmail.co.uk) the name of the person to pray for and the reason why.*

## REMEMBER THE DEPARTED

Those whose anniversaries fell on this past week: Frederick Lee, Alexander Aron Bailey, George Renton Addie, Arthur William Lovell, Patricia Wortley, Mary Ann Short, Florence Redden, Geoffrey Manning, James Boulden, Molly Celia Lovell, Mabel Howard Freeman, Margarete Ellen Mason, Sydney Frank Woodhams, Anne-Marie Charlton, Mary Morgan, Mavis Marion Charlton, Rex Line, Bill Raitt, Madge Clayson, Anne Aberdeen, Albert Raul Melchor, Brett Tussler, Phyllis Russell, Trudy Marie Page, Gladys Walker.

## NOTICES

**Advent Course** every Monday until 23 December 19:30, All Saints' Lady Chapel.

**Christingle Service** today 16:00, All Saints.

**Festival Of Nine Lessons And Carols** Sunday 22 December 18:00, All Hallows.

**All Hallows' Christmas Flowers** We will be decorating the church on 23 December. If you would like to help in any way, or give a donation towards the cost of the flowers, it would be much appreciated.

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## DIARY

### Mon 16 Dec

9:15-11:00	All Hallows' Hall	Little Acorns Christmas Party
18:00-19:15	St Mary's Church Hall	4th Cubs
18:15-19:30	All Hallows Hall	Brownies & Rainbows
19:30-21:00	All Saints, Lady Chapel	Advent Course
19:30-21:00	St Mary's Church Hall	4th Scouts

### Tues 17 Dec

9:00-9:30	Zoom	Morning Prayer
9:30-12:00	All Hallows Hall	coffee shop
13:15-15:00	All Saints	school rehearsal

### Wed 18 Dec

9:30-12:00	All Hallows' Hall	coffee shop
10:30-12:15	All Hallows	open to the public
12:15-12:45	All Hallows	Midweek Eucharist
19:00-20:30	All Hallows	Bell ringing
19:00-21:00	All Hallows Hall	Guides

### Thurs 19 Dec

10:00-12:00	All Saints, Lady Chapel	open to the public
13:15-14:30	All Saints	AS School Nativity
18:15-19:30	St Mary's Hall	4 <sup>th</sup> Beavers

### Fri 20 Dec

9:30-12:00	All Hallows' Hall	coffee shop
19:00-20:15	All Hallows	full choir practice

### Sat 21 Dec

9:30-12:00	All Hallows Hall	Coffee shop
10:30-12:30	All Hallows	Open to the public

### Sun 22 Dec 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

9:15-10:15	All Saints	Family Eucharist
11:15-12:15	All Hallows	Eucharist
18:00-19:00	All Hallows	Festival of 9 Lessons & Carols

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