

Advent Worship 2020



A Mosaic of Mary & Joseph in Bethlehem



Church of the Resurrection
and St Barnabas, Eastlands

WELCOME

Welcome to the Church of the Resurrection and St Barnabas online service during the Covid-19 Pandemic. We are glad you've come to join us as, together we worship God.

If you join live streamed service from church at 9.50 am for 10 am start via YouTube channel, you may wish to light a candle and have this order of service at hand.

If you watch the service some other time, you are also encouraged to sit quietly and prepare yourself for worship.

*"The Lord is good, a strong refuge when trouble comes.
God is close to those who trust in him."
Nahum 1:7*

The service is divided into four parts:

The Gathering, in which we come together as God's people, and prepare in penitence and joy to receive Christ in Word and Sacrament;

The Liturgy of the Word, in which we listen to the words of Scripture (culminating in the reading of the Gospel), explore the faith through the sermon and the Creed, and bring our prayers to God;

The Liturgy of the Sacrament, in which bread and wine are blessed in remembrance of Christ's death and resurrection, linking his sacrifice on the cross with our offering of prayer and praise, and transforming the elements of bread and wine into our spiritual food.

The Dismissal, in which we are sent out to be the Body of Christ in the world.

The Gathering

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

All **Amen.**

The Lord be with you

All **and also with you.**

Words of welcome and introduction may be said.

The Liturgy of the Advent Candles

Advent 2 – Peace

Isaiah 40:1-11 & Mark 1:1-8

Reader One:

Our lists are long, even in this strange mess where we live these days. And we want to do it right, we want to be safe, but we want to be able to enjoy the season. We've got work to do to put right what has gone wrong, to heal what is broken, to mend the relationships, and to prepare for the company that will come.

Reader Two:

The prophet Isaiah reminded us that there is work to be done. "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God." When God comes in, then healing is to be found, but we need to make the way; we need to open the door into our lives.

Reader One:

So, we light these candles as a sign of our faith that the God we worship is not far from us and that we can clear the way for that God to come and dwell with us. We light these candles in faith that company is coming.

All **O Come, O Come Emmanuel**

The second Advent candle is lit in silence.

Advent 3 – Love

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11 & John 1:6-8, 19-28

Reader One:

We want everything to look nice: the decorations of the season, our homes with their lights and tinsel, wreaths and ribbons. We want to lighten the darkness around us, bring beauty to the ugliness that wears us down. We decorate, because it is tradition. Because it lifts our hearts. Because it makes us feel like children again. We deck our halls because company is coming.

Reader Two:

The prophet Isaiah smiled when he said, “God will give a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, a mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.” No matter how far we feel from the spirit of the season, God promises to decorate us with love and with joy.

Reader One:

We light these candles as a sign of our joy in the beautiful things of this season –not just the things that glitter and flash, but the deeper things, the beauty of the heart and the soul, the beauty of love shared.

All O Come, O Come Emmanuel

The third Advent candle is lit in silence.

Advent 4 – Joy

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16 & Luke 1:26-38

Reader One:

We live on the brink every day. We stand on the threshold between this world and the next one. We live and move between the ordinary and divine, between the mundane and the mystery. Too often, we forget to look up and see the angels in our living room. We forget that the love we give and live is a sign of eternity, God with us, right now. We forget that company is coming.

Reader Two:

Luke tells us that God's favour came to a girl, an ordinary girl. It might have been you or your daughter; it might have been the girl down the street or your grandchild. But the messenger of God came and greeted her and said, "The Lord is with you." What a gift and a promise: Emmanuel, God is with us.

Reader One:

We light these candles with peace in our hearts for the promise of proximity, the nearness of God. Even when we forget to listen, to lean into that presence, God is as close as our own breath. This, in a confused and confusing world, is a peace that passes all understanding. It is the peace that knows that company is coming.

All O Come, O Come Emmanuel

The fourth Advent candle is lit in silence.

Prayers of Penitence

The deacon invites the people to confess their sins using these words

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.

Lord Jesus, you came to gather the nations
into the peace of your kingdom:
Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

You come in word and sacrament
to strengthen us in holiness:
Christ, have mercy.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

You will come in glory
with salvation for your people:
Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

The president says Absolution

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

All **Amen.**

The Collect

The Collect is said, and all respond **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

At the end, the reader says

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading

The deacon says following or seasonal acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.

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

All **Alleluia.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *N.*

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

At the end

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

The Creed

We believe in one God,

All ***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.*

Prayers of Intercession

Prayers end

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

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

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
All **and also with you.**

The deacon says

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Preparation of the Table and the Offering

During the worship from our homes, you are encouraged to set up direct debits for your giving. Details can be found in our notice sheet. Your giving is very much appreciated and greatly needed. Thank you.

"Excel in this grace of giving" (2 Cor. 8:7)

"It's not how much we give, but how much love we put into giving" (Mother Theresa)

Offertory Prayer

All **Gracious God, accept these gifts,
and with them our lives, to be used in your service;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

The president takes the bread and says

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.

The president takes the wine and says

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

All Glory to you, O God, for ever

The Eucharistic Prayer (Prayer B)

The Lord be with you

All and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give thanks and praise.

(from the First Sunday of Advent until 16 December)

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 saying: *(see below 'Holy, holy, holy Lord')*

(from 17 December until Christmas Eve)

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 **Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

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.

The deacon says

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

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 *St Barnabas* 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

Awaiting his coming in glory, let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

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

Every time we eat this bread and drink this cup
All **we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

The Agnus Dei

Lamb of God,
All **you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

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

Lamb of God, you take away the sin 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.
All **Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

The president lifts the priest wafer and says before receiving the bread

The Body of Christ.

All **Amen.**

The president lifts the wine and says before receiving the wine

The Blood of Christ.

All **Amen.**

You are encouraged to say these words of the Act of Spiritual Communion whilst the Communion is distributed in church.

All **My Jesus,**

I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things,

and desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment

receive You sacramentally,

come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there

and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen.

Prayer after Communion

At the end of the distribution the president says

Let us pray

*The president says the Post Communion prayer from the pew sheet to which all respond **Amen.** Then the following prayer is said*

Almighty God,

All **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.

The Dismissal

Notices

Blessing

The Lord be with you
All **and also with you.**

May God himself, the God of peace,
make you perfect and holy,
and keep you safe and blameless,
in spirit, soul and body,
for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

Sending Out

The deacon says

As we await our coming Saviour,
go in the peace of Christ.

All **Thanks be to God.**