# ALL SAINTS AT 10AM

# **Holy Communion**



Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2023

**The First Sunday of Advent** 





Grace, mercy, and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you and also with you.

## **Welcome and Notices**

# What is Advent?

#### **The Advent Wreath**

We light our first candle on our wreath

Abraham, Sarah, and the Patriarchs of old trusted in God's promise and lived in the light of faith.

God, help us also to trust in you, and to walk in your ways.

## **Hymn:**

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.

Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art; dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart. Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a King, born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.

By thine own eternal spirit rule in all our hearts alone; by thine all sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.

#### **Invitation to Confession**

Christ the Light of the world has come to dispel the darkness of our hearts.

In his light let us examine ourselves and confess our sins.

#### Silence

#### **Confession:**

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:**

The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon and forgiveness of all your sins, time for amendment of life, and the grace and strength of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

#### **Gloria in Excelsis**

Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the highest.

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, Glory to God in the highest.

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, Glory to God in the highest.

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, Glory to God, Glory to God in the highest.

## **Old Testament Reading:**

Isaiah 64: 1-9 A plea for the mercy of the Lord. (pg.705)

This is the word of the Lord, **Thanks be to God.** 

# **New Testament Reading:**

1 Corinthians 1: 3-9. Thanksgiving. (pg. 162)

This is the word of the Lord, **Thanks be to God.** 

# **Gradual Hymn:**

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear.

> Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou rod of Jesse, free thine own from Satan's tyranny; From depths of hell your people save, and give them victory o'er the grave.

O come, Thou Dayspring, from on high, And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh; Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, And death's dark shadows put to flight.

O come, Thou Key of David, come And open wide our heav'nly home; Make safe the way that leads on high, And close the path to misery.

O come, O come, thou Lord of might, Who to Thy tribes, on Sinai's height, In ancient times didst give the Law In cloud and majesty and awe.

#### **Gospel Reading:**

Please stand for the Gospel reading.
Alleluia, alleluia.
Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,
And all flesh shall see the salvation of God.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Mark Glory to you, O Lord.

## Mark 13: 24-end. Keep awake! (pg.48)

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.** 

#### Talk:

#### **Affirmation of Faith:**

We say together in faith Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty Who was, and is, and is to come.

We believe in God the Father, who created all things: For by his will they were created and have their being.

We believe in God the Son, who was slain: For with his blood, he purchased us for God, from every tribe and language, from every people and nation.

We believe in God the Holy Spirit, The Spirit and the Bride say, 'Come!' Even so come, Lord Jesus! Amen.

## **Prayers of Intercessions:**

We pray for the coming of God's kingdom, saying: Father, by your Spirit **Bring in your kingdom.** 

And at the end
Lord of the Church
Hear our prayer,
and make us one in heart and mind
to serve you with joy for ever. Amen.

#### **Mission Prayer:**

God of Mission
Who alone brings growth to your Church.
Send your Holy Spirit,
to give vision to our planning,
wisdom to our actions, and power to our witness.
Help our church to grow in numbers,
in spiritual commitment to you,
and in service to our local community,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **Collect of Advent Sunday:**

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in the which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; so that on the last day when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal, through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit now and for ever. Amen.

#### The Peace:

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.

Peace be with you. And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

# **Offertory Song:**

In Christ alone, my hope is found
He is my light, my strength, my song.
This Cornerstone, this solid ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease.
My Comforter, my All in All,
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, who took on flesh,
Fullness of God in helpless babe.
This gift of love and righteousness,
Scorned by the ones He came to save.
'Til on that cross as Jesus died,
The wrath of God was satisfied.
For every sin on Him was laid,
Here in the death of Christ I live, I live.

There in the ground His body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain.
Then bursting forth in glorious Day,
Up from the grave He rose again.
And as He stands in victory,
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine,
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death,
This is the power of Christ in me.
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man,
Can ever pluck me from His hand.
Till He returns or calls me home,
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

## **Preparation of the Table:**

Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendour and the majesty; for everything in heaven and on earth is yours. All things come from you, and of your own do we give you.

#### **Communion:**

The Lord is here. **His Spirit is with us.** 

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

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

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 the unending hymn of praise:

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.

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness; grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit, and according to your holy will, these gifts of bread and wine may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

Who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying:
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.

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died:** 

**Christ is risen:** 

Christ will come again.

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross, his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world;

rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming in glory, we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, we bring before you this bread and this cup and we thank you for counting us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people and gather into one in your kingdom all who share this one bread and one cup, so that we, in the company of all the saints, may praise and glorify you for ever, through Jesus Christ our Lord; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever.

Amen.

## The Lord's Prayer:

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour taught us;
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:**

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ. Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

# **Giving of Communion:**

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.

## The Body and Blood of Christ keep us in eternal life.

The President and people receive Communion.

## **Songs During Communion:**

Faithful One, so unchanging
Ageless one, you are my rock of peace.
Lord of all I depend on you,
I call out to you, again and again.
I call out to you, again and again.

You are my rock in times of trouble You lift me up when I fall down All through the storm, Your love is, the anchor. My hope is in You alone.

Here is love, vast as the ocean, lovingkindness as the flood: when the Prince of Life, our Ransom, shed for us His precious blood. Who His love will not remember? Who can cease to sing His praise? He can never be forgotten throughout heav'n's eternal days.

On the mount of crucifixion fountains opened deep and wide; through the floodgates of God's mercy flowed a vast and gracious tide. Grace and love, like mighty rivers, poured incessant from above, and heav'n's peace and perfect justice kissed a guilty world in love.

In Thy truth Thou dost direct me by Thy Spirit through Thy word; and Thy grace my need is meeting as I trust in Thee, my Lord. Of Thy fullness Thou art pouring Thy great love and pow'r on me without measure, full and boundless, drawing out my heart to Thee.

#### **Post Communion Prayer:**

We give you thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts; kindle in us the fire of your Spirit that when your Christ shall come again we may shine as lights before his face; who is alive and reigns now and for ever. Amen.

# **Closing Hymn:**

Lo, he comes with clouds descending, once for favoured sinners slain; thousand thousand saints attending swell the triumph of his train:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
God appears on earth to reign.

Every eye shall now behold him robed in dreadful majesty; those who set at naught and sold him, pierced and nailed him to the tree, deeply wailing, deeply wailing, shall the true Messiah see.

Those dear tokens of his passion still his dazzling body bears, cause of endless exultation to his ransomed worshippers: with what rapture, with what rapture, gaze we on those glorious scars!

Yea, Amen, let all adore thee, high on thine eternal throne; Saviour, take the power and glory, claim the kingdom for thine own: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Thou shalt reign and thou alone.

# **Blessing:**

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, rest upon you and remain with you now and always. **Amen.** 

#### **Final Dismissal:**

As we await our coming Saviour, Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. In the name of Christ. Amen

Do stay for refreshments, which will be served in the church hall after this service.