

## Holy Communion

9.30am – 7<sup>th</sup> Dec 2025

### Second Sunday of Advent

Hark, a thrilling voice is sounding; 26

'Christ is nigh,' it seems to say;  
'cast away the dreams of darkness,  
O ye children of the day.'

Wakened by the solemn warning,  
let the earth-bound soul arise;  
Christ, her Sun, all ill dispelling,  
shines upon the morning skies.

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;

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.

Honour, glory, might, and blessing  
to the Father and the Son,  
with the everlasting Spirit,  
while eternal ages run.

Edward Caswall | William Henry Monk

## Gathering and Greeting

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

All: Amen.

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

All: And also with you

## Welcome – Revd Philip Sudell



We light the second candle  
on the Advent Wreath and  
sing:

Longing for peace, our world is troubled.  
Longing for hope, many despair.  
Your word alone has pow'r to save us.  
Make us your living voice.  
*Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.*  
*Shine through the darkness.*  
*Christ, be our light!*  
*Shine in your church gathered today.*

Words and music: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957 © 1993, 2000,  
Bernadette Farrell. Published by OCP

## Prayers of Penitence

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.

## Confession

Lord our God, in our sin we have avoided  
your call. Our love for you is like a morning  
cloud, like the dew that goes away early.  
Have mercy on us; deliver us from  
judgement; bind up our wounds and revive  
us; in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## Assurance of forgiveness

Almighty God, who in Jesus Christ has  
given us a kingdom that cannot be  
destroyed, forgive you your sins, open your  
eyes to God's truth, strengthen you to do  
God's will and give you the joy of his  
kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen

We sing the

## Kyrie

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.  
Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

# The Collect

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and for ever.

All: **Amen.**

## Jeremiah 7:1-11

This is the word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord: <sup>2</sup>‘Stand at the gate of the Lord’s house and there proclaim this message: “Hear the word of the Lord, all you people of Judah who come through these gates to worship the Lord. <sup>3</sup>This is what the Lord Almighty, the God of Israel, says: reform your ways and your actions, and I will let you live in this place. <sup>4</sup>Do not trust in deceptive words and say, ‘This is the temple of the Lord, the temple of the Lord, the temple of the Lord!’ <sup>5</sup>If you really change your ways and your actions and deal with each other justly, <sup>6</sup>if you do not oppress the foreigner, the fatherless or the widow and do not shed innocent blood in this place, and if you do not follow other gods to your own harm, <sup>7</sup>then I will let you live in this place, in the land I gave to your ancestors for ever and ever. <sup>8</sup>But look, you are trusting in deceptive words that are worthless. <sup>9</sup>“Will you steal and murder, commit adultery and perjury, burn incense to Baal and follow other gods you have not known, <sup>10</sup>and then come and stand before me in this house, which bears my Name, and say, ‘We are safe’– safe to do all these detestable things? <sup>11</sup>Has this house, which bears my Name, become a den of robbers to you? But I have been watching! declares the Lord.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

# Psalm 72:1-7

**May all nations be blessed in him.**

<sup>1</sup>Give the king your judgements, O God, • and your righteousness to the son of a king. <sup>2</sup>Then shall he judge your people righteously • and your poor with justice. <sup>3</sup>May the mountains bring forth peace, • and the little hills righteousness for the people.

**May all nations be blessed in him.**

<sup>4</sup>May he defend the poor among the people, • deliver the children of the needy and crush the oppressor. <sup>5</sup>May he live as long as the sun and moon endure, • from one generation to another.

**May all nations be blessed in him.**

<sup>6</sup>May he come down like rain upon the mown grass, • like the showers that water the earth. <sup>7</sup>In his time shall righteousness flourish, • and abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.

**May all nations be blessed in him.**

## New Testament Reading

### Romans 15:4-13

<sup>4</sup> For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope. <sup>5</sup> May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had, <sup>6</sup> so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup> Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God. <sup>8</sup> For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the Jews on behalf of God’s truth, so that the promises made to the patriarchs might be confirmed <sup>9</sup> and, moreover, that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written: ‘Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles; I will sing the praises of your name.’ <sup>10</sup> Again, it says, ‘Rejoice, you Gentiles, with his people.’ <sup>11</sup> And again,

‘Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles; let all the peoples extol him.’ <sup>12</sup> And again, Isaiah says, ‘The Root of Jesse will spring up, one who will arise to rule over the nations; in him the Gentiles will hope.’ <sup>13</sup> May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

## Gospel

The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

### Matthew 3:1-12

In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the wilderness of Judea <sup>2</sup> and saying, ‘Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.’ <sup>3</sup> This is he who was spoken of through the prophet Isaiah: ‘A voice of one calling in the wilderness, “Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.”’ <sup>4</sup> John’s clothes were made of camel’s hair, and he had a leather belt round his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey. <sup>5</sup> People went out to him from Jerusalem and all Judea and the whole region of the Jordan. <sup>6</sup> Confessing their sins, they were baptised by him in the River Jordan. <sup>7</sup> But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to where he was baptising, he said to them: ‘You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? <sup>8</sup> Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. <sup>9</sup> And do not think you can say to yourselves, “We have Abraham as our father.” I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. <sup>10</sup> The axe has been laid to the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire. <sup>11</sup> ‘I baptise you

with water for repentance. But after me comes one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>12</sup> His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing-floor, gathering his wheat into the barn and burning up the chaff with unquenchable fire.’

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

## Sermon – Revd Philip Sudell

*Jeremiah – Advent warnings*

*Beware self deception*

## Profession of Faith

We believe in one God, 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

This response may be used:

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

And at the end: Merciful Father,  
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 bread and wine are brought to the Lord's Table

**Hark what a sound, and too divine for hearing, 28**

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?

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!

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.

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 | Richard Runciman Terry

## The Eucharistic Prayer

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.

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:

**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.**

Accept our praises, heavenly Father,  
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
and as we follow his example and obey his command, grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these gifts of bread and wine may be to us his body and his blood; 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.

Therefore, heavenly Father, we remember his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross; we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; we look for the coming of your kingdom, and with this bread and this cup we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Christ is the bread of life.

All:       **When we eat this bread  
              and drink this cup,  
              we proclaim your death, Lord  
              Jesus, until you come in glory.**

Accept through him, our great high priest, this our sacrifice of thanks and praise, and as we eat and drink these holy gifts in the presence of your divine majesty, renew us by your Spirit, inspire us with your love and unite us in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

All:       **Blessing and honour and glory and  
              power be yours for ever and ever.  
              Amen.**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has 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.

## **The Breaking of Bread**

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.**

## **Agnus Dei**

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, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.

## **The 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.

## **Prayer after Communion**

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. Amen.

## **Church family news**

Hark the glad sound! the Saviour comes, 27  
the Saviour promised long:  
let every heart prepare a throne,  
and every voice a song.

He comes, the prisoners to release  
in Satan's bondage held;  
the gates of brass before him burst,  
the iron fetters yield.

He comes, the broken heart to bind,  
the bleeding soul to cure,  
and with the treasures of his grace  
to enrich the humble poor.

Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,  
thy welcome shall proclaim;  
and heaven's eternal arches ring  
with thy belovèd name.

Philip Doddridge

## Blessing

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

Go in the peace of Christ.

All:        **Thanks be to God.**

CCLI: 777478

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## Readings for next Sunday

14<sup>th</sup> December – Advent 3

Isaiah 35.1–10

Canticle: Magnificat

James 5:7-10

Matthew 11:2-11

# The week ahead

Sun 7 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am 11am	Holy Communion Morning Service
Mon 8 <sup>th</sup>		
Tues 9 <sup>th</sup>	9:45-11am  8pm	Chat & Play for pre-schoolers and their parents/minders @ St Peter's Hall  Midweek Groups
Wed 10 <sup>th</sup>		
Thurs 11 <sup>th</sup>	10-11.30am  12 noon 12-3pm  3.45-5pm 8pm	Women's Bible Study @ St Peter's Hall  Holy Communion Community Café @ St Peter's Hall  FAB Club @ St Peter's Hall Midweek Groups
Fri 12 <sup>th</sup>	7.15-8am -163 12-1- church 6-7pm - 163	Day of Advent Prayer 
Sat 13 <sup>th</sup>	10am-11am	Women's Brunch @ Holybella
Sun 14 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am 11am 5pm (meet at 163)	Holy Communion Christingle Service Carol Singing Around The Parish

## Looking ahead

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> Dec – Day of Advent Prayer – breakfast, daytime and evening prayer opportunities  
 Sat 13<sup>th</sup> Dec – Women's Brunch  
 Sun 14<sup>th</sup> Dec – Christingle  
 Sun 14<sup>th</sup> Dec – Carols round the parish - 5pm  
 Sun 21<sup>st</sup> Dec – Carol Services  
 Sun 4<sup>th</sup> Jan – Co-Mission Sunday  
 Sat 24<sup>th</sup> Jan – Co-mission Women's morning  
 Mon 26<sup>th</sup> Jan – Co-Mission Day of Prayer  
 Sat 28<sup>th</sup> Feb – Co-mission Men's morning

## Advent Sermon Series

Jeremiah "Advent warnings"

30th Nov – *Beware self sufficiency!* – 2:1-13  
 7th Dec – *Beware self deception!* – 7:1-11

## Friday 12th December - Day of Advent Prayer

Join us to pray at some point in the day or fix to meet up with others over a coffee or walk (a prayer sheet will be provided)

Three options together

- Breakfast at the Vicarage, 163CHL -7.15 for Porridge then prayer 7.30-8am (also on Zoom)
- Midday Prayer in the Church – gather at 12, prayer from 12.15 to 1pm
- Evening Prayer at the Vicarage, 163CHL – gather at 6, pray from 6.15 to 7pm

## Christingle

Join us on the 14<sup>th</sup> of December at 11am for our family Christingle service.



## Christmas Carol Service Choir

If any of those who have signed up to sing/play at this service wish to pick up copies of the music we will be singing in advance of the first rehearsal, then please see Simon Upcott before or after the 11am service on Sun 7 Dec

