

## Holy Communion

9.30am – 14<sup>th</sup> Dec 2025

Third Sunday of Advent

O come, O come, Emmanuel, 32  
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 thy people save,  
and give them victory o'er the grave:  
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel...*

O come, thou Key of David, come,  
and open wide our heavenly home;  
make safe the way that leads on high,  
and close the path to misery:  
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel...*

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:  
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel...*

John Mason Neale | Thomas Helmore

## 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 third candle on the Advent  
Wreath and sing:

**Longing for food, many are hungry**

Longing for water, many still thirst  
Make us your bread, broken for others  
Shared until all are fed.

*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

A voice cries out in the wilderness,  
'Make straight the way of the Lord.'  
So let us listen, and turn to the Lord in  
penitence and faith.

## Confession

Lord God, we have sinned against you; we  
have done evil in your sight. We are sorry  
and repent. Have mercy on us according to  
your love. Wash away our wrongdoing and  
cleanse us from our sin. Renew a right spirit  
within us and restore us to the joy of your  
salvation, 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.

## 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

## The Collect

O Lord Jesus Christ, who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare your way before you: grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight; for you are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. All: Amen.

## Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 35:1-10

The desert and the parched land will be glad; the wilderness will rejoice and blossom. Like the crocus,<sup>2</sup> it will burst into bloom; it will rejoice greatly and shout for joy. The glory of Lebanon will be given to it, the splendour of Carmel and Sharon; they will see the glory of the Lord, the splendour of our God.<sup>3</sup> Strengthen the feeble hands, steady the knees that give way;<sup>4</sup> say to those with fearful hearts, 'Be strong, do not fear; your God will come, he will come with vengeance; with divine retribution he will come to save you.'<sup>5</sup> Then will the eyes of the blind be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped.<sup>6</sup> Then will the lame leap like a deer, and the mute tongue shout for joy. Water will gush forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert.<sup>7</sup> The burning sand will become a pool, the thirsty ground bubbling springs. In the haunts where jackals once lay, grass and

reeds and papyrus will grow.<sup>8</sup> And a highway will be there; it will be called the Way of Holiness; it will be for those who walk on that Way. The unclean will not journey on it; wicked fools will not go about on it.<sup>9</sup> No lion will be there, nor any ravenous beast; they will not be found there. But only the redeemed will walk there,<sup>10</sup> and those the Lord has rescued will return. They will enter Zion with singing; everlasting joy will crown their heads. Gladness and joy will overtake them, and sorrow and sighing will flee away.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.  
All: Thanks be to God.

## Canticle: Magnificat

The Almighty has done great things for me and holy is his name.

<sup>1</sup>My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour;  
• he has looked with favour on his lowly servant.<sup>2</sup>From this day all generations will call me blessed;

The Almighty has done great things for me and holy is his name.

The Almighty has done great things for me and holy is his name.<sup>3</sup>He has mercy on those who fear him, • from generation to generation.

The Almighty has done great things for me and holy is his name.

<sup>4</sup>He has shown strength with his arm • and has scattered the proud in their conceit,

<sup>5</sup>Casting down the mighty from their thrones • and lifting up the lowly.

The Almighty has done great things for me and holy is his name.

<sup>6</sup>He has filled the hungry with good things • and sent the rich away empty.

<sup>7</sup>He has come to the aid of his servant Israel, • to remember his promise of mercy,

<sup>8</sup>The promise made to our ancestors, • to Abraham and his children for ever.

The Almighty has done great things for me and holy is his name.

# New Testament Reading

## James 5.7–10

<sup>7</sup> Be patient, then, brothers and sisters, until the Lord's coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop, patiently waiting for the autumn and spring rains. <sup>8</sup> You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near. <sup>9</sup> Don't grumble against one another, brothers and sisters, or you will be judged. The Judge is standing at the door! <sup>10</sup> Brothers and sisters, as an example of patience in the face of suffering, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

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 Luke.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

## Luke 1:67-80

<sup>67</sup> His father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied: <sup>68</sup> 'Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, because he has come to his people and redeemed them.

<sup>69</sup> He has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David <sup>70</sup> (as he said through his holy prophets of long ago), <sup>71</sup> salvation from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us – <sup>72</sup> to show mercy to our ancestors and to remember his holy covenant, <sup>73</sup> the oath he swore to our father Abraham: <sup>74</sup> to rescue us from the hand of our enemies, and to enable us to serve him without fear <sup>75</sup> in holiness and righteousness before him all our days. <sup>76</sup> And you, my child, will be called a prophet of the Most High; for you will go on before the Lord to prepare the way for him, <sup>77</sup> to give his people the knowledge of salvation through the

forgiveness of their sins, <sup>78</sup> because of the tender mercy of our God, by which the rising sun will come to us from heaven <sup>79</sup> to shine on those living in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the path of peace.' <sup>80</sup> And the child grew and became strong in spirit; and he lived in the wilderness until he appeared publicly to Israel.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

## Sermon – Philip Sudell

### 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

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.

Long ago prophets knew

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Christ would come born a Jew  
Come to make all things new  
Bear His People's burden  
Freely love and pardon

*Ring bells ring ring ring*  
*Sing choirs sing sing sing*  
*When He comes when He comes*  
*Who will make Him welcome*

God in time God in man  
This is God's timeless plan  
He will come as a man  
Born Himself of woman  
God divinely human  
*Ring bells ring ring ring...*

Journey ends where afar  
Beth'lem shines like a star  
Stable door stands ajar  
Unborn Son of Mary  
Saviour do not tarry

*Ring bells ring ring ring*  
*Sing choirs sing sing sing*  
*Jesus comes Jesus comes*  
*We will make Him welcome*

## 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**



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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Charles E. Oakley | Editors of English Praise  
© English Hymnal Company (Oxford University Press)

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## 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

Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England  
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## Readings for next Sunday

21<sup>st</sup> December – Advent 4

Isaiah 7:10-16

Psalms 80:1-8

Romans 1:1-7

Matthew 1:18-25

## The week ahead

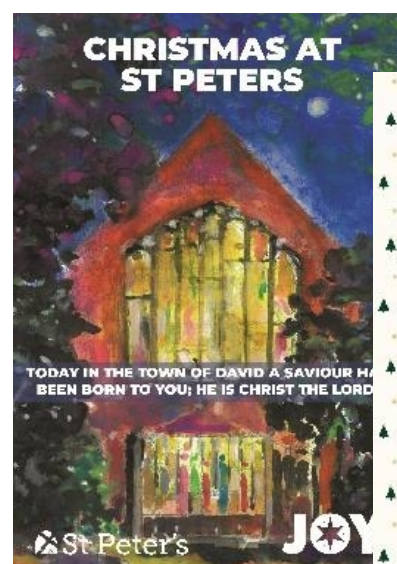
Sun 14 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am 11am 5pm (meet at 163)	Holy Communion Christingle Service Carol Singing Around The Parish
Mon 15 <sup>th</sup>		
Tues 16 <sup>th</sup>	9:45-11am  8pm	Chat & Play for pre-schoolers and their parents/minders @ St Peter's Hall  Midweek Groups
Wed 17 <sup>th</sup>		
Thurs 18 <sup>th</sup>	10-11.30am  12 noon 12-3pm  8pm	Women's Bible Study @ St Peter's Hall  Holy Communion Community Café Christmas Lunch @ St Peter's Hall  Midweek Groups
Fri 19 <sup>th</sup>	7.15-8am	Friday Morning Prayer
Sat 20 <sup>th</sup>	10:30am-12:30pm	Carol Choir Rehearsal
Sun 21 <sup>st</sup>	9.30am 11am 3:30pm-5pm 6pm	Holy Communion Family Carols Choir Rehearsal Carols by Candlelight

## Looking ahead

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



## Carol Services



## Jesus: in his own words

A 4 week course exploring what it means to become a follower of Jesus Christ. Each session is an hour long and looks at what Jesus says about why we need to follow him and how we do that from his words recorded in the gospels in the bible. 8-9pm - Wed 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> Jan and 4<sup>th</sup> Feb at 163 Colney Hatch Lane