



## Welcome and Notices

*We say together the words printed in bold*

Now is the time to wake out of sleep,  
for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed. (Romans 13;11)

**Amen.**

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

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

## The lighting of the Advent wreath

There are several traditions about the meaning or theme of each candle. Below are words which fit the main themes of the lectionary which are as follows:

Advent 1 -The Patriarchs (and also David)

Lord Jesus, light of the world,  
born in David's city of Bethlehem, born like him to be a king:be born in our hearts at  
Christmas, be King of our lives today.

**Amen.**

Advent 2 - The Prophets

Lord Jesus, light of the world,  
the prophets said you would bring peace and save your people in trouble.  
Give peace in our hearts at Christmas and show all the world God's love.

**Amen.**

Advent 3 - John the Baptist

Lord Jesus, light of the world,  
John told the people to prepare,  
for you were very near  
As Christmas grows closer day by day,  
help us to be be ready to welcome you now.

**Amen.**

Advent 4 - The Virgin Mary

Lord Jesus, light of the world,  
blessed is Gabriel, who brought good news; blessed is Mary, who believed it;  
Bless your Church preparing for Christmas;  
and bless your children, who long for your coming.

**Amen.**

Christmas Day - The Christ

Lord Jesus, Light of light,  
you have come among us.

Help us who live by your light to shine as lights in your world. Glory to God in the highest.

**Amen.**

Hymn

**Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open,  
all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden; cleanse the thoughts of  
our hearts  
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily  
magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### The Summary of the Law

Our Lord Jesus Christ said: The first commandment is this: 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is the only Lord. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.' The second is this: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

### Confession

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.

**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.**

### The Absolution (Declaration of forgiveness)

Almighty God,  
who forgives all who truly repent,  
have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins; confirm and  
strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our  
Lord. **Amen.**

Words of Reassurance (One of more may be used)

Hear the words of comfort our Saviour Christ says to all who truly turn to him:

Come to me all who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

(Matthew 11:28)

God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

(John 3:16)

Hear what Saint Paul says:

This saying is true and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

(1 Timothy 1:15)

Hear what Saint John says:

If anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the propitiation for our sins.

The Collect for the Day

(a special prayer for the day)

Readings (We sit)

(Either from the Old or New Testament or both)

At the end the reader says:

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

A hymn may be sung

The Gospel reading (We stand)

When the Gospel is announced:

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

At the end the reader says:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

The Sermon

Affirming our Faith

*The Creed is said (stand)*

**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, and 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

*(We sit or kneel)*

These responses may be used.

Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

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

The Peace *(We stand)*

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 in to the way of  
peace. (Luke 1:78,79)

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  
**and also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*All may exchange a sign of peace.*

*A hymn may be sung*

Offertory prayer

*(thank you for all you are giving to the Church to help us continue in our ministry, our costs haven't changed very much so we are still very glad of your support . You can now give by phone, call Christopher Hume and he will explain it to you.*

**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.**

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.**

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

*We remain standing at the beginning of this prayer, and sit after singing the 'holy, holy'*

The Lord be with you  
**and also with you.**  
(or)

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,  
it is our duty and our joy,  
at all times and in all places  
to give you thanks and praise,  
holy Father, heavenly King,  
almighty and eternal God,  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

For he is your living Word;

through him you have created all things from the beginning, and formed us in your own image.

Through him you have freed us from the slavery of sin, giving him to be born of a woman and to die upon the cross; you raised him from the dead and exalted him to your right hand on high.

Through him you have sent upon us  
your holy and life-giving Spirit, and made us a people for your own possession.

And now we give you thanks  
because you sent him to redeem us from sin and death  
and to make us inheritors of everlasting life;  
that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we  
may with joy behold his appearing, and in confidence may stand before him.

Therefore with angels and archangels,  
and with all the company of heaven,  
we proclaim your great and glorious name;  
for ever praising you, and saying:

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
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 has died:  
Christ is risen:  
Christ will come again.**

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:

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

#### The Lord's Prayer

Either

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**

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

**Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.  
Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.  
Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us peace**

#### The Prayer of Humble Access

**Most merciful Lord,  
your love compels us to come in.  
Our hands were unclean,  
our hearts were unprepared;  
we were not fit**

**even to eat the crumbs from under your table. But you, Lord, are the God of our salvation, and share your bread with sinners.**

**So cleanse and feed us**

**with the precious body and blood of your Son, that he may live in us and we with him;**

**and that we, with the whole company of Christ, may sit and eat in your kingdom. Amen.**

#### Invitation to 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 people receive communion; some or all of the following words may be used.*

The body of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was given for you, keep you in eternal life.  
The blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was shed for you, keep you in eternal life.  
*The communicant may reply Amen.*

If you wish to receive the laying on of hands for blessing instead of communion, please bring and hold a service booklet or keep your arms at your side.

#### Prayer after Communion

**Father of all,**

**we give you thanks and praise,**

**that when we were still far off**

**you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and living, he declared your love,**

**gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory. May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;**

**we who drink his cup bring life to others,**

**we whom the Spirit lights**

**give light to the world.**

**Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so we and all your children shall be free**

**and the whole earth**

**live to praise your name;**

**through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*A hymn may be sung*

#### The 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 upon you and remain with you always.

The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**In the name of Christ.**

**Amen.**