



THE PARISH EUCHARIST DURING ADVENT

Welcome to St John's for this Service.

Whether this is your first time in St John's, or you are a regular member of the congregation, you are most welcome as we give thanks to God for the new life we have in him through the gift of his Son, Jesus Christ. In faith and confidence we come before the God of love in assurance of his forgiveness and ask for his blessing on our lives. During this season of Advent we watch and wait for the coming of Christ - both celebrating his first coming among us as the babe of Bethlehem and awaiting his second coming when he shall come as judge at the end of all time. We look for the signs of his Kingdom already revealed among us and pray that the Lord may find in us a heart prepared for his dwelling.

We hope you will be able to join in with the Hymns and everything that is in **bold** type. Hymn numbers are shown on the Boards and in the Newsletter.

The posture directions in this Order of Service are optional. Please stand, sit, or kneel as you prefer.

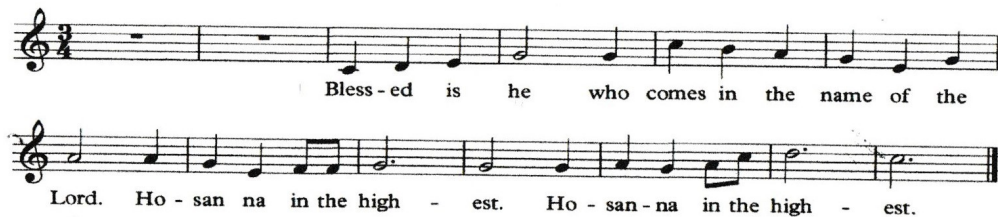
A Collection is received during the Service. UK tax payers are asked to complete a GiftAid envelope to enhance the value of your giving.

Children are welcome to stay in church for the whole Service but, should you need it, there is a Children's Room next to the church entrance. Our Junior Church (ages 3 -11) meets every Sunday morning during the Service (except on the 1st Sunday of the month when we have an All Age Eucharist) for fun, stories, and craft in the Hall. Children are invited to go to Junior Church after the Notices and return in time for Communion. Children of secondary school age leave for "Youth Meets" after the Gospel, also returning at the Peace.

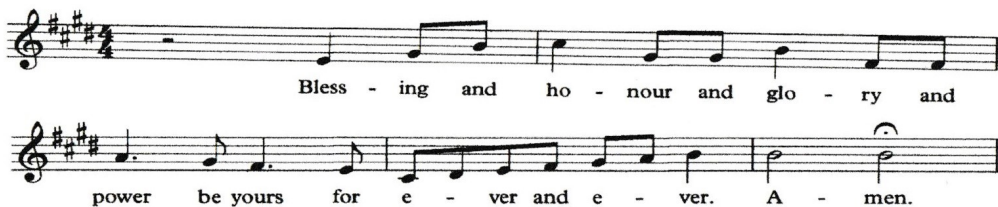
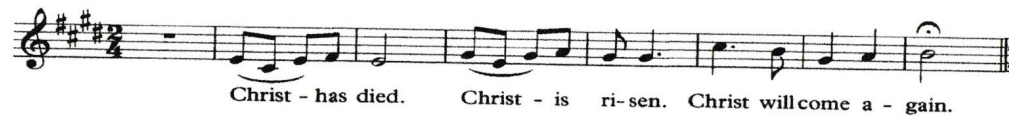
The Mass Setting by Malcolm Archer can be found at the back of this Order of Service.

Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England, material from which is included in this service, is © The Archbishops' Council 2000.
CCL Licence number 74516.

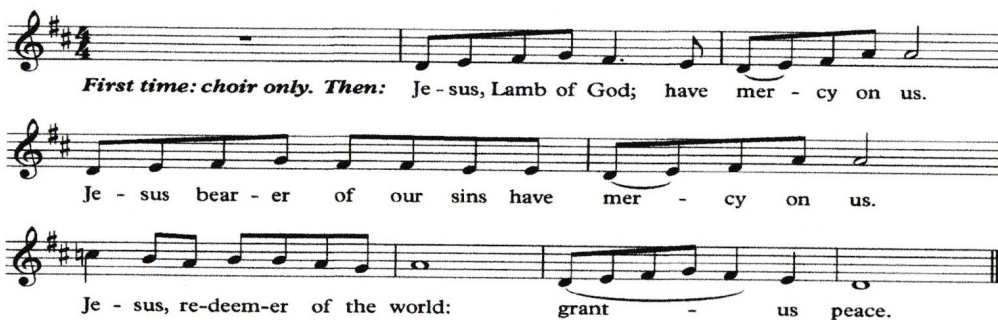
BENEDICTUS



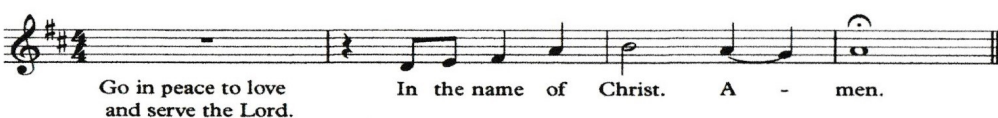
ACCLAMATIONS



AGNUS DEI



DISMISSAL



THE GATHERING

*A period of quiet prayer precedes the service as the organ is played.
Please stand at the entry of the cross.*

A Hymn is sung.

Hymn numbers are on the boards and in the Newsletter.

The Greeting

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

Amen.

The Lord be with you

And also with you.

The Notices

*Please sit for the Parish Notices, Banns of Marriage, and any other announcements.
Junior Church leave for their time together in the Hall.*

The Advent Wreath

As the candles are lit each week, prayers are offered.

All kneel or remain seated to say:

Prayer of Preparation

**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.**

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.

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

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 life eternal;
 through Jesus Christ our Lord.
 Amen.

All remain seated or kneeling to sing

Kyrie

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

The Collect

Following a moment of quiet, a special Prayer for the Day is said, and all respond
 Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Bible Readings

All sit for the Reading(s). At the end the reader may say:
 This is the word of the Lord.
 Thanks be to God.

The St Albans Setting by Malcolm Archer

KYRIE

Flowing

Lord, - have mer-cy. Lord, - have mer-cy. Lord, - have mer - cy.
 Christ, - have mer-cy. Christ, - have mer-cy. Christ, - have mer - cy. -
 Lord, - have mer - cy. Lord, - have mer - cy. Lord, - have mer- cy.

GOSPEL

When it is announced

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.
At the conclusion
 Praise to you, - O Christ.

SURSUM CORDA

The Lord is here. His - Spi - rit is with us.
 Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give thanks - and praise. -
 Lift up your hearts. We lift them to - the Lord. -

SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God - of
 power and might, hea - ven and earth - are full of your
 glo - o - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est in the high - est.

THE DISMISSAL

All stand for

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 among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

All remain standing to sing

The Final Hymn

The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

♪ **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

Please remain standing until the choir and ministers have departed.

*You are most welcome to stay for a cup of tea or coffee
at the back of church after the Service.*

Please take home today's Newsletter but return this Order of Service.

***Our worship has ended; let our service begin.
Thanks be to God!***

All stand to sing the

Gradual Hymn

The Gospel

All turn to where the Gospel is proclaimed.

Alleluia. Alleluia.

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

Alleluia.

cf Isaiah 40: 3–5

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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

♪ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

At the end the reader says

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

♪ **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Those of Secondary School age may leave for "Youth Meets" at this point.

The Sermon

All sit after the opening prayer.

The Nicene Creed

All stand to profess our faith in the Living God.

**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.

All sit or kneel for

The Prayers of Intercession

This response may be used:

Lord, in your mercy or Lord, hear us or Maranatha!
hear our prayer. Lord, graciously hear us. Come Lord Jesus.

At the end:

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



All remain kneeling or seated. All sing, after the Choir have sung it through once,

Agnus Dei

♪ 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.

All are welcome to receive Communion. If you do not usually receive Communion in your own Church, you are welcome to receive a Blessing. To indicate this, please bring this booklet with you. Gluten Free wafers are available on request.

Hymn(s) and an Anthem may be sung whilst Communion is administered. (*seated*)

All remain seated or kneeling to say

The Prayer after Communion

Almighty God,
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.

or:

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.

All sit for

Junior Church Presentation

Our younger members share with the congregation what they have been doing.

All sit and kneel to say

The Lord's Prayer

Awaiting his coming in glory,
as our Saviour has taught us,
so we are bold to pray:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin
against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

Awaiting his coming in glory,
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 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.**

The 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.
**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

or:

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 Christ died for you,
and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

The Peace

All stand. The President says these or similar words:

In the tender mercy of our God
the dayspring from on high shall break upon us,
to give light to those who dwell in the darkness and the shadow of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.
The peace of the Lord be always with you.
and also with you.

All may exchange a sign of peace, most commonly a handshake.

All remain standing to sing

The Offertory Hymn

during which the bread and wine are brought to the Altar table and a Collection for the work of the Church is received.

The Preparation of the Table

These prayers may be said:

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:
through your goodness we have this bread to offer,
which earth has given and human hands have made.
It will become for us the bread of life.
Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:
through your goodness we have this wine to offer,
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.
It will become for us the cup of salvation.
Blessed be God for ever.

or:

As the grain once scattered in the fields
and the grapes once dispersed on the hillside
are now united on this table in bread and wine
so, Lord, may your whole Church
soon be gathered together from the corners of the earth
into your kingdom.
Amen.



All remain standing for

The Eucharistic Prayer

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.**

These or similar words are said or sung.

Blessed are you, Lord God, our light and our salvation;
to you be glory and praise for ever.
From the beginning you have created all things
and all your works echo the silent music of your praise.
In the fullness of time you made us in your image,
the crown of all creation.
You give us breath and speech,
that with angels and archangels and all the powers of heaven
we may find a voice to sing your praise:

♪ **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.**

How wonderful the work of your hands, O Lord.
As a mother tenderly gathers her children,
you embraced a people as your own.
When they turned away and rebelled your love remained steadfast.
From them you raised up Jesus our Saviour, born of Mary,
to be the living bread, in whom all our hungers are satisfied.
He offered his life for sinners,
and with a love stronger than death
he opened wide his arms on the cross.

On the night before he died, he came to supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he gave you thanks.

He broke it and gave it to them, saying:

Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine,
he gave you thanks, 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.

Christ is the bread of life

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

Father, we plead with confidence
his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross;
we remember his dying and rising in glory,
and we rejoice that he intercedes for us at your right hand.

Pour out your Holy Spirit
as we bring before you these gifts of your creation;
may they be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

As we eat and drink these holy things in your presence,
form us in the likeness of Christ,
and build us into a living temple to your glory.

Remember, Lord, your Church in every land.
Reveal her unity, guard her faith,
and preserve her in peace.

Bring us at the last with [*N and*] all the saints
to the vision of that eternal splendour
for which you have created us;
through Jesus Christ, our Lord,
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
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.**

