



The Sunday Sheet *for* the 1st Sunday of Advent Sunday 1st December 2024

*A very warm welcome as we gather for the Parish Eucharist.
An induction loop is provided.*

Gluten free wafers are available for those who need them. Please inform one of the
welcomers who will pass the information on to the clergy. Many thanks

Entrance Hymn

Christ us surely coming, bringing his reward,
Omega and Alpha, First and Last and Lord;
root and stem of David, brilliant Morning Star –
Meet your Judge and Saviour, nations near and far;
meet your Judge and Saviour, nations near and far.

See the holy city! There they enter in,
all by Christ made holy, washed from every sin;
thirsty ones, desiring all he loves to give:
Come for living water, freely drink and live;
come for living water, freely drink and live.

Grace be with God's people! Praise his holy name –
Father, Son and Spirit, evermore the same!
Hear the certain promise from the eternal home:
"Surely I come quickly!" – Come, Lord Jesus, come.
"Surely I come quickly!" – Come, Lord Jesus, come.

Tune: Land of Hope and Glory

✠ In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Grace and peace be with you
And keep you in the love of Christ.

The Priest gives an introduction to the Eucharist

Jesus Christ is the Light of the world:
A light no darkness can put out.

The first candle on the Advent Wreath is lit

God of Abraham and Sarah,
and all the patriarchs of old,
you are our Father too.
Your love is revealed to us in Jesus Christ,
Son of God and Son of David.
Help us in preparing to celebrate his birth
to make our hearts ready for your Holy Spirit
to make his home among us.
We ask this through Jesus Christ,
the light who is coming into the world. **Amen.**

The Priest calls the people to penitence.

Silence is kept

Lord Jesus, you came to gather the nations into your kingdom of peace.
Lord, have mercy: **Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you come in word and sacrament to strengthen us in holiness.
Christ, have mercy: **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you will come in glory to judge the living and the dead.
Lord, have mercy: **Lord, have mercy.**

Almighty God have mercy on you,
✠ forgive you and set you free from sin,
and keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Collect

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 which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility;
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 is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please Sit

Jeremiah 33. 14-16

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfil the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: 'The Lord is our righteousness.'

For the word of the Lord:
Thanks be to God.

The Gospel

Please Stand

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 loving heart.

Born thy people to deliver;
born a child and yet a king;
born to reign in us for ever;
now thou gracious kingdom bring.

By thy own eternal Spirit,
rule in all our hearts alone:
by thy all-sufficient merit,
raise us to thy glorious throne.

Charles Wesley 1707-1788
Tune: Cross of Jesus

Luke 21. 25-36

Listen to the Gospel of Christ according to Saint Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples:

'There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see "the Son of Man coming in a cloud" with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.'

Then he told them a parable: 'Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.'

'Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The Homily

Please Sit

An Affirmation of the Faith.

Please Stand

Let us declare our faith in God.

**We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith,
and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us
with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

The Intercession

Please Sit

Appropriate responses may be used, for example

Lord, in your mercy:
hear our prayer.

Lord, hear us:
Lord, graciously hear us.

The Intercession ends with a suitable collect said by the priest, or the following

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

The Peace

Please Stand

May the God of peace make you completely holy,
ready for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of the Lord's peace.

Offertory Hymn

Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
light for the world to see.

*Christ be our light!
Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.*

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.

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

Longing for shelter, many are homeless.
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering others,
walls made of living stones.

Many the gifts, many the people,
many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
Making your kingdom come.

Bernadette Farrell b.1957

The Thanksgiving

We celebrate together the gifts and grace of God.
**We take this bread,
we take this wine
to follow Christ's example
and obey his command.**

Prayer over the Gifts

God of love and power,
your word stirs within us
the expectation of the coming of your Son.
Accept all we offer you this day,
and sustain us with your promise of eternal life.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our 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, holy Father,
all-powerful and everliving God,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Who humbled himself to live among us,
taking human flesh,
fulfilling the plan you formed long ago
and opening to us the way to salvation.
We watch and wait for that day
when our Lord Jesus Christ will be revealed,
when justice shall march before him
and peace shall follow his steps,
that when he comes in glory, with healing in his wings
we may inherit the promised salvation in which we dare to hope.

And so with the hosts of angels and all the company of heaven
we proclaim the glory of your name
and join in their unending hymn of praise:

**Holy, holy, holy, holy,
Holy, holy, Lord God Almighty.
And we lift our hearts before you
as a token of our love.
Holy, holy, holy, holy.**

**Gracious Father, gracious Father,
Blessed is the one who comes to us
in your name.
And we lift our hearts before you
as we give you thanks and praise.
Hosanna in the highest.**

All praise and thanks to you, true and living God,
Creator of all things, Giver of life.
You formed us in your own image;
but we have marred that image and fall short of your glory.
We give you thanks
that you sent your Son to share our life;
you gave him up to death that the world might be saved,
and you raised him from the dead
that we might live in him and he in us.

Sanctify with your Spirit this bread and wine, your gifts to us,
that they may be for us the body and blood of our Saviour Jesus Christ.

On the night he was betrayed, he took bread,
and when he had given 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 when he had given thanks
he gave it to them, saying,

Drink from this, all of you,
for 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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:
**Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come in glory.**

As he has commanded us, Father,
we remember Jesus Christ, your Son.
Proclaiming his victorious death,
rejoicing in his resurrection
and waiting for him to come in glory
we bring to you this bread, this cup.

Accept our sacrifice of thanks and praise.
Restore and revive your people,
renew us and all for whom we pray
with your grace and heavenly blessing,
and at the last receive us with all your saints
into that unending joy promised by your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, with him, in him,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit
all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father,
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Silence is kept

Please Sit

Let us pray with confidence to the Father:

**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.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

The Communion

The priest breaks the bread

Every time we eat this bread and drink of 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: give us your peace.

The Invitation to Holy Communion

Jesus is the Lamb of God

who takes away the sins of the world.

Happy 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.**

The sacrament is administered with these words:

The body of Christ. **Amen.** The blood of Christ. **Amen.**

All those who are baptised (Christened) are welcome to receive Holy Communion today. Baptised (Christened) children are welcome to receive holy communion at the discretion of their parents.

If you are not receiving you are welcome to come forward for a blessing but please bring this leaflet with you as a signal to the priest.

Hymn at the end of Communion

Wait for the Lord,
whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord,
keep watch, take heart. *(Sung through 3 times)*

Taize Community

Silence is kept

Post Communion Prayer

Give thanks to the Lord for he is gracious:
his love is everlasting.

God our deliverer, awaken our hearts
to prepare the way for the advent of your Son:
that, with minds purified by the grace of his coming,
we may serve you faithfully all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Blessing

The Lord be with you
And also with you.

Christ the Sun of righteousness shine on you and scatter the darkness from before you.
And the blessing of God almighty, ✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be
among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

Final Hymn

Lo, he comes with clouds descending,
once for favoured sinners slain;
thousand thousand saints attending
swell the triumph of his train:
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,
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
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!
Thou shalt reign, and thou alone.

*Charles Wesley 1707-1788
& John Cennick 1718-1755
Tune: Helmsley*



CCL No: 961722

Notices

Refreshments. Please do join us for refreshments after the service if you can.

Praying for Growth. Please pray for the growth and renewal of the Church here in this place. Here is the Leading Your Church into Growth 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,
Joy to our worship,
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.*

The Community Fridge takes place every Sunday from 4-5pm at the Parish Church.

Sunday Sheet. Please take this sheet home with you for the notices for the week and to pray for what is happening in the life of our Church.

Choir Tour. The Cathedral Choir have been given the amazing opportunity of singing in Finland on a choir tour in May next year. We are raising money to make sure this can happen. For more details, and to donate online, please see the following link: <https://gofund.me/560aa0db>
If you would like to donate in cash or by cheque, please clearly mark your donations 'Choir Finland' and hand to a member of the cathedral team or pop it in the collection plate or donation box

in the cathedral. If you are able to, please share the Go Fund Me page – from the page on the link above, click 'Share' and you can share on social media or copy the link to send to friends and family. Thank you.

O Come, let us adore him is an Advent Study Group put together by the Bishops of the Church in Wales. We will be running the group at the Parish Church on the following Mondays: 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd & 30th December starting at 11am. The sessions will last no longer than one hour. A warm welcome to all!

Tonight there will be the Advent Procession at the Cathedral at 6pm. This is a beautiful service of music and readings to mark the beginning of this special season.

Kentigern Guild The next meeting of the Kentigern Guild will be on Wednesday 4th December at 2.30pm in the Parish Church. The speaker will be Paul Meador and his talk is entitled "Composing for Royalty". All welcome.

Christmas Coffee Morning will take place at the Parish Church on Saturday 14th December from 10am to 1pm. A warm festive welcome to all.

Christmas Services. A card giving details of all the Christmas Services in the Mission Area is available. Please do take one for yourself and others to pass on to friends and neighbours.

Bishop's Advent Message. Please find enclosed for you to take away.

The Week Ahead

2nd Monday – The Saints, Martyrs & Missionaries of Asia

9am Morning Prayer

9.30am Holy Eucharist

11am 'O Come let us adore him'

Advent Study Group *at the Parish Church*

5pm Evening Prayer

3rd Tuesday – Francis Xavier

9am Morning Prayer

5pm Evening Prayer

6pm Holy Eucharist

4th Wednesday – Feria

9am Morning Prayer

9.30am Schools Service *at the Parish Church*

10.30am Holy Eucharist

5pm Evening Prayer

7pm Diocesan Confirmation

5th Thursday – Feria

9am Morning Prayer

10am Holy Eucharist *at the Parish Church*

10.45am Prayer Group *at the Parish Church*

12noon Food4Thought *at the Parish Church*

5pm Evening Prayer

6th Friday – Nicholas, Bishop

9am Morning Prayer

9.30am Offeren (*Welsh Eucharist*)

6pm Choral Evensong

7th Saturday – Ambrose

9am Morning Prayer

5pm Evening Prayer

8th Sunday – Advent 2

9.30am The Parish Eucharist

11am The Cathedral Eucharist

3.30pm Choral Evensong

Contact:

Parish Church: 01745 535957

Fr Rex: 07393 639813

Parish Church Website:

www.stasaphparishchurch.org.uk

Today's Readings

Jeremiah 33. 14-16

God promises a new member of the family of David, one who will bring justice and righteousness to God's people.

Psalm 25. 1-10

1 Thessalonians 3. 9-13

God's people must prepare themselves for the time when they will meet the Lord Jesus.

Luke 21. 25-36

Jesus urges his followers to read the signs of the times and be ready for the coming of the Kingdom of God.



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