

St Swithun's, Hither Green

Eucharist



Advent 4

20th December 2020

*Before the service the choir will sing:
Adam Lay y bounden, music Boris Ord*

The Gathering

The Greeting

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

Amen.

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

And also with you

Mother Juliet says some words of welcome

Advent Wreath Prayer

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



Prayer of Preparation

Into our world as into Mary's womb,
come, Lord Jesus!

Into the forgotten places as into the stable,
come, Lord Jesus!

Into the lives of the poor, bringing hope;
into the lives of the powerful, bringing generosity;
into the lives of the weary, bringing rest;
into the lives of the wise, bringing restlessness;
into our lives; into our longings; whatever our estate,
come, Lord Jesus!

Blessed are those who wait on the Lord!
Amen. Come quickly, Lord Jesus!

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.

A Short Silence to reflect

God be gracious to us and bless us,
and make your face shine upon us:
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

May your ways be known on the earth,
your saving power among the nations:
Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

You, Lord, have made known your salvation,
and reveal your justice in the sight of the nations:
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

The Absolution

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 Liturgy of the Word

The Collect

Eternal God,
as Mary waited for the birth of your Son,
so we wait for his coming in glory;
bring us through the birth pangs of this present age
to see, with her, our great salvation
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Canticle: Magnificat (The Song of Mary)

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour;
he has looked with favour on his lowly servant.
From this day all generations will call me blessed;
the Almighty has done great things for me
and holy is his name.
He has mercy on those who fear him,
from generation to generation.
He has shown strength with his arm
and has scattered the proud in their conceit,
Casting down the mighty from their thrones
and lifting up the lowly.
He has filled the hungry with good things
and sent the rich away empty.
He has come to the aid of his servant Israel,
to remember his promise of mercy,
The promise made to our ancestors,
to Abraham and his children for ever.

Luke 1.46-55

Gospel Reading *Luke 1.26-38*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke
Glory to you, O Lord.

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.' But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I am a virgin?' The

angel said to her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.' Then Mary said, 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.' Then the angel departed from her.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you O Christ.

Sermon *Rev Ann*

Affirmation of faith

Let us proclaim the Church's faith in Jesus Christ:

**We believe and declare that our Lord Jesus Christ,
the Son of God, is both divine and human.**

God, of the being of the Father,
the only Son from before time began;
human from the being of his mother, born in the world;
**fully God and fully human;
human in both mind and body.**

As God he is equal to the Father,
as human he is less than the Father.

**Although he is both divine and human
he is not two beings but one Christ.**

One, not by turning God into flesh,
but by taking humanity into God;
**truly one, not by mixing humanity with Godhead,
but by being one person.**

For as mind and body form one human being
so the one Christ is both divine and human.

**The Word became flesh and lived among us;
we have seen his glory,
the glory of the only Son from the Father,
full of grace and truth. Amen.**

Prayers

Let us pray

The response to: Come Lord Jesus

is: **Amen. Come Lord Jesus**

Especially we remember: those who are in need or have asked for our prayers – Martin, Rossy and family, Kevin, Gwen, Marshall, Susan, Cherine, Karen, Paulette, Maureen and family, Pamela, Neil, Debbie, Elaine and family, Clinton, Francis, Cynthia, Diane, Harold, Ivy, Sean, Taneisha, Talabi, Susan, Sydney, Edith, Vanda, Lorna, Ena and Stephen.

Those who have died – Eleshia

Rest eternal grant unto them O Lord

And let light perpetual shine upon them

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 dawn 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 with you

And also with you.

*Let us wave to one another the
sign of peace.*



Carol

**O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting Light;
the hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.**

**O morning stars, together
proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the King,
and peace to all on earth;
For Christ is born of Mary;
and, gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep
Their watch of wond'ring love.**

**O holy Child of Bethlehem,
descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin, and enter in,
be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
the great glad tidings tell:
O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Emmanuel.**



Prayer over the gifts

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



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.

It is right to praise you, Father, Lord of all creation;
in your love you made us for yourself.

When we turned away you did not reject us,
but came to meet us in your Son.

**You embraced us as your children
and welcomed us to sit and eat with you.**

In Christ you shared our life
that we might live in him and he in us.

**He opened his arms of love upon the cross
and made for all the perfect sacrifice for sin.**

On the night he was betrayed, at supper with his friends
he took bread, and 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.*

**Father, we do this in remembrance of him:
his body is the bread of life.**

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 for
the forgiveness of sins: do this in remembrance of me.*

**Father, we do this in remembrance of him:
his blood is shed for all.**

As we proclaim his death and celebrate his rising in glory,
send your Holy Spirit that this bread and this wine may be to us
the body and blood of your dear Son.

**As we eat and drink these holy gifts
make us one in Christ, our risen Lord.**

With your whole Church throughout the world
we offer you this sacrifice of praise
and lift our voice to join the eternal song of heaven:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

All: **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.**

Breaking of the 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

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.

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.

*Communion will be brought to you in one kind. Please stay seated in
your place whilst we come to you safely – alternatively a prayer can
be said at a physical distance with you as we move round the church.
Silence is kept.*

During Communion the choir will sing:

Suo Gan Welsh Slumber Carol *tard: arr. David M Howard*

What child is this? *Trad: arr David M Howard*

Prayer after Communion

Heavenly Father, who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary
to be the mother of the promised saviour:

fill us your servants with your grace,
that in all things we may embrace your holy will
and with her rejoice in your salvation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

**We thank you, Lord, that you have fed us in this sacrament,
united us with Christ, and given us a foretaste of the
heavenly banquet prepared for all peoples. Amen.**

The Notices

- *Happy Christmas to everyone from all at the vicarage – we have made a donation to Shelter in lieu of individual cards and we have pinned a small card to everyone to the board.*
- *The Advent Calendar is outside – we hope you will enjoy it... Thank you Izzy, Jon and family for making it happen.*
- *Our worship services will continue within the guidelines. The church can be opened for private prayer on request.*
- *Please note our proposed Christmas Services:*
 - *Carols now in church today at 5pm –sadly no refreshments*
 - *Christmas Eve - Deconstructed Christingle come and see the crib, listen to some carols, and collect your Christingle (any time between 3pm-4pm and very carefully managed*
 - *Midnight Mass – 11.30pm*
 - *Christmas Morning Eucharist – 10am*
- *If you, or anyone you know would like help with delivering Christmas cards or gifts to our church family – Susan Hutton will be able to help – please get in touch with Mother Juliet or Susan directly to arrange for collection.*
- *In addition – ‘Cummin’ Up’ Restaurant are giving out free Christmas Dinners for takeaway on Christmas Day 1pm-5pm – Susan is willing to collect and deliver a dinner to any in our church family who would like it (either roast turkey or jerk chicken and rice) – please let me or Susan know.*
- *We will continue to upload the services and the sermons on the website for those who are unable to come in person and the booklet and sermon will be delivered to those who are unable to come to church and do not have technology or have asked to be kept in touch this way.*
- *Happy Birthday all those who have a birthday*



Dismissal and Blessing

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.

The Dismissal

Go in the peace of Christ.
Amen. Come Lord Jesus!

Contacts:

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**Faith, hope and love
in Hither Green**