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Sunday 1st December 2024, 10.00am

ADVENT SUNDAY - PARISH SUNG EUCHARIST

*In the name of the Lord Jesus we welcome you to this church. It is wonderful that you have chosen to worship with us today. For centuries, people have gathered on this site to support each other, to laugh and cry together, to sing and pray and to come before God and be nourished and sustained at the altar rail. It is our hope that you will leave here today having been given a glimpse of God's kingdom. **Please join in where indicated in bold.***

Opening Choir Advent Introit:

I look from afar; and lo, I see the power of God coming, and a cloud covering the whole Earth. Go ye out to meet him and say:
Tell us, art thou he that should come to reign over thy people Israel?
High and low, rich and poor, one with another;
Go ye out to meet him and say:
Hear, O thou Shepherd of Israel, thou that leadest Joseph like a sheep, Tell us, art thou he that should come?
Stir up thy strength, O Lord, and come to reign over thy people Israel.

Opening Hymn: CP 29 – Hills of the North, rejoice

† 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.

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

And also with you.

We come from scattered lives to meet with God. Let us recognise his presence with us. (*please sit or kneel*)

The Living God, the living moving Spirit of God, has called us together – to bless us and to speak love to us.

We gather in hope, in expectancy, in trust at this still moment in our lives of ceaseless change, to worship, to listen, to share and acknowledge that renewing blessing of love.

As God's people we have gathered.
Let us worship him together.

My sisters and brothers to prepare ourselves to celebrate these sacred mysteries let us call to mind our sins:

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry
and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who
died for us, forgive us all that is past and**

grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your name. Amen

The priest pronounces God's 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 life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

Let us pray:

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.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

A Reading from Jeremiah 33 14-16

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill 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."

This is the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

SECOND READING

A Reading from 1 Thesalonians 3 9-13

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Hymn: CP 32 - O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

THE GOSPEL

All stand for the Gospel and face the reader

The Lord be with you
And also with you

Hear the holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke 21 25-36

Glory to you, O Lord

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 SERMON

THE CREED

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; he became 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 *(Please sit or kneel)*

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.**

ADMISSION OF X, X and X TO HOLY COMMUNION. (Please see separate sheet)

THE PEACE *Please stand*

The priest shares the peace of Christ

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

Let us offer one another a sign of peace

Offertory Hymn: CP 175 Come down, O Love divine

THE OFFERTORY

The bread and wine are each offered to God, we respond...

Blessed be God for ever.

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 thanks and praise

The priest praises God for his mighty acts...
**Holy, holy, holy Lord
God of power and might
Heaven and earth are full of your glory,
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.**

Please sit or kneel : The priest recalls the Last Supper....

The Eucharistic prayer continues and then the priest announces:

Great is the mystery of faith
Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again

Let us pray for the coming of the kingdom as Jesus 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,**

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.**

We sing together:

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.**

The priest shows the consecrated host to the congregation and says:

This is the Risen Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Happy are we who are called to his supper.

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

You are warmly invited to feast at the Lord's table. If you are baptised and regularly take communion in your own church you are welcome to receive here at St Mary's. If you don't receive communion please come forward for a blessing carrying the order of service. During the distribution an anthem or hymns may be sung.

Communion Hymn: CP 37 – The Lord will come and not be slow

The priest says "let us pray" and prays the post-communion prayer.

O Lord our God,
make us watchful and keep us faithful
as we await the coming of your Son our Lord;
that, when he shall appear,
he may not find us sleeping in sin
but active in his service
and joyful in his praise;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**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.**

Notices

Hymn: CP 31 – Lo, he comes with clouds descending

Please remain standing after the hymn.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

FINAL BLESSING & THE DISMISSAL

Jesus asked "Who do you say I am?"

You are the Christ, you have the message of eternal life, and we believe.

Go in Peace to Love and Serve the Lord
In the name of Christ. Amen .