

Advent 4 Communion Service

“Here I am ready to do your will”

The season of Advent is a time of preparation for the coming of our Lord both at Christmas and at the end of time bringing hope and light into the world.

Christ has brought us out of darkness
To live in his marvellous light.



The lighting of the Advent Ring on the fourth Sunday of Advent - JOY

As we light the candles in our Advent Wreath we remember the preparations which God our Father made for the coming of his Son into the world.

On this fourth Sunday of Advent; we remember how Jesus, the Son of God, was received with joy as he was born of a human mother so that he was truly both God and man.

The angel Gabriel said, ‘Do not be afraid Mary, you have found favour with God.’

Thank you Father

My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour
Thank you Father

They will call him Emmanuel, which means God with us.’
Thank you Father

As we light this candle we give thanks we rejoice at Christ coming into the world. **O Emmanuel: come to your world; and come to your people who wait for you in joy! May we always rejoice living in the light of your kingdom each day.**

Lord make us one as we rejoice in your presence, the presence of God with us today and forever. Amen

**Hymn: Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to His temple draw near,
Join me in glad adoration.**

**Praise to the Lord, O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him!
Let the amen sound from His people again;
Gladly forever adore Him.**

We say sorry to God

Christ the light of the world has come to dispel the darkness of our hearts. In his light let us examine ourselves and confess our sins.

Lord of grace and truth, we confess our unworthiness to stand in your presence as your children.

We have sinned:

forgive and heal us.

The Virgin Mary accepted your call to be the mother of Jesus.

Forgive our disobedience to your will.

We have sinned:

forgive and heal us.

Your Son our Saviour was born in poverty in a manger.

Forgive our greed and rejection of your ways.

We have sinned:

forgive and heal us.

Absolution:

May the God of all healing and forgiveness draw *us* to himself and cleanse *us* from all *our* sins, that *we* may behold the glory of his Son, the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Collect

**Heavenly Father as Mary waited for the birth of your Son,
so we wait for him to come in glory.
Give us the grace and strength each day as we seek to live for you.
Amen**

Reading Romans 16v25-end

At the end of the reading

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn

The Angel Gabriel
from heaven came,
his wings as drifted snow,
his eyes as flame;
"All hail," said he,
"thou lowly maiden Mary,
most highly favoured lady,"
Gloria!

"For known a blessed Mother
thou shalt be,
all generations laud
and honour thee,
thy Son shall be Emmanuel,
by seers foretold,
most highly favoured lady,"
Gloria!

Then gentle Mary meekly
bowed her head,
"To me be as it pleaseth God,"
she said,
"my soul shall laud and magnify
his holy Name."
Most highly favoured lady, Gloria!

Of her, Emmanuel,
the Christ, was born
in Bethlehem,
all on a Christmas morn,
and Christian folk
throughout the world will ever say
"Most highly favoured lady,"
Gloria!

The Gospel – Luke 1v26-38

Alleluia, alleluia. Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God . **Alleluia**
Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke
Glory to you, O Lord.

At the end:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

The Creed

Let us affirm our faith in God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**We believe and trust in God the Father, source of all being and life,
the one for whom we exist.**

**We believe and trust in God the Son, who took our human nature,
died for us and rose again.**

**We believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of
God and makes Christ known in the world.**

**This is the faith of the Church. This is our faith.
We believe and trust in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession led by Pauline

The Peace

The God of peace make us holy in all things that we may be ready at 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.

Offertory Hymn

**O thou who camest from above
the fire celestial to impart,
kindle a flame of sacred love
on the mean altar of my heart.**

**There let it for thy glory burn
with inextinguishable blaze,
and trembling to its source return
in humble prayer and fervent
praise.**

**Jesus, confirm my heart's desire
to work, and speak, and think for
thee;
still let me guard the holy fire,
and still stir up the gift in me.**

**Ready for all thy perfect will,
my acts of faith and love repeat;
till death thy endless mercies seal,
and make the sacrifice complete.**

Eucharistic Prayer

Blessed be God, by whose grace creation is renewed, by whose love heaven is opened, by whose mercy we offer our sacrifice of praise

Blessed be God for ever.

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.

And now we give you thanks
because your Son our Lord was awaited by the prophets,
announced by an angel, conceived by a virgin, Mary
and proclaimed at last to men and women of every race.
And so we join our voices with angels and archangels
and with all the company of heaven to proclaim your glory
for ever praising you and *proclaiming*:

**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.**

We praise and bless you, loving Father,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;
and as we obey his command,
send your Holy Spirit,
that broken bread and wine outpoured
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he praised you.
He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.
Again he praised you, gave it to them 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.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice
made once for all upon the cross.
Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,
we proclaim his death and resurrection
until he comes in glory.

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.**

Lord of all life, help us to work together for that day
when your kingdom comes
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people,
gather us in your loving arms
and bring us with [N and] all the saints
to feast at your table in heaven.

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

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we 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.**

Breaking of the Bread

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

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
grant us peace.**

Giving of Communion

Invitations to 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.**

We share communion.

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**

**Generous God, you have fed us
at your heavenly table.
Set us on fire with your Spirit
that when Christ comes again
we may shine like lights before his face;
who with you and the Holy Spirit lives for ever.
Amen.**

Notices may be included here

The Blessing

May God the Holy Spirit, by whose working the Virgin Mary
conceived the Christ, help you bear the fruits of holiness.
and the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Hymn

**Lo, he comes with clouds descending,
once for favoured sinners slain;
thousand, thousand saints attending
swell the triumph of his train:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
God appears on earth to reign.**

**Yea, Amen, let all adore thee,
high on thine eternal throne;
Saviour, take the power and glory,
claim the kingdom for thine own:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
Thou shalt reign and thou alone.**

A minister says

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

