

# The Parish Church of St Mary the Virgin Send

## The First Sunday of Advent

29 November 2021 at 9.00 a.m.

**HOLY COMMUNION**  
**Order One**



*An empty inflatable boat in the Channel.*

*'Pour down, O heavens, from above,  
and let the skies rain down righteousness.'*

*From the Latin  
Rorate caeli desuper,  
et nubes pluant iustum.*

*These words are from Isaiah 45.8 and form a repeated refrain in the  
'Advent Prose',  
an ancient Christian hymn, and other traditional Advent worship.*

*This service will begin at 9 a.m. in the Straw Chapel of the Annunciation  
at the Vicarage and will be live-streamed using **Facebook** on the 'Send  
Parish Church' page.*

TRANSFORMING **CHURCH**  
TRANSFORMING **LIVES**

## ¶ *The Gathering*

### *The minister greets the people*

Good morning coronavirus pilgrims and welcome to this celebration of the life and ever-present Spirit of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. The season of Advent begins today, a period of expectation as the Church prepares to celebrate the coming (*adventus*) of Christ in his birth and incarnation, and also looks ahead to his final advent as judge at the end of time.

*'Look up and raise your heads because your redemption is drawing near.'* Luke 21.28

## The Greeting

### *The president greets the people*

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

**All** and also with you.

## Hymn

1. Hark! a herald voice is calling:  
    'Christ is nigh,' it seems to say;  
'Cast away the dreams of darkness,  
    O ye children of the day!'
3. Lo! the Lamb, so long expected,  
    Comes with pardon down from heaven;  
Let us haste, with tears of sorrow,  
    One and all to be forgiven;
4. So when next he comes with glory,  
    Wrapping all the earth in fear,  
May he then as our defender  
    Of the clouds of heaven appear.
5. Honour, glory, virtue, merit,  
    To the Father and the Son,  
With the co-eternal Spirit,  
    While unending ages run. Amen.

*6<sup>th</sup> century, translated by E. Caswell  
Tune MERTON by W. H. Monk*

## Prayers of Penitence

A voice cries out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord.' So let us listen, and turn to the Lord in penitence and faith.

Lord Jesus, you came to gather the nations into the peace of your kingdom:

Lord, have mercy.

**All Lord, have mercy.**

You come in word and sacrament to strengthen us in holiness:

Christ, have mercy.

**All Christ, have mercy.**

You will come in glory with salvation for your people:

Lord, have mercy.

**All Lord, have mercy.**

May the God of love bring us back to himself, forgive us our sins, and assure us of his eternal love in Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All Amen.**

## Advent Candles

### *The first candle of Advent is lit*

Various meanings can be applied to the advent candles. There is no universal tradition. A typical Anglican scheme is:

Advent 1	The Patriarchs
Advent 2	The Prophets
Advent 3	John the Baptist
Advent 4	The Virgin Mary

A typical Catholic scheme is:

The 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent symbolizes Hope with the "Prophet's Candle" reminding us that Jesus is coming.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent symbolizes Faith with the "Bethlehem Candle" reminding us of Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent symbolizes Joy with the "Shepherd's Candle" reminding us of the Joy the world experienced at the coming birth of Jesus.

The 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent symbolizes Peace with the "Angel's Candle" reminding us of the message of the angels: "Peace on Earth, Good Will Toward Men."

## The Collect

### *The Collect is said*

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.

**All** Amen.

## ¶ The Liturgy of the Word

### Readings

A reading from the book of the First Epistle to the  
Thessalonians

<sup>9</sup> How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? <sup>10</sup> Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

<sup>11</sup> Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. <sup>12</sup> 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. <sup>13</sup> 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.

*1 Thessalonians 3.9-13 NRSV*

## Gospel Reading

Alleluia, alleluia.

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

*cf Isaiah 40.3–5*

**All Alleluia.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

**All Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>25</sup> 'There will be signs in the sun, moon and stars. On the earth, nations will be in anguish and perplexity at the roaring and tossing of the sea. <sup>26</sup> People will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world, for the heavenly bodies will be shaken. <sup>27</sup> At that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. <sup>28</sup> When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.'

<sup>29</sup> He told them this parable: 'Look at the fig-tree and all the trees. <sup>30</sup> When they sprout leaves, you can see for yourselves and know that summer is near. <sup>31</sup> Even so, when you see these things happening, you know that the kingdom of God is near.

<sup>32</sup> 'Truly I tell you, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened. <sup>33</sup> Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away. <sup>34</sup> 'Be careful, or your hearts will be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness and the anxieties of life, and that day will close on you suddenly like a trap. <sup>35</sup> For it will come on all those who live on the face of the whole earth. <sup>36</sup> Be always on the watch, and pray that you may be able to escape all that is about to happen, and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man.'

*Luke 21.25-36 NIV*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**All Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Sermon

## The Apostles' Creed

**All** I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.  
Amen.

## Prayers of Intercession

Watchful at all times, let us pray for strength to stand with confidence before our Maker and Redeemer.

That God may bring in his kingdom with justice and mercy, let us pray to the Lord:

**Lord, have mercy.**

That God may establish among the nations his sceptre of righteousness,

let us pray to the Lord:

**Lord, have mercy.**

That we may seek Christ in the Scriptures and recognize him in the breaking of the bread,

let us pray to the Lord:

**Lord, have mercy.**

That God may bind up the brokenhearted, restore the sick and raise up all who have fallen,

let us pray to the Lord:

**Lord, have mercy.**

That the light of God's coming may dawn on all who live in darkness and the shadow of death,

let us pray to the Lord:

**Lord, have mercy.**

That, with all the saints in light, we may shine forth as lights for the world,

let us pray to the Lord:

**Lord, have mercy.**

We commend ourselves and all for whom we pray to the mercy and protection of our heavenly Father:

*Silence is kept.*

Almighty God, as your blessed Son Jesus Christ first came to seek and to save the lost; so may he come again to find in us the completion of his redeeming work; for he is now alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever.

**All Amen.**

## ¶ ***The Liturgy of the Sacrament***

### **The Peace**

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

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

### **Preparation of the Table**

### **Taking of the Bread and Wine**

*If you normally make an offering in church please continue to do so, putting something aside for when we can all be back together.*

*We also have a page on the JustGiving website – look on the home page of our church website,  
[www.sendparishchurch.co.uk](http://www.sendparishchurch.co.uk)  
where you'll find the link.*

***The table is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it.***

***The president takes the bread and wine.***

## The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you  
**All and also with you.**

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**All It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Father, we give you thanks and praise  
through your beloved Son Jesus Christ, your living Word,  
through whom you have created all things;  
who was sent by you in your great goodness to be our  
Saviour.

By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh;  
as your Son, born of the blessed Virgin,  
he lived on earth and went about among us;  
he opened wide his arms for us on the cross;  
he put an end to death by dying for us;  
and revealed the resurrection by rising to new life;  
so he fulfilled your will and won for you a holy people.

And now we give you thanks  
because you sent him to redeem us from sin and death  
and to make us inheritors of everlasting life;  
that when he shall come again in power and great triumph  
to judge the world,  
we may with joy behold his appearing,  
and in confidence may stand before him.

Therefore with angels and archangels,  
and with all the company of heaven,  
we proclaim your great and glorious name,  
for ever praising you and saying:

**All 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.**

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;

grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,  
and according to your holy will, these gifts of bread and wine  
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;  
who, in the same night that he was betrayed,  
took bread and gave you 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 gave you  
thanks;

he gave it to them, saying: 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.

Great is the mystery of faith:

**All Christ has died:**

**Christ is risen:**

**Christ will come again.**

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,  
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole  
world;

rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,  
and looking for his coming in glory,  
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,  
we bring before you this bread and this cup  
and we thank you for counting us worthy  
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people  
and gather into one in your kingdom  
all who share this one bread and one cup,  
so that we, in the company of all the saints,  
may praise and glorify you for ever,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord; by whom, and with whom,  
and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and  
glory be yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever.

**All Amen.**

## 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

*The president breaks the consecrated bread.*

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



## 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.

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

*The president receives communion on behalf of the people.*

## Prayer after Communion

*Silence is kept.*

### *Post Communion*

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.

*All* Amen.

## Hymn

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

**2 Ev'ry 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, deeply wailing,  
shall the true Messiah see.**

**4 Yea, amen! let all adore thee,  
high on thine eternal throne;  
Saviour, take the pow'r and glory,  
claim the kingdom for thine own.  
O come quickly! O come quickly!  
Alleluia! Come, Lord, come!**

*Words: Charles Wesley  
Music: Helmsley*

## ¶ *The Dismissal*

### *Blessing*

May God the Father, judge all-merciful,  
make us worthy of a place in his kingdom.  
**Amen.**

May God the Son, coming among us in power,  
reveal in our midst the promise of his glory.  
**Amen.**

May God the Holy Spirit make us steadfast in faith,  
joyful in hope and constant in love.  
**Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty, source of all being, eternal  
word, and Holy Spirit, be among us and remain with us  
always.

**All Amen.**

As we await our coming Saviour,  
go in the peace of Christ.

**All Thanks be to God.**

***The ministers and people depart.***

***Help yourself to refreshments  
... in your own kitchens.***