

We join together, both those at St Luke's, and those at home using the internet or telephone

If you are at home, find somewhere comfortable, light a candle, and connect to our service via Zoom on the internet (<https://zoom.us/j/7210725462>) or by telephone (07 3185 3730, meeting ID 721 072 5462). Contact the Parish Office for the password. Follow the order of service below.

Gathering as God's people

Hymn: O come, O come Emmanuel

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.

Rejoice! Rejoice!

Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel

O come, O come, great Lord of might
who to the tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times did give the law
in cloud and majesty and awe.

O come, O key of David, come,
and open wide our heavenly home;
make safe the way that leads on high
and close the path to misery.

Rejoice! Rejoice!

Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel

O come, O branch of Jesse, free
your own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell your people save
and give them victory o'er the grave.

O come, O dayspring, come and cheer
our spirits by your advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night
and death's dark shadows put to flight.

Anon. Latin 13th C

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit
Blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever.
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Advent Candle Liturgy

We gather in the season of Advent, waiting and watching for the One who comes not in splendour, but in humility. The God of the universe has changed addresses—leaving heaven's throne to dwell among

us in a manger. This is grace: not earned, not expected, but freely given.

We light the candle of Peace, remembering that God invites us into restored relationship. We are invited to sit next to the babe in the manger, the one who comes as the prince of peace to restore all creation.

The second candle is lit

O Prince of Peace, in our busyness settle our hearts
and minds. Slow us down to see all that you give us. Let your peace reign in our hearts and minds.

Hymn: Deep in darkness (vv.1-2)

Deep in darkness we begin,
dark outside and deep within.
Now ignite a single flame,
shadows form, let light remain.

As they gleaned the word of life,
narrative of love and strife,
people through each age have known
yet more light: God's glory shown.

Andrew E Pratt (born 1948)

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God of hope, dwell among us. Set us upon the
foundations of your grace. Let your humble birth
remind us that no place is too lowly for your love to enter. Amen.

The Ministry of the Word

Prayer for the day

God of all peoples, whose servant John came baptising and calling for repentance: help us to hear his voice of judgement, that we may also rejoice in his word of promise, and be found pure and blameless in that glorious Day when Christ comes to rule the earth as Prince of Peace; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

Children's ministry

Prayer before the reading of scripture

Thank you, Father, for making yourself known to us and showing the way of salvation through faith in your Son.

We ask you now to teach and encourage us through your word, so that we may be ready to serve you;

for the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

First Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10

Hymn: Come thou long expected Jesus

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 longing heart.

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

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

Charles Wesley

Gospel reading: Matthew 2:1-12

Sermon

Reflection Music

The Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father;
from there 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.

The Ministry of Prayer

We pray for the church and the world.

Accept our prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who taught us to 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.

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.

Confession of sin

The Lord comes, bringing to light things now
hidden in darkness, and disclosing the purposes of
the heart.

A pause for reflection

Let us open our hearts and prepare for his coming,
confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

Merciful God,
our maker and our judge,
we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
and in what we have failed to do:
we have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves;
we repent, and are sorry for all our sins.
Father, forgive us.
Strengthen us to love and obey you
in newness of life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Almighty God,
who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to
him in faith:
pardon you and set you free from all your sins,
strengthen you in all goodness
and keep you in eternal life,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Greeting of peace

We are the body of Christ.
His Spirit is with us.

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

Please say hello to everyone!

The Offertory

Hymn: On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
announces that the Lord is nigh;
come then and hearken for he brings
glad tidings from the King of kings!

Then cleansed be every heart from sin;
make straight the way for God within;
prepare we in our hearts a home,
where such a mighty guest may come.

For You are our salvation, Lord,
our refuge and our great reward;
without Your grace we waste away,
like flowers that wither and decay.

To heal the sick stretch out Your hand,
and bid the fallen sinner stand;
shine forth and let your light restore
earth's own true loveliness once more.

To Him who left the throne of heaven
to free us all, let praise be given;
and praise be to the Father done,
and Holy Spirit, Three in One.

*Charles Coffin tr John Chandler
altered © 1986 Horrobin/Leavers*

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Loving God,...

Lord our God,
we give you thanks and praise.

We thank you that when we turned

Lord our God,
we give you thanks and praise.

We thank you that on the cross...

Lord our God,
we give you thanks and praise.

We thank you that as the word made flesh...

Lord our God,
we give you thanks and praise.

And so with everyone who believes in you,
with all the saints and angels,
we rejoice and praise you, saying:

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

...and to remember all he has done for us:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

...in songs of never-ending praise:

Blessing and honour and glory and power
are yours for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of bread and the Communion

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
We who are many are one body,
for we all share in the one bread.

The gifts of God for the people of God...

Communion is shared

Post Communion Prayer

Most loving God,
you send us into the world you love.
Give us grace to go thankfully and with courage
in the power of your Spirit.

The sending out of God's people

Notices

Hymn: Christ is surely coming

Christ is surely coming, bringing His reward,
Alpha and Omega, 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!

Blessing

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you, and
make you ready to meet him when he comes in
glory; And the blessing... Amen

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen

From Revelation 22

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