

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST
ST ALBAN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, EPPING NSW

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

4 December 2022

8am and 10am



Welcome to this service at St Alban's Church. This service outline will assist you as you take part in the service.

If you wish to make an offertory towards the work of the Parish, please place it in the Offertory Box located in the aisle towards the rear of the church.

You are welcome to sit at any stage during the service should you find the need. We invite you to join in the words in bold type.

Please stand as the ministers enter.

HYMN (10am service only)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1 Hail to the Lord's anointed,
great David's greater Son;
hail, in the time appointed,
his reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression,
to let the captive free,
and take away transgression,
and rule in equity.</p> | <p>3 He shall come down like showers
upon the fruitful earth,
and love, joy, hope, like flowers,
spring in his path to birth;
before him on the mountains
shall peace the herald go,
and righteousness in fountains
from hill to valley flow.</p> |
| <p>2 He comes with help and mercy
to those who suffer wrong,
to raise the poor and needy,
and bid the weak be strong,
to give them songs for sighing,
their darkness turn to light,
whose souls condemned and dying
were precious in his sight.</p> | <p>4 Kings shall fall down before him,
and gold and incense bring;
all nations shall adore him,
his praise all people sing;
to him shall prayer unceasing
and daily vows ascend;
his kingdom still increasing,
a kingdom without end.</p> |

5 O'er every foe victorious,
he on his throne shall rest,
from age to age more glorious,
all blessing and all-blest.
The tide of time shall never
his covenant remove;
his name shall stand for ever,
that name to us is love.

James Montgomery (1771-1854). Public domain

WELCOME

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

President:

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Lord Jesus, you are the light in our darkness.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Bring hope into the lives of all people.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Bless us as we gather in your name.

Come, Lord Jesus.

The second Advent Candle is lit.

Loving God, as we continue our Advent preparation and reflection, we thank you for the hope you bring us in Christ's coming. Prepare our hearts to be transformed by your Spirit, that we may walk in the light of Christ.

Let us continue to look to Christ, confident in his promises, and open to his call to trust and follow him.

We will be open to God's Spirit, and accept the challenge to live lives that reflect his love.

Let us show humility and compassion in our lives, reflecting the love of Christ.

We will welcome Christ into our hearts. We will be open to the guidance of his Spirit and the power of his love. We will go forth from this place in hope.

'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' Jesus said: 'This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: you shall love your neighbour as yourself.'

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

President:

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.**

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

(Seated)

First Reading

Isaiah 11.1-10

A reading from the Book of Isaiah, Chapter 11, beginning at verse 1

¹ A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. ² The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. ³ His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; ⁴ but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. ⁵ Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. ⁶ The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. ⁷ The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. ⁸ The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. ⁹ They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. ¹⁰ On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Hear the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 72.1-7, 18-21

¹ Give the king your judgement, O God:

and your righteousness to the son of a king,

² **That he may judge your people rightly:
and the poor of the land with equity.**

³ Let the mountains be laden with peace
because of his righteousness:

and the hills also with prosperity for his people.

⁴ **May he give justice to the poor among the people:**

and rescue the children of the needy, and crush the oppressor.

⁵ May he live while the sun endures:

and while the moon gives light, throughout all generations.

**6 May he come down like rain upon the new-mown fields:
and as showers that water the earth.**

7 In his time shall righteousness flourish:
and abundance of peace, till the moon shall be no more.

**18 Let his name live for ever:
and endure as long as the sun.**

19 Let all peoples use his name in blessing:
and all nations call him blessed.

**20 Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel:
who alone does great wonders.**

21 Blessed be his glorious name for ever:
and let the whole earth be filled with his glory. Amen, Amen.

Second Reading

Romans 15.4-13

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans, Chapter 15, beginning at verse 4

4 Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. **5** May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, **6** so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. **7** Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. **8** For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, **9** and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, 'Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name';¹⁰ and again he says, 'Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people'; **11** and again, 'Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him'; **12** and again Isaiah says, 'The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope.' **13** May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Hear the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

HYMN

1 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.

2 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.

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

4 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.

5 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 1676-1749 Tr John Chandler 1808-1876. Public domain.

GOSPEL (*Standing*)

Matthew 3.1-12

Deacon:

Alleluia,

Prepare the way of the Lord:

All people shall see the salvation of God.

Alleluia!

The Lord be with you

and also with you.

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew, Chapter 3, beginning at verse 1

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

¹ In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming,
² 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.' ³ This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, 'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight."' ⁴ Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵ Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, ⁶ and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁷ But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸ Bear fruit worthy of repentance. ⁹ Do not presume to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ¹⁰ Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.¹¹ 'I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹² His winnowing-fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing-floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

THE SERMON (*8am service only*)

(*Please sit when indicated by the Preacher.*)

Bishop Ross Nicholson

PRAYER OF APPROACH

(Remain kneeling or seated)

President:

Let us pray

We do not presume to come to your table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord whose nature is always to have mercy.

Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Deacon:

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

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.

President:

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.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Seated)

THE GREETING OF PEACE

(Standing)

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 turn to those nearby, and offer a simple greeting of peace.

HYMN

- 1 I danced in the morning when the world was begun,
and I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun:
and I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth,
at Bethlehem I had my birth:
*Dance then, wherever you may be;
I am the Lord of the dance, said he;
and I'll lead you all where ever you may be,
and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.*
- 2 I danced for the scribe and the Pharisee,
but they would not dance and they wouldn't follow me.
I danced for the fishermen, for James and John;
they came with me and the dance went on.
- 3 I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame;
the holy people said it was a shame.
They whipped and they stripped and they hung me high,
and they left me there on a cross to die:
- 4 I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black;
it's hard to dance with the devil on your back.
They buried my body and they thought I'd gone;
but I am the dance and I still go on:
- 5 They cut me down and I leapt up high,
I am the life that'll never, never die;
I'll live in you as you live in me:
I am the Lord of the dance, said he:

Sydney Carter (1915-2004) © Stainer & Bell Ltd. Used By Permission. CCL Licence No. 247379

OFFERTORY PRAYER

(Remain standing)

President:

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have gifts to share. Accept our offerings, those we bring this morning, as well as those being made through electronic transfers and envelopes to the office. May they all be used for your glory and for the service of your kingdom.

Blessed be God for ever.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

(Standing)

President:

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 our thanks and praise.

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere, mighty Creator, everliving God.

We give you thanks and praise for your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, who was looked for by the prophets, heralded by the Baptist announced by an angel, born of the Virgin Mary, and revealed at last to men and women of every race.

By his death on the cross and rising to new life, he offered the one true sacrifice for sin and obtained an eternal deliverance for his people.

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:

Said at 8am, sung at 10am:

**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.

Merciful God, we thank you for these gifts of your creation, this bread and wine, and we pray that by your Word and Holy Spirit, we who eat and drink them may be partakers of Christ's body and blood.

On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread; and when he had given you thanks he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying,

'Take, eat. This is my body given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.'

After supper, he took the cup, and again giving you thanks he gave it to his disciples, saying,

'Drink from this, all of you. This is my blood of the new covenant shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

Said at 8am, sung at 10am:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Therefore we do as our Saviour has commanded: proclaiming his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming again, we celebrate, with this bread and this cup, his one perfect and sufficient sacrifice for the sins of the whole world.

Renew us by your Holy Spirit, unite us in the body of your Son, and bring us with all your people into the joy of your eternal kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord, with whom, and in whom, in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, we worship you, Father, in songs of never-ending praise:

Said at 8am, sung at 10am:

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

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident 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.

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.

Said at 8am, sung at 10am:

Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.

Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us your peace.

Deacon:

The gifts of God for the people of God. Come let us take this holy sacrament of the body and blood of Christ in remembrance that he died for us, and feed on him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

President:

The body of Christ keep you in eternal life.

The blood of Christ keep you in eternal life.

Members of all Christian churches are invited to receive Communion at Saint Alban's, or you may wish to come forward for a prayer of blessing.

Please move to the Chancel Steps by the centre aisle to receive the Sacrament standing. Then return to your place by the side aisle, placing your used cup in the container at the end of the front pew. Gluten-free wafers and non-alcoholic grape juice are available.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

(Remain kneeling or seated)

President:

God for whom we wait, we thank you that you have fed us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation. As we joyfully await your Son, keep us ever watchful, that we may be ready to stand before him on the day of his coming.

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.

HYMN

1 Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heaven, to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
pure unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter every trembling heart.

2 Come, almighty to deliver,
let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never,
never more thy temples leave:
thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.

3 Finish then thy new creation,
pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation,
perfectly restored in thee,
changed from glory into glory,
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise!

Charles Wesley (1707-88) - Public domain

BLESSING

President:

Christ the Sun of righteousness shine upon you, 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.**

Deacon

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ.

Please take this sheet with you, as at this time it cannot be reused.

NEXT SUNDAY

8am Eucharist
10am Eucharist (also streamed)
4.30pm 'All in Church'
6pm Taizé

Sunday School

will be in recess from next Sunday

Next Thursday

9.30am - Reading, Reflection and Prayers for Healing by Zoom
10.30am – Eucharist with Prayers for Healing at St Albans