



Where all find a welcome and are nurtured in their journey with Christ.

Said Eucharist The Second Sunday of Advent



Staying safe

Use hand sanitiser

Clean your hands when leaving the building using the provided hand sanitiser.

Wear a face covering

If you can, please cover your mouth and nose at all times except when receiving communion.

Keep two metres apart

Keep your distance from members of other households and bubbles. Do not share pews with others from outside your household or bubble.

Keep doorways and aisles clear

Do not stand and talk in any doorways or aisles. Do not socialise with others inside the church.

Sit only in the available pews

Please only sit in the available pews as instructed by our stewards.

Tell us if you get sick

If you develop symptoms of COVID-19 within 14 days of entering the church please contact us and let us know as soon as you can.

Please take this order of service home

We cannot collect or re-use any of our orders of service from today. Please take this booklet home with you and recycle it with your other paper and card.

Do you need a printed order of service?

If you attend one of our in-person services in future you can follow the order of service on your own phone or tablet.

Using your own device to read the order of service helps avoid us handing out these printed booklets, which both reduces the risk of infection and helps to reduce our carbon footprint.

You can always find the latest order of service online at **whitkirkchurch.org.uk/oos**, or you can point your phone or tablet's camera at the QR code displayed as you enter the building.

If you need WIFI then you can connect to our free guest WIFI by pointing your phone or tablet's camera at the QR code or using the details displayed as you enter the building.

For help connecting to the WIFI or viewing the order of service, please ask one of our stewards.

The Gathering

Please stand at the sound of the bell as the sacred ministers enter, during which the Choir sings an introit.

Creator of the stars of night,
Thy people's everlasting light,
O Jesu. Saviour of us all,
Regard thy servants when they call.

Thou camest, Bridegroom of the bride,
As drew the world to evening-tide,
Proceeding from a virgin-shrine,
The Son of Man, yet Lord divine.

At thy great name, exalted now,
All knees must bend, all hearts must bow,
And things in heav'n and earth shall own
That thou art Lord and King alone.

All praise, eternal Son, to thee,
Whose advent sets thy people free,
Whom with the Father we adore,
And Spirit blest, for evermore. Amen.

Words: 7th century text translated by John Mason Neale

Music: Plainsong melody

The Gathering

In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The Greeting

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

and also with you.

Words of Welcome

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.

Silence is kept.

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

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

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

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

You will come in glory
with salvation for your people:

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

The president says

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.

The Collect

The president introduces a period of silent prayer with the words 'Let us pray'.

O Lord,
raise up, we pray, your power and come among us,
and with great might succour us;
that whereas, through our sins and wickedness
we are grievously hindered
in running the race that is set before us,
your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honour and glory, now and for ever.

Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

Please sit.

A reading from the second letter of Peter.

Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

2 Peter 3.8-15a

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

The Choir sings an acclamation to herald the Gospel

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

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

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

cf Isaiah 40.3-5

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,"'

John the baptiser appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptised by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, 'The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptised you with water; but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.'

Mark 1.1-8

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Please sit.

The Nicene Creed

Please stand.

Let us declare our faith in God.

**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,
was 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.

The response to the bidding.

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

Then at the end.

Merciful Father,

**Accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,
Our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

Please stand.

The Peace

God will speak peace to his people,
to those who turn to him in their hearts.

The peace of the Lord be always with you

and also with you.

Please sit.

Preparation of the Table

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

A hymn is sung by the Choir. Please follow this and pray the words.

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
announces that the Lord is nigh;
awake, and hearken, for he brings
glad tidings of the King of kings.

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

For thou art our salvation, Lord,
our refuge and our great reward;
without thy grace we waste away,
like flow'rs that wither and decay.

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

All praise, eternal Son, to thee
whose advent doth thy people free,
whom with the Father we adore
and Holy Ghost for evermore.

Taking of the bread and wine

As this bread was scattered
and then gathered and made one,
so may your Church be gathered into your kingdom.

Glory to you, O God, for ever.

Wisdom has built her a house;
she has mixed her wine; she has set her table.

Glory to you, O God, for ever.

Please stand.

The Eucharistic Prayer (A)

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.

It is indeed right and good to give you thanks and
praise, almighty God and everlasting Father,
through Jesus Christ your Son.

For when he humbled himself
to come among us in human flesh,
he fulfilled the plan you formed
before the foundation of the world
to open for us the way of salvation.

Confident that your promise will be fulfilled,
we now watch for the day

when Christ our Lord will come again in glory.

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 saying:

**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.**

Accept our praises, heavenly Father,
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,
and as we follow his example and obey his command,
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us his body and his blood;
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.

Therefore, heavenly Father,
we remember his offering of himself
made once for all upon the cross;
we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious
ascension; we look for the coming of your kingdom,
and with this bread and this cup
we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

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.**

Accept through him, our great high priest,
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts
in the presence of your divine majesty,
renew us by your Spirit,
inspire us with your love
and unite us in the body of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,
we worship you, Father almighty,
in songs of everlasting praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power
be yours for ever and ever.**

Amen.

Please sit as silence is kept.

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has 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.**

Breaking of the Bread

The president breaks the consecrated bread.

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.**

Invitation to Communion

God's holy gifts
for God's holy people.

**Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

The president and people receive communion.

At the giving of communion, the president receives communion in both kinds.

The words of distribution ("The body and blood of Christ, broken/shed for us all") are spoken to the congregation, and all who intend to receive reply with "Amen".

Please follow the instruction of the stewards. At the distribution, Holy Communion is administered without speaking. The consecrated bread is dropped into the hands of communicants.

To reduce the risk of spreading any infection, communion will be in one kind (bread) only. This is still considered to be complete communion by the Church of England.

The Post Communion Prayer and The Lighting of the Advent Candle

Please stand.

The president introduces a time of silent prayer with the words 'Let us pray'.

Father in heaven,
who sent your Son to redeem the world
and will send him again to be our judge:
give us grace so to imitate him
in the humility and purity of his first coming that,
when he comes again,
we may be ready to greet him with joyful love and firm faith;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The president then moves to the Advent Wreath to light the second of the Advent candles. This week the candle helps us remember the Prophets and reflect on the way that the birth of the Messiah was foretold.

The candle is lit and this prayer is said.

Blessed are you, sovereign Lord, just and true:
to you be praise and glory for ever.
Of old you spoke by the mouth of your prophets,
but in our days you speak through your Son,
whom you have appointed the heir of all things.
Grant us, your people, to walk in his light,
that we may be found ready and watching
when he comes again in glory and judgement;
for you are our light and our salvation.

Blessed be God for ever.

A hymn is sung by the Choir.

The Lord will come and not be slow,
his footsteps cannot err;
before him righteousness shall go,
his royal harbinger.

Truth from the earth, like to a flow'r,
shall bud and blossom free;
and justice, from her heav'nly bow'r,
bless all humanity,

The nations all whom thou hast made
shall come, and all shall frame
to bow them low before thee, Lord,
and glorify thy name.

For great thou art, and wonders great
by thy strong hand are done;
thou in thy everlasting seat
remainest God alone.

The Dismissal

The Blessing

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you,
scatter the darkness from before your path,
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.

The Dismissal

As we await our coming Saviour,
go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

Please sit and wait for the stewards to invite you to leave.

Support our work

St Mary's is a charity which receives no funding from the government and is entirely dependent on donations and fees to keep operating.

If you'd like to donate to support our work you can give contactlessly as you leave the building by tapping your contactless card or device against our card reader. If you prefer, you can leave cash in the offering plate by the door.

You can also donate online, quickly and easily, using either a bank card or directly from your bank account, by visiting **whitkirkchurch.org.uk/donate**

If you'd like to give in some other way, find out more about planned giving, or read about how we use donations then please see our donations page.