

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

Sung Eucharist

The first Sunday of Advent



Welcome to St Mary's



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 its doors open, continue its work in the community, and maintain its buildings and outdoor spaces.

If you would like to donate to support us you can give during the service as giving plates are passed around. Alternatively, you can place your offering on the plate by the door as you leave or tap your contactless card or device, or give online by card or directly from your bank by scanning this QR Code with your phone's camera or by visiting wkrk.uk/donate.

If you'd like to give in some other way, find out about planned giving, or learn how we use donations then please ask any member of our team.

Accessible for everyone

We aim to be accessible for everyone. For more information on accessibility at St Mary's please see wkrk.uk/access or ask any member of our team.



Our stewards are here to help

Please follow all instructions from our stewards, especially during communion. If you need extra help during a service, or if you would need help to leave the building in an emergency, please let us know.

Digital order of service available

If you prefer, you can follow our order of service on your own phone or tablet. Just visit wkrk.uk/oos on your browser or scan this OR Code.



This service is streamed

We record and live-stream many of our services. If you'd prefer not to appear on camera, please let any member of our team know. You can find more information on streaming, privacy and your rights on our website at **wkrk.uk/sp** or by scanning this QR Code.



(+) Communion is your choice

Communion is available as both bread and wine, but if you wish to only receive the bread please do so and then return to your seat. Receiving only the bread is still considered to be full communion by the Church of England.

Children welcome

We love having children at our services and we want them – and their families – to love being here. If your children need to move around or make noise during the service, please don't feel uncomfortable. We are glad to hear and see them; they are the future of the church!

Toys and activities are available in our Tots' Corner are near the main door, and children are welcome to make use of these either in this area or in their pew. This area is not supervised; children must be always supervised by a responsible adult.

Safeguarding

Our Parish Safeguarding team can be contacted at any time. You can talk to Rev'd Claire or to Janet Blenkinsop, our Parish Safeguarding Officer, you can email safeguarding@whitkirkchurch.org.uk, or you can find more information and contact details at wkrk.uk/safe.



Other services this week

Said Eucharist

Wednesday 3 December at 10.00 am

Compline by Candlelight

Wednesday 3 December at 8.30 pm

Sung Eucharist for the second Sunday of Advent

Sunday 7 December at 10.00 am

Advent Carol Service

Sunday 7 December at 6.00 pm

Advent and Christmas at St Mary's

- December 7, 6.00 pm: Advent Carol Service
 'The one who is to come...'
- December 13, 7.00 pm: Svitoch Ukrainian Choir An Advent Concert
- December 14, 4.00 pm: Messy Christingle
 Messy Church for Christmas, with a short Christingle service
- December 18, 6.00 pm: The Longest Night A chance to reflect and remember
- December 19, 7.00 pm: Carol Singalong in the Brown Cow
 With Altofts and Normanton Brass Band
- December 21, 7.00 pm: Festival of Lessons and Carols
- Christmas Eve, 5.00 pm: Crib Service
- Christmas Eve, 11.30 pm: Midnight Mass

Notices and events

The Leeds South & East Food Bank: What's Needed in November

The Leeds South & East Food Bank continues to be in urgent need of donations of food to help feed those in most need. In particular at the moment they are asking for UHT milk, biscuits, custard, cooking sauces and tinned or packet mashed potatoes.

If you are able, you can donate by picking one of these items up in your weekly shop and dropping it in the box at the back of the church. You can find other ways to help, including donating money or your time, on their website at wkrk.uk/fbd. If you need the help of a foodbank yourself, see wkrk.uk/fbh.

Thank you!

A huge thank you to everyone who contributed in any way to yesterday's Christmas Fair, whether by running a stall, providing prizes, baking cakes, helping in the kitchen, setting up, clearing away, attending and spending your money, or simply telling people about it. It takes effort from everyone to make this event a success! Thank you all so much!

Advent Course 2025

A reminder that the Tuesday session of our Advent course will take place in the church this week, due to the pantomime which is taking place in the Community Centre.

Pilgrims in the Park

Pilgrims in the Park is taking a winter break (partly due to the weather and partly due to clashes with other activities such as the Christmas Fair). It will be back in March as the weather hopefully starts to improve again. Watch this space for more details in due course.

Experience Church

Children from our local primary schools will be taking part in Experience Church in the church from Wednesday 3 December until Friday 5 December. Only those helping with these sessions will be able to access the church on Wednesday afternoon, all day Thursday, and Friday morning. We apologise for any inconvenience.

Bible discussion group

Due to clashes with other Christmas and Advent activities, the Bible Discussion Group will take a break in December. It will restart on Friday 9 January, 6.00 pm until 7.00 pm as usual.

Advent Carol Service: "The one who is to come..."

Next Sunday 7 December at 6.00 pm

We would love you to join us next Sunday (in the usual Choral Evensong slot) for our Advent Carol Service. As the church moves from darkness to light, we will sing Advent hymns and will hear a series of readings that point us to Jesus as 'the one who is to come', as the choir sings Advent anthems. Come for a multi-sensory experience to help us focus not just on Christmas but on this time of waiting and anticipation.

You are warmly invited to join us after the service for refreshments in our Community Centre.						
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The Gathering

Our worship begins at the sound of the bell, please stand as the sacred ministers enter, during which the introit hymn is sung.

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 thee, O Israel.

O come, thou rod of Jesse, free thine own from Satan's tyranny; from depths of hell thy people save, and give them vict'ry o'er the grave. Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thine advent here; disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight. Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

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

Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to the tribes on Sinai's height in ancient time didst give the Law, in cloud and majesty and awe.

Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Words: from the 'Great O Antiphons' (12th century) translated by John Mason Neale (1818-1866) Music: adapted by Thomas Helmore (1811-1890) from a French Missal arranged by Colin Hand (1929-2015) Hymn Tune: VENI EMMANUEL

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

Lighting of the Advent Candle

The president moves to the Advent Wreath to light the first of the Advent candles. This week the candle helps us to remember the Patriarchs and Matriarchs — Abraham and Sarah, our father and mother in faith, and David the ancestor in whose city Jesus was born.

God of Abraham and Sarah, and all the patriarchs and matriarchs of old, you are our Father and Mother too. Your love is revealed to us in Jesus Christ, Son of God and Son of David. Help us in preparing to celebrate his birth to make our hearts ready for your Holy Spirit to make his home among us. We ask this through Jesus Christ, the light who is coming into the world.

Amen.

The first candle is lit.

Lord Jesus, light of the world, born in David's city of Bethlehem, born like him to be a king: be born in our hearts at Christmas, be King of our lives today.

Amen.

Invitation to Confession

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.

Heavenly Father, you have created a universe of light: forgive us when we return to darkness.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you are the light of the world: cleanse and heal our blinded sight.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Holy Spirit, you give us light in our hearts: renew us in faith and love.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

A setting of the 'Kyrie eleison' is sung by the Choir.

Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy, Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy.

The president says:

Almighty God, who in Jesus Christ has given us a kingdom that cannot be destroyed, forgive you your sins, open your eyes to God's truth, strengthen you to do God's will and give you the joy of his kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Collect

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

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.

The Liturgy of the Word

Please sit

Amen.

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.' For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

Isaiah 2.1-5

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn

Please stand as the gradual hymn is sung. During the hymn a procession will make its way to the centre of the nave from where the Gospel for the day is read. To symbolise our desire to turn to Christ in our daily lives, at the end of the hymn we remain standing and turn to face the place where the Gospel is proclaimed.

Hark the glad sound! the Saviour comes, the Saviour promised long: let ev'ry heart prepare a throne, and ev'ry voice a song.

He comes, the pris'ners to release in Satan's bondage held; the gates of brass before him burst, the iron fetters yield.

He comes, the broken heart to bind, the bleeding soul to cure, and with the treasures of his grace enrich the humble poor.

Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace, thy welcome shall proclaim; and heav'n's eternal arches ring with thy beloved name.

> Words: Philip Doddridge (1702-1751) based on Luke 4.18-19 Music: Thomas Ravenscroft (c.1582- c.1633), 'Psalms' (1621) Hymn Tune: BRISTOL

Gospel Reading

Choir Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Choir 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 Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field: one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.

Matthew 24.36-44

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Please sit after the preacher leads us in prayer.

An Affirmation of Faith

Please stand with the president.

Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of God.

Though he was divine,
he did not cling to equality with God,
but made himself nothing.

Taking the form of a slave,
he was born in human likeness.

He humbled himself
and was obedient to death,
even the death of the cross.

Therefore God has raised him on high,
and given him the name above every name:
that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bow,
and every voice proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

Amen.

cf Philippians 2.6-11

Prayers of Intercession

Following an invitation to pray from the intercessor we kneel or sit to pray.

The following response is used.

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.

Blessing of the Posada

At the end of the prayers, the Posada set (see the notices for more information) is blessed and given to the first home receiving them using these words.

Lord God our Father,
we give you thanks and praise
for this season of Advent.
As Mary and Joseph journeyed to Bethlehem
we pray you bless our journey through this season
and these Posada figures
that as they are welcomed into homes in our parish
they will help us make ready for the coming of your Son
our Saviour, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Those receiving the figures respond:

Lord God our Father,
we receive these figures with thanks
and pray that as we welcome them into our house
you may visit us with your love
and help us make space in our lives
to welcome your Son,
our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

Please stand.

The Peace

In the tender mercy of our God, the dayspring from on high shall break upon us, to give light to those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

cf Luke 1.78,79

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

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

This is usually a handshake shared with those near you.

Preparation of the Table

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

A hymn is sung. During this hymn a collection, our financial offering in support of the work of the church both at St. Mary's and across our diocese, is taken.

You can place cash or giving envelopes on the collection plates as they are passed around. If you would prefer, or if you miss the plate, you can also give by scanning this QR code, or by tapping your contactless card or device on the card reader by the door as you leave.



Hills of the North, rejoice, echoing songs arise. hail with united voice him who made earth and skies: he comes in righteousness and love, he brings salvation from above.

Isles of the Southern seas. sing to the listening earth, carry on ev'ry breeze, hope of a world's new birth: in Christ shall all be made anew, his word is sure, his promise true.

Lands of the East, arise, he is your brightest morn, greet him with joyous eyes, praise shall his path adorn: the God whom we have longed to know in Christ draws near, and calls you now. Shores of the utmost West, lands of the setting sun, welcome the heav'nly guest in whom the dawn has come: he brings a never-ending light who triumphed o'er our darkest night.

Shout, as you journey on, songs be in ev'ry mouth; lo, from the North they come, from East and West and South. in Jesus all shall find their rest, in him the sons of earth be blest.

Words: from the New English Hymnal based on Charles Edward Oakley (1832-1865) Music: Martin Shaw (1875-1958) Hymn Tune: LITTLE CORNARD

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 kneel or sit.

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 singing:

Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might.
Heav'n and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessèd is he, O blessèd is he
who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest, 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, 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.

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.

The **Agnus Dei** is sung as the bread is broken for distribution.

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

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

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

Invitation to Communion

Draw near with faith.

Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you.

Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

Most merciful Lord,
your love compels us to come in.
Our hands were unclean,
our hearts were unprepared;
we were not fit
even to eat the crumbs from under your table.
But you, Lord, are the God of our salvation,
and share your bread with sinners.
So cleanse and feed us
with the precious body and blood of your Son,
that he may live in us and we in him;
and that we, with the whole company of Christ,
may sit and eat in your kingdom.
Amen.

The president and people receive communion. All baptised Christians are welcome to receive the sacrament. Please follow the guidance offered by the stewards.

If you are not baptised, or would prefer to not receive, then do still come forward for a blessing bringing this book with you so the president knows your intention.

The sacrament is available in both kinds, however if you wish to only receive the bread please do so and then return to your place. Receiving in one kind is still considered to be full communion by the Church of England. Please do not dip bread in the wine (sometimes called 'intincting'). For those at home it might be helpful to use this prayer during the distribution

Almighty God, as your kingdom dawns, turn us from the darkness of sin to the light of holiness, that we may be ready to meet you in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Anthem

Sung by the Choir.

This is the truth sent from above, the truth of God, the God of love, therefore don't turn me from your door, but hearken all both rich and poor.

The first thing which I do relate is that God did man create; the next thing which to you I'll tell woman was made with man to dwell.

Thus we were heirs to endless woes, till God the Lord did interpose; and so a promise soon did run that he would redeem us by his Son.

And at that season of the year our blest Redeemer did appear; he here did live, and here did preach, and many thousands he did teach.

Thus he in love to us behaved, to show us how we must be saved; and if you want to know the way, be pleased to hear what he did say.

Words & Music: English traditional carol arranged by Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

The following communion hymns may be sung during the distribution as time allows. Please remain seated.

The advent of our King our prayers must now employ, and we must hymns of welcome sing in strains of holy joy.

The everlasting Son incarnate deigns to be; himself a servant's form puts on, to set his servants free.

Daughter of Sion, rise to meet thy lowly King; nor let thy faithless heart despise the peace he comes to bring. As Judge, on clouds of light, he soon will come again, and his true members all unite with him in heav'n to reign.

All glory to the Son who comes to set us free, with Father, Spirit, ever One, through all eternity.

> Words: Charles Coffin (1676-1749) translated by John Chandler (1806-1876) alt. Music: from 'Harmonischer Liederschatz' adapted by William Henry Havergal (1793-1870) Hymn Tune: FRANCONIA

Born in the night,
Mary's child,
a long way from your home;
coming in need,
Mary's child,
born in a borrowed room.

Clear shining light,
Mary's child,
your face lights up our way;
light of the world,
Mary's child,
dawn on our darkened day.

Truth of our life,
Mary's child,
you tell us God is good;
prove it is true,
Mary's child,
go to your cross of wood.

Hope of the world,
Mary's child,
you're coming soon to reign;
King of the earth,
Mary's child,
walk in our streets again.

Words & Music: Geoffrey Ainger (1925-2013)

Hymn Tune: MARY'S CHILD

The Post Communion Prayer

Please stand as the president introduces a time of silent prayer with the words 'Let us pray'.

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.

Amen.

Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out
in the power of your Spirit
to live and work
to your praise and glory.
Amen.

A hymn is sung.

Lo, he comes with clouds descending, once for favoured sinners slain; thousand, thousand saints attending swell the triumph of his train.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Christ appears, on earth to reign.

Ev'ry eye shall now behold him robed in dreadful majesty; we who set at naught and sold him, pierced and nailed him to the tree, deeply wailing, deeply wailing, shall the true Messiah see.

Those dear tokens of his passion still his dazzling body bears, cause of endless exultation to his ransomed worshippers: with what rapture, with what rapture gaze we on those glorious scars!

Yea, amen, let all adore thee, high on thine eternal throne; Saviour, take the pow'r and glory, claim the kingdom for thine own. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Thou shalt reign, and thou alone.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), John Cennick (1718-1755) and Martin Madan (1726-1790) alt. Music: from John Wesley's 'Select Hymns with Tunes Annext' (1765) Hymn Tune: HELMSLEY

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

Our Lord says, 'I am coming soon.'

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

May the Lord, when he comes, find us watching and waiting.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

Our regular services

Sung Eucharist: Every Sunday at 10.00 am

Said Eucharist: Every Wednesday at 10.00 am

Choral Evensong: First Sunday of the month at 6.00 pm

Compline: First Wednesday of the month at 8.30 pm

Sanctuary: Second Thursday of the month at 6.30 pm

Sacred Space: Last Thursday of the month at 6.00 pm

Pilgrims in the Park: Last Saturday of the month at 2.00 pm

at Temple Newsam Park

Daily Prayers: Tuesday to Saturday at 8.30am and 5.30pm

Contact us

If you'd like to get in touch you can call us on **0113 264 5790**, send an email to **hello@whitkirkchurch.org.uk**, or find more details on our website at **whitkirkchurch.org.uk/contact**.

To help us reach net zero carbon emissions by 2030, St Mary's uses recycled paper for all its single-use printing.

Please take this order of service home to recycle again.

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Registered Charity Number 1130280

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