

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*

The Lord be with you.  
And also with you.

Bind up the broken-hearted, proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners, proclaim the year of the Lord's favour, the day of vengeance of our God.

*Isaiah 61.1-2*

### *Hymn: Lord, your almighty word*

Lord, your almighty word  
chaos and darkness heard,  
and took their flight:  
hear us, we humbly pray,  
and where the gospel day  
sheds not its glorious ray,  
let there be light.

Saviour, who came to give  
those who in darkness live  
healing and sight,  
health to the sick in mind,  
sight to the inly blind,  
now to all humankind  
let there be light.

Spirit of truth and love,  
life-giving holy dove,  
speed forth your flight;  
move on the water's face,  
bearing the lamp of grace,  
and in earth's darkest place  
let there be light.

Holy and blessed Three,  
glorious Trinity,  
Wisdom, Love, Might,  
**boundless as ocean's tide**  
rolling in fullest pride,  
through the earth far and wide,  
let there be light.

*John Marriott*

### *Advent Candle Liturgy*

We light the third candle of Advent.

We look to John, the one you sent, to point us to your light. The light will come into our world and enlighten everyone.

We have known people who have challenged us and called us into God's light. They seem, like John, called by God to prepare us for a deeper faith.

God sent John the Baptizer to prepare the people for the coming of Jesus Christ, the true Light of the World. John called for people to repent of their sins and to live faithfully. He baptized with a cleansing water and proclaimed the new life that Christ, the one who would follow him, would bring.

This Advent, we ask for God's mercy and a joyful new beginning.

Merciful God, we give thanks that you send messengers like John to call us to greater faith. We ask that in these days we prepare for you in prayer and acts of holy compassion. Forgive us and lead us to your light. Amen.

### *Hymn: Light one candle*

Light one candle for hope,  
one bright candle for hope.  
He brings hope to every heart.  
He comes! He comes!

Light one candle for peace,  
one bright candle for peace.  
He brings peace to every heart.  
He comes! He comes!

Light one candle for joy,  
one bright candle for joy.  
**Every nation will find salvation**  
in Beth'lem's baby boy.

*Natalie Sleeth*

## *The Ministry of the Word*

### *Prayer for the day*

Merciful God, you sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer, 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 6:1-4, 8-11*

#### **Hymn: Be still and know**

**Be still and know that I am God.  
Be still and know that I am God.  
Be still and know that I am God.**

I am the Lord that healeth thee.  
I am the Lord that healeth thee.  
I am the Lord that healeth thee.

In Thee, O Lord, I put my trust.  
In Thee, O Lord, I put my trust.  
In Thee, O Lord, I put my trust.

#### *Gospel reading: John 1:6-8, 19-28*

#### *The Sermon*

#### **Music for reflection :**

## *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.

*Anon*

### *A pause for reflection*

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

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*

The God of peace sanctify you entirely; may your  
body, and soul, and spirit be kept sound and  
blameless.

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*

**On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry**  
announces that the Lord is nigh;  
come then and listen 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,  
make wholeness **flow** at Your command;  
**sin's devastation now restore**  
earth's own true loveliness once more.

**To Him who left the throne of heaven**  
to save mankind, all praise be given;  
to God the Father, voices raise,  
and Holy Spirit, let us praise.

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

### *Thanksgiving for offered gifts*

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.  
Through your goodness we have these gifts to  
share. Accept and use our offerings for your glory  
and for the service of your kingdom.  
Blessed be God for ever

### *The Great Thanksgiving*

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.

...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.

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

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

...Accept our prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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.

*Communion is shared*

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.

### *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: The voice of God goes out*

The voice of God goes out to all the world;  
his glory speaks across the universe.  
The great King's herald cries from star to star:  
**'With power, with justice, he will walk his way.'**

The Lord has said, 'Receive my messenger,  
my promise to the world, my pledge made **flesh,**  
**a lamp to every nation, light from light':**  
**with power, with justice he will walk his way.**

The broken reed he will not trample down,  
nor set his heel upon the dying **flame.**  
He binds the wounds, and health is in his hand:  
**with power, with justice he will walk his way.**

Anointed with the Spirit and with power,  
he comes to crown with comfort all the weak,  
**to show the face of justice to the poor:**  
**with power, with justice he will walk his way.**

His touch will bless the eyes that darkness held,  
**the lame shall run, the halting tongue shall sing,**  
and prisoners laugh in light and liberty:  
**with power, with justice he will walk his way.**

*Luke Connaughton*

*words by permission McCrimmon Publishing, UK*

### *Blessing*

Rejoice in the Lord: pray without ceasing, give  
thanks in all circumstances.  
Do not quench the Spirit. Hold fast to what is good,  
abstain from all evil.  
And the blessing... Amen

### *Dismissal*

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
In the name of Christ. Amen