

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: Tell out my soul

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!
Unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice;
tender to me the promise of His word;
in God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of His name!
Make known His might,
the deeds His arm has done;
His mercy sure, from age to age the same;
His holy name, the Lord, the Mighty One.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of His might!
Powers and dominions lay their glory by.
Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to **flight**,
the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.

Tell out, my soul, the glories of His word!
Firm is His promise, and His mercy sure.
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord
to children's children and for evermore!

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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 light the fourth candle of Advent.

We hear your angel Gabriel and witness the faith of
Mary. Fill us with your grace and light.

We recall the times we have struggled but said yes.
We know times when God has filled us and our
world with blessing.

Mary was a young, strong, spiritual woman. Even
though her life was not easy, she heard God's voice
and said yes. Her song was a prayer that would

uplift those who were downtrodden. Her lyrics
shattered the proud and called the world to change.
She would bear within her the promised child,
Jesus, the Light of the World. This Advent, we
respond to God's beckoning to us as well.

Revealing God, visit us and **fill** us with your Spirit.
Bring your good news to life within us. Give us
courage to carry your light into the injustices and
shadows of this world. Amen.

Hymn: The candle of hope

The candle of hope we light in this hour
Proclaims that the Lord is coming in power.
We wait for a future, now hidden from view,
When Christ in his glory will make all things new.

The candle of peace shines bright with God's plan;
The wolf will lie down and dwell with the lamb.
Our guns and our weapons, our hatred and war,
Will give way to gardens that heal and restore.

The candle of joy reminds us to sing,
For God is at work to do a new thing.
The proud will be humbled; the lowly will rise.
God's kingdom is one of delight and surprise.

The candle of love tells what we are worth:
God loves us so much, God came to the earth!
An angel brought news of a child who would be
The one who would save us and set us all free.

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Confession

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

Silence for reflection

Lord have mercy
Lord have mercy
Lord have mercy

Christ have mercy
Christ have mercy
Christ have mercy

Lord have mercy
Lord have mercy
Lord have mercy

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.

Prayer for the day

Gracious God, whose eternal Word took flesh
among us when Mary placed her life at the service
of your will: prepare our hearts for his coming again
and keep us steadfast in hope, that we may be
ready for the coming of his kingdom; for his sake,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen

The Ministry of the Word

First Reading: 2 Samuel 7:1-11,16

Song of Mary

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord:
my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,

Who has looked with favour on his lowly servant:
from this day all generations will call me blessed.

The Almighty has done great things for me:
and holy is his name.

God has mercy on those who fear him:
from generation to generation.

The Lord has shown strength with his arm:
and scattered the proud in their conceit,

**Casting down the mighty from their thrones:
and lifting up the lowly.**

God has filled the hungry with good things:
and sent the rich away empty.

He has come to the aid of his servant Israel:
to remember the promise of mercy,

The promise made to our forebears:
to Abraham and his children for ever.

Second Reading: Romans 16:25-27

Hymn: My soul doth magnify the Lord

My soul doth magnify the Lord,
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.
For He that is mighty hath done great things,
and holy is His name

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and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.
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My soul doth magnify the Lord,
my soul doth magnify the Lord,
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For He that is mighty hath done great things,
and holy is His name.

from Luke 1. Copyright control

Gospel reading: Luke 1:26-38

The Sermon

Music for reflection: The Angel Gabriel

The Nicene Creed

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 of the Holy Spirit and the virgin
Mary and became truly human.

**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.**

The Ministry of Prayer

*We pray for the church and the world.
The prayers conclude with*

Almighty God, you have promised to hear our
prayers.

Grant that what we have asked in faith we may by
your grace receive,
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: Of the Father's love begotten

Of the Father's love begotten

ere the worlds began to be,
he is Alpha and Omega,
he the source, the ending he,
of the things that are, that have been,

and that future years shall see
evermore and evermore.

O that birth for ever blessed
when the virgin, full of grace,
by the Spirit's power conceiving
bore the saviour of our race,
and the babe, the world's redeemer,
first revealed his sacred face
evermore and evermore.

This is he whom seers and sages
sang of old with one accord,
whom the voices of the prophets
promised in their faithful word;
now he shines, the long-expected:
let creation praise its Lord
evermore and evermore.

In the heights of heaven adore him,
angel hosts his praises sing,
all dominions bow before him
and extol our God and king;
let no tongue on earth be silent,
every voice together sing
evermore and evermore.

Aurelius Clemens Prudentius

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.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

...for the sins of the whole world
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

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.

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

Father, we offer ourselves to you as a living
sacrifice through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory.

Notices

The sending out of God's people

Hymn: O little town of Bethlehem

O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see you lie!
Above your deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by:
yet in your dark streets shining
is everlasting light;
the hopes and fears of all the years
are met in you tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary;
and, gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars, together
proclaim the holy birth
and praises sing to God the King
and peace to men on earth.

How silently, how silently,
the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts
the blessings of His heaven.
No ear may hear His coming;
but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive Him, still
the dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem,
descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin, and enter in;
be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
our Lord Immanuel.

Phillips Brooks

Blessing

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

Dismissal

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