

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: We have a gospel to proclaim

We have a gospel to proclaim,
good news for all throughout the earth;
the gospel of a saviour's name:
we sing His glory, tell His worth.

Tell of His birth at Bethlehem,
not in a royal house or hall
but in a stable dark and dim:
the Word made **flesh**, a light for all.

Tell of His death at Calvary,
hated by those He came to save;
in lonely suffering on the cross
for all He loved, His life He gave.

Tell of that glorious Easter morn:
empty the tomb, for He was free;
He broke the power of death and hell
that we might share His victory.

Tell of His reign at God's right hand,
by all creation glorified;
He sends His Spirit on His Church
to live for Him, the Lamb who died.

Now we rejoice to name Him king:
Jesus is Lord of all the earth;
this gospel-message we proclaim:
we sing His glory, tell His worth.

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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 gather in the season of Advent, waiting and
watching for the One who comes not in splendour,

but in humility. The God of the universe has changed
addresses—leaving heaven's throne to dwell among
us in a manger. This is grace: not earned, not
expected, but freely given.

We light the candle of Love, marveling that the
Creator of galaxies chose a manger as a cradle.

The fourth candle is lit

Jesus, your love is not distant. It is near to us, **flesh**
and bone, living and breathing. Let your love
transform our lives.

Hymn: Deep in darkness (vv. 1-4)

Deep in darkness we begin,
dark outside and deep within.
Now ignite a single **flame**,
shadows form, let light remain.

As they gleaned the word of life,
narrative of love and strife,
people through each age have known
yet more light: God's glory shown.

John the Baptist spoke out loud,
challenged that discordant crowd,
called each one toward the light,
see it growing, gleaming bright.

Mary wondered at her lot,
blessed? Or cursed? Or loved? Or not?
Angels came and glory shone,
feel the love, let light shine on.

Andrew E Pratt (born 1948)

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God of love, you moved into our world with
tenderness and truth. May we welcome you not
just in our churches but in our hearts. Amen .

The Ministry of the Word

Prayer for the day

Gracious God, you chose the virgin Mary, by your grace, to be the mother of our Lord and Saviour: so fill us with your grace, that with her we may rejoice in your salvation, and in all things embrace your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of 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: Romans 1:1-7

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.

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.

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.
come, bless the Lord.

from Luke 1

Gospel reading: Matthew 1:18-24

Sermon

Reflection Music

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.

A pause for reflection

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

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: The angel Gabriel

The angel Gabriel from heaven came,
his wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame:
'All hail' said he, 'thou lowly maiden Mary,
most highly favoured lady.' Gloria!

'For know a blessed mother thou shalt be,
all generations laud and honour thee,
thy Son shall be Immanuel, by seers foretold:
most highly favoured lady.' Gloria!

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head:
'To me be as it pleaseth God,' she said,
'my soul shall laud and magnify his holy name':
most highly favoured lady. Gloria!

of her, Immanuel, the Christ was born
in Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn.
and Christian folk throughout the world
will ever say,
'Most highly favoured lady.' Gloria!

Basque Carol, paraphrased by Sabine Baring Gould

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Loving God,...
Lord our God,
we give you thanks and praise.

We thank you that when we turned

Lord our God,
we give you thanks and praise.

We thank you that on the cross...

Lord our God,
we give you thanks and praise.

We thank you that as the word made flesh...

Lord our God,
we give you thanks and praise.

And so with everyone who believes in you,
with all the saints and angels,
we rejoice and praise you, 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.

...in songs of never-ending praise:

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.

The gifts of God for the people of God...

Communion is shared

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: Give thanks with a grateful heart

Give thanks with a grateful heart,
give thanks to the Holy One;
give thanks because He's given
Jesus Christ, His Son.

And now let the weak say, 'I am strong',
let the poor say, 'I am rich',
because of what the Lord has done for us;

and now let the weak say, 'I am strong',
let the poor say, 'I am rich',
because of what the Lord has done for us.

Henry Smith
© 1978 Integrity's Hosanna! Music

Blessing

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you, and
make you ready to meet him when he comes in
glory; And the blessing... Amen

Dismissal

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