***The Lord’s Prayer:***

As our Saviour taught us, so we 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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.**

***Breaking of the 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.**

*We share bread and wine together.*

***Post Communion Prayer:***

**Heavenly Father, who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of the promised saviour: fill us your servants with your grace, that in all things we may embrace your holy will and with her rejoice in your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

***Liz Bird:*** *Thanksgiving at retirement*

***Notices***

***Closing Hymn****:* Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord

***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.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord

**In the name of Christ, Amen.**

**Christ Church Holy Communion 4th Sunday of Advent**

**19 December 2021**

***Greeting:***

Grace and peace to you from him who is, and who was, and who is to come.

**Amen.**

***Lighting the fourth Advent Candle:***

O God, 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.

**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.**

***Song:***Meekness and Majesty

***Penitence:***

When the Lord comes, he will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness, and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Therefore, in the light of Christ let us confess our sins.

*A pause for reflection*

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.**

***Assurance of Forgiveness:***

May the Father of all mercies cleanse us from our sins, and restore us in his image to the praise and glory of his name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

***Song:*** Here in the presence of Christ I stand

***The Collect:***

**Eternal God, as Mary waited for the birth of your Son, so we wait for his coming in glory; bring us through the birth pangs of this present age to see, with her, our great salvation in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

***The Gospel:***

Alleluia, alleluia. Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,

and all flesh shall see the salvation of God. **Alleluia.**

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

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Luke 1:39 - 55

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

***Sermon***

***Song:***  Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me

***Prayers***

*Concluding with* **…Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

***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.

The peace of the Lord be always with you; **And also with you.**

***Offertory Hymn:*** Here is bread, here is wine

***The Communion:***

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.**

And now we give you thanks because when you humbled yourself to come among us in human flesh, you fulfilled the plan you formed long ago and opened for us the way of salvation.

So now we watch for the day, knowing that the salvation promised us will be ours when Christ our Lord will come again in glory.

It is right to praise you, Father, Lord of all creation; in your love you made us for yourself. When we turned away you did not reject us, but came to meet us in your Son. **You embraced us as your children and welcomed us to sit and eat with you.**

In Christ you shared our life that we might live in him and he in us.

**He opened his arms of love upon the cross and made for all the perfect sacrifice for sin.**

On the night he was betrayed, at supper with his friends he took bread, and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to them, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

**Father, we do this in remembrance of him: his body is the bread of life.**

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine, he gave you thanks, and said: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins; do this in remembrance of me.

**Father, we do this in remembrance of him: his blood is shed for all.**

As we proclaim his death and celebrate his rising in glory, send your Holy Spirit that this bread and this wine may be to us the body and blood of your dear Son. **As we eat and drink these holy gifts make us one in Christ, our risen Lord.**

With your whole Church throughout the world we offer you this sacrifice of praise and lift our voice to join the eternal song of heaven:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.**