

**Christ Church Holy Communion 9.30am on Advent  
Sunday, 27<sup>th</sup> November 2022**

***Welcome and gathering worship***

Salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armour of light.

*Romans 13:11*

**God of our days and years, we set this time apart for you. Form us in the likeness of Christ so that our lives may glorify you. Amen**

***Song:*** Come, now is the time to worship

***Lighting the first Advent candle***

*The leader, with the help of a volunteer, lights the first of the four Advent candles*

People of God: awake! The day is coming soon when you shall see God face to face.

Remember the ways and the works of God. God calls you out of darkness to walk in the light of his coming.

You are God's children.

**Lord, make us one as we walk with Christ today and for ever. Amen.**

***Flames*** – *We pray for our children and their leaders as they go out.*

***Hymn:*** O come, O come Immanuel

***We say sorry to God and one another***

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.

*We keep a short time of silence before we pray together.*

**Lord God, we have sinned against you; we have done evil in your sight. We are sorry and repent. Have mercy on us according to your love. Wash away our wrongdoing and cleanse us from our sin. Renew a right spirit within us and restore us to the joy of your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.**

***Prayer of forgiveness***

For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness", who has shone in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, **Amen.**

***Praise Songs:*** King of Kings, Majesty; Lord I lift your name on high

***Collect prayer for today:***

**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.  
Amen**

***Old Testament Reading***

Isaiah 2:1-5

This is the word of the Lord; **Thanks be to God**

***Gospel Reading***

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew; **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Matthew 24:36-44

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

***Sermon***

***Song:*** Let him reign

***Our belief***

We say together in faith:

**Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God almighty, who was, and is, and is to come.**

We believe in God the Father, who created all things:  
**for by his will they were created and have their being.**

We believe in God the Son, who was slain:  
**for with his blood, he purchased us for God, from every  
tribe and language, from every people and nation.**

We believe in God the Holy Spirit:  
**the Spirit and the Bride say, 'Come!' Even so come, Lord  
Jesus! Amen.**

***Prayers of intercession***

**(at the end) Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the  
sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen**

***The Peace***

God has made us one in Christ. He has set his seal upon us,  
and as a pledge of what is to come has given us the Spirit  
to dwell in our hearts. The peace of the Lord be always  
with you; **and also with you.**

***Offertory Hymn:*** From heaven you came

***The Communion***

Wise and gracious God, you spread a table before us;  
nourish your people with the word of life and the bread of  
heaven. **Amen.**

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  
thanks and praise.**

...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 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.**

...Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation, we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory:

**Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again.**

...Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father, forever and ever. Amen.

### ***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**

**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.**

Draw near with faith. Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, Eat in remembrance that he

died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

### ***We share bread and wine together***

*During the sharing of communion there will be an opportunity for prayer for healing. If you would like prayer or a simple blessing then please move to the 'prayer place' to the left of the dais where people are ready to pray with you.*

### ***Prayer after communion***

**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**

### ***Notices***

***Closing hymn:*** Be thou my vision

### ***The Blessing***

Father of lights, from whom comes every good and perfect gift: keep us in the light of Christ, to shine in our world, that all may believe in you; 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**