

St. James' Church, West End

Sung Eucharist in Advent



Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son,
and shall call his name Immanuel. *Isaiah 7:14*

Welcome to our worship online.

Worship is at the heart of our church life. Everything we are, and everything we do together as the people of God flows from our worship.

We use the Ancient and Modern hymn book for this service. The hymn numbers are available on a link on our website. If you are joining us regularly through the livestream, we are pleased to deliver you a hymnbook to your home so you can join in with the singing. Please contact Rev'd Vicky about this stjameswe.vicar@gmail.com.

The church year begins with Advent which means 'coming'. It is a season of expectation and watchfulness as we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus at Christmas. The theme of Christ's second coming at the end of time is also explored.

Church decorations are simple and sparse during Advent to contrast with the great celebration of Christmas. There are no flowers in church, we don't sing the Gloria and the church colour is purple as it is in Lent. The characteristic note of the season is expectation though rather than penitence. The service begins each week with the lighting of the Advent Wreath as we countdown the Sundays to Christmas.

Before the service you may like to reflect on one or more of the following:

*The night is far spent, the day is at hand: Let us therefore cast off the works of darkness
And let us put on the armour of light. Romans 13:12*

'Maranatha' – 'Our Lord, come.' 1 Corinthians 16:22

*Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.
Isaiah 7:14*

*Now is the time to wake out of sleep, for now our salvation is nearer than when we first
believed. Romans 13:11*

A welcome and any notices are given before the service begins.

HYMN *The ministers process in.*

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All Amen.

The Lord be with you

All and also with you.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Candle(s) on the advent wreath are lit.

The children leave for their worship and activities.

PRAYERS OF PENITENCE

We are invited to reflect on our sins. (We sit)

Silence is kept.

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith
firmly resolved to keep God's commandments
and to live in love and peace with all.

**All Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us,
forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name.
Amen.**

We sing with the choir

Lord, have mercy

All Lord have mercy

Christ have mercy
All Christ have mercy

Lord, have mercy
All Lord have mercy

We receive God's forgiveness in the words of the absolution:

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.

All Amen.

THE COLLECT is prayed

A **BIBLE READING** is read. *(We sit)*

At the end: This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

HYMN *(We stand)*

THE GOSPEL READING *(We remain standing and face the gospeller).*

The Gospel Acclamation is sung:

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,
And all flesh shall see the salvation of God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *Matthew/Mark/Luke/John.*

All Glory to you, O Lord.

At the end: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON *(We sit)*

APOSTLES CREED (*We stand*)

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 again; he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and 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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (*We sit*)

Response: Lord in your mercy

All Hear our prayer.

At the end: Merciful Father,

**All Accept these prayers,
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ, Amen.**

THE PEACE (*We stand*)

The priest introduces the Peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you
All and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

You are invited to write a greeting in the chat, perhaps 'Peace be with you'.

HYMN

During which the altar is prepared for communion.

A prayer may be said and the collection late offered at the altar.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER *(We stand)*

The Lord is here.

All His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give thanks and praise.

The priest praises God for his mighty acts and we respond singing:

**All Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.**

The priest recalls the Last Supper.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

**All Dying you destroyed our death,
rising you restored our life
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

The Prayer continues.

At the end we respond:

**Amen or Blessing and honour and glory and power
be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

Silence is kept.

THE LORDS PRAYER (*We sit or kneel.*)

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

All **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 forever.
Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.

All **Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

THE AGNUS DEI (*sung*)

All **Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
grant us peace.**

Jesus is the Lamb of God,
who takes away the sins of the world.
Happy are those who are called to his supper.

All **Lord I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word and I shall be healed.**

GIVING OF COMMUNION

You are invited to use the prayer for Spiritual Communion below asking Jesus to be with you now.

Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ,
for all the benefits you have given me,
for all the pains and insults you have borne for me.
Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,
I ask you to come spiritually into my heart.
O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother,
may I know you more clearly, love you more dearly,
and follow you more nearly, day by day.
Amen

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER is prayed.

After we pray together:

**All Father of all,
 we give you thanks and praise
 that when we were still far off
 you met us in your son and brought us home.
 Dying and living, he declared your love,
 gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.
 May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;
 we who drink his cup bring life to others;
 we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.
 Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us.
 so we and all your children shall be free,
 and the whole earth live to praise your name;
 through Jesus Christ our Lord.
 Amen.**

HYMN (*We stand*)

BLESSING

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All In the name of Christ. Amen.

A voluntary is played and the ministers leave.

If you would like to make a donation through our online collection plate, please use the QR code here or the link here

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[West End St James - Parish Giving Scheme.](#)

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