



Welcome

Second Sunday in Advent

8 December



actorschurch



St. Paul's Covent Garden



@actorschurch

Please switch off all mobile phones.

BEWARE: *We do occasionally suffer from theft: take care of your belongings*

Accessibility

Large Print versions of the Order of Service are available.

Gluten free wafers are available.

Hearing loop installed; collect a receiver from the back of church.

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We stand as the Altar Party enters and sing the hymn

**O come, O come, Emmanuel!
Redeem thy captive Israel,
that into exile drear is gone
far from the face of God's dear Son.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.**

**2 O come, thou branch of Jesse!
Draw
the quarry from the lion's claw;
from the dread cavern of the grave,
from nether hell, thy people save.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel...**

**3 O come, O come, thou dayspring
bright!
Pour on our souls thy healing light;
dispel the long night's lingering
gloom,
and pierce the shadows of the tomb.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel...**

**4 O come, thou Lord of David's key!
The royal door fling wide and free;
safeguard for us the heavenward
road,
and bar the way to death's abode.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel...**

**5 O come, O come, Adonai,
who in thy glorious majesty
from that high mountain clothed
with awe
gavest thy folk the elder law.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel...**

The Priest goes to the Lectern and says:

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

All Amen.

Priest The Lord be with you

All and also with you.

The Priest introduces the service and then invites the children to join him for the lighting of the second candle of the Advent wreath. We then say together:

**Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are
hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy
name; through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

The priest invites the congregation to seek God's mercy and grace. We sing together:

**Lord have mercy upon us,
Christ have mercy upon us,
Lord have mercy upon us**

*The Priest announces the **Absolution** to which all reply: **Amen**.*

*The prayer of the day – the **Collect** – is said*

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and for ever.

Amen.

*We sit for the **first** and **second readings**.*

First Reading

Baruch 5.1-9, read by Tony

¹Take off the garment of your sorrow and affliction, O Jerusalem, and put on for ever the beauty of the glory from God.

²Put on the robe of the righteousness that comes from God; put on your head the diadem of the glory of the Everlasting;

³for God will show your splendour everywhere under heaven.

⁴For God will give you evermore the name, 'Righteous Peace, Godly Glory'.

⁵Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the height; look towards the east, and see your children gathered from west and east at the word of the Holy One, rejoicing that God has remembered them.

⁶For they went out from you on foot, led away by their enemies; but God will bring them back to you, carried in glory, as on a royal throne.

⁷For God has ordered that every high mountain and the everlasting hills be made low and the valleys filled up, to make level ground, so that Israel may walk safely in the glory of God.

⁸The woods and every fragrant tree have shaded Israel at God's command.

⁹For God will lead Israel with joy, in the light of his glory, with the mercy and righteousness that come from him.

At the end:

Reader This is the word of the Lord.
All Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Philippians 1.3-11, read by Rob

Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus,
To all the saints in Christ Jesus at Philippi,
together with the overseers and deacons:

Grace and peace to you from God our
Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I thank my God every time I remember
you. In all my prayers for all of you, I
always pray with joy because of your

partnership in the gospel from the first day
until now, being confident of this, that he
who began a good work in you will carry
it on to completion until the day of Christ
Jesus.

It is right for me to feel this way about all
of you, since I have you in my heart; for
whether I am in chains or defending and
confirming the gospel, all of you share in
God's grace with me. God can testify how
I long for all of you with the affection of
Christ Jesus.

And this is my prayer: that your love may
abound more and more in knowledge and
depth of insight, so that you may be able
to discern what is best and may be pure
and blameless until the day of Christ, filled
with the fruit of righteousness that comes
through Jesus Christ – to the glory and
praise of God.

At the end:

Reader This is the word of the Lord.
All Thanks be to God

*We stand to sing the **hymn** and turn towards
the Gospel book*

**I Lord, thy word abideth,
and our footsteps guideth;
who its truth believeth
light and joy receiveth.**

**2 When our foes are near us,
then thy word doth cheer us,
word of consolation,
message of salvation.**

**3 When the storms are o'er us,
and dark clouds before us,
then its light directeth,
and our way protecteth.**

**4 Who can tell the pleasure,
who recount the treasure,
by thy word imparted
to the simple-hearted?**

**5 Word of mercy, giving
succour to the living;
word of life, supplying
comfort to the dying!**

**6 O that we discerning
its most holy learning,
Lord, may love and fear thee,
evermore be near thee.**

All remain standing as the Gospel is read

Priest The Lord be with you

All And also with you

Priest Hear the Gospel of our Lord
Jesus Christ according to
Luke (3, 1-6)

All Glory to you, O Lord.

I In the fifteenth year of the reign of
Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was
governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of
Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the
region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and
Lysanias ruler of Abilene, 2during the high-
priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the
word of God came to John son of
Zechariah in the wilderness. 3He went
into all the region around the Jordan,
proclaiming a baptism of repentance for
the forgiveness of sins, 4as it is written in
the book of the words of the prophet
Isaiah,

‘The voice of one crying out in the
wilderness: “Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.

5Every valley shall be filled,
and every mountain and hill shall be made
low, and the crooked shall be made
straight, and the rough ways made
smooth; 6and all flesh shall see the
salvation of God.”’

At the end:

Priest This is the Gospel of the
Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

*We sit for the Sermon
We stand to say the 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 from the Holy Spirit and
the Virgin Mary
and was made man.**

**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 **Prayers of Intercession** follow

At the end:

Priest Merciful Father,
All accept these prayers for
 the sake of your Son, our
 Saviour, Jesus Christ,
 Amen.

The Priest introduces the **Peace**:

Priest: The peace of the Lord be with
 you always
All And also with you
Priest Let us offer one another a
 sign of peace.

We sing a **hymn** as the Altar is prepared for
the **Eucharistic Prayer**. A **collection** is taken
during the **hymn**

**1 On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
announces that the Lord is nigh;
awake, and hearken, for he brings
glad tidings of the King of kings.**

**2 Then cleansed be every breast
from sin;
make straight the way for God
within;
prepare we in our hearts a home,
where such a mighty guest may
come.**

**3 For thou art our salvation, Lord,
our refuge, and our great reward;
without thy grace we waste away,
like flowers that wither and decay.**

**4 To heal the sick stretch out thine
hand,
and bid the fallen sinner stand;
shine forth, and let thy light restore
earth's own true loveliness once
more.**

**5 All praise, eternal Son, to thee
whose advent doth thy people free,
whom with the Father we adore
and Holy Ghost for evermore.**

Priest Blessed are you Lord God of
 all creation. Through your
 goodness we have this bread
 to offer which earth has given
 and human hands have made.
 It will become for us the
 bread of life

All **Blessed be God for ever**
Priest Blessed are you Lord God of
 all creation. Through your
 goodness we have this wine
 to offer. Fruit of the vine and
 work of human hands, it will
 become our spiritual drink

All **Blessed be God for ever**
Priest Pray my sisters and brothers
 that our sacrifice may be
 acceptable to God the
 Almighty Father

All **May the Lord accept the
sacrifice at your hand, for
the praise and glory of his
name, for our good and
the good of all his Church.**

The Priest adds the prayer over the gifts to which
we reply **Amen**

Priest The Lord be with you

All **And also with you.**

Priest Lift up your hearts.

All **We lift them to the Lord.**

Priest Let us give thanks to the Lord
 our God.

All **It is right to give thanks
and praise...**

The Eucharistic Prayer continues until we sing
the **Sanctus** and **Benedictus** from the music
sheet. The **Eucharistic Prayer** continues
until...

Priest Great is the mystery of faith

**All: Dying, you destroyed our death
Rising you restored our life
Lord Jesus, come in glory**

The Eucharistic Prayer continues until

Priest ...for ever and ever

All: Amen

Priest: As our Saviour taught us, so
we pray:

**Our Father, who art in heaven
Hallowed be thy name
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done
On earth as it is in heaven
Give us this day our daily bread
And forgive us our trespasses
As we forgive those who trespass
against us
And lead us not into temptation
But deliver us from evil
For thine is the kingdom
The power and the glory
for ever and ever. Amen**

Priest 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**

*We sing the **Agnus Dei** from the music sheet.*

Priest Jesus is the Lamb of God who
takes away the sin of the
world, blessed 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.**

*The congregation approaches the Altar to receive
Communion.*

*All those who are in good standing with their
own Church are invited to receive Communion.
Those who prefer to ask for a Blessing are
invited to bow their heads at the Altar rail, or
bring this booklet as a sign to the Priest.*

**Please make your way to the Altar
rail, and kneel (if able)**

**Please receive Communion in your
hand ONLY. If you wish to receive
the Chalice, please remain in place,
if not, return to your pew**

**Please keep absolute silence during
Communion**

Post Communion Prayers:

Father in heaven, who sent your Son to
redeem the world and will send him again
to be our judge: give us grace so to imitate
him in the humility and purity of his first
coming that, when he comes again, we
may be ready to greet him with joyful love
and firm faith; through Jesus Christ our
Lord.

Amen

We say together:

**Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son
Jesus Christ.**

**Through him we offer you our souls
and bodies**

to be a living sacrifice.

Send us out

in the power of your Spirit

to live and work

to your praise and glory.

Amen.

Any Banns of marriage and notices are given.

Priest The Lord be with you
All **And also with you**

The **Blessing** is given to which all reply:
Amen

*We sing the **hymn** and turn to face the West*
*End for the **dismissal***

I Hail to the Lord's anointed!
Great David's greater Son;
hail, in the time appointed,
his reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression,
to let the captive free;
to take away transgression,
and rule in equity.

2 He comes with succour speedy
to those who suffer wrong;
to help the poor and needy,
and bid the weak be strong;
to give them songs for sighing,
their darkness turn to light,

whose souls, condemned and dying,
were precious in his sight.

3 Kings shall fall down before him,
and gold and incense bring;
all nations shall adore him,
his praise all people sing;
to him shall prayer unceasing
and daily vows ascend;
his kingdom still increasing,
a kingdom without end.

4 O'er every foe victorious,
he on his throne shall rest,
from age to age more glorious,
all-blessing and all-blest:
the tide of time shall never
his covenant remove;
his name shall stand for ever;
that name to us is Love.

Priest: Go in peace to love and serve
 the Lord
All **Thanks be to God.**

‘What’s On’ this week

Today

6pm Advent Carol Service, *with the choir of St. Paul’s*

Monday 9 December

6.30pm Covent Garden Community Association Carol Service

Tuesday 10 December

1pm Sing Space Choir Christmas Showcase - *free admission*

7.30pm London Sound Project - *sold out*

Wednesday 11 December

1.10pm Holy Eucharist

1.45pm Tea and Cake - *all welcome*

7.30pm Ukraine Choir Concert - *sold out*

Thursday 12 December

1pm Nadine Benjamin Lunchtime Concert - *free admission*

7.30 pm Nadine Benjamin Fundraising Concert **

Friday 13 December

11am Baby Broadway - *sold out*

7.30pm Christmas with Vasari - *sold out*

Saturday 14 December

11am Harmony's Music Club Concert **

4.30pm, 6.30pm & 8.30pm Christmas by Candlelight **

Sunday 15 December

11.00 Sung Eucharist *for the Third Sunday in Advent*

3pm Nine Lessons and Carols

7.30pm MXM Concert - *sold out*

****Tickets for all paid events at St. Paul’s can be obtained via our website**
www.actorschurch.org