

# THE ORDER OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST

## INTRODUCTION

### Entrance

*All stand*

### **Introit Advent Prose 501** (RORATE CAELI, *New English Hymnal*)

*Sung by the cantor.*

Drop down ye heavens from above,  
And let the skies pour down righteousness.  
We have sinned, and are as an unclean thing,  
and we all do fade as a leaf:  
and our iniquities, like the wind,  
have taken us away:  
thou hast hid thy face from us:  
and hast consumed us,  
because of our iniquities.

Drop down ye heavens from above,  
And let the skies pour down righteousness.

### **Introit Hymn 5** (MERTON, *New English Hymnal*)

*Sung by all.*

### At the Advent Wreath

*Priest:*

The second Advent candle denotes peace,  
not merely the cessation of conflict,  
not the absence of suffering,  
not the loss of struggle,  
but the saving peace of God in the midst of everything.

*Second Sunday of Advent, 5 December 2021; 9:30am*

*People:*

**It is time to set the flame to this kind of peace.**

*Priest:*

Why light a candle that will burn out?

*People:*

**The message of this candle cannot be quenched.**

**It speaks of peace - no war can halt,**

**Peace - no heartache can sever,**

**Peace - no suffering can erase.**

**It represents the Advent Peace of the promised Messiah, before whom all nations shall bow.**

*Candle Lighters:*

In faith, we light this candle of peace.

*Priest:*

You see a candle of peace burning. What then is your response?

*People:*

**God does not give peace as the world gives.**

**God's peace passes understanding.**

**God's peace exists in the midst of turmoil.**

**God's peace forgets what it forgives and lives to serve.**

**Our peace is in God, who first loved us.**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

*All sit or kneel*

Let us pray:

**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.**

‘Hear O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength’. Jesus said: “This is the great and first commandment. And the second is like it: you shall love your neighbour as yourself.’

*All sing, while kneeling:*

**Lord, have mercy.  
Christ, have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy.**

## **THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD**

Let us pray.

*The congregation sits or kneels*

### **The Collect**

*Let us pray to be made ready for Christ’s coming.*

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: give us grace to heed their warning and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of our Redeemer, Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*All sit for the Readings*

**The First Reading is taken from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah,  
Chapter 40, beginning to read from the 1<sup>st</sup> verse**

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken." A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gradual Psalm, Psalm 126**

*Sung by the choir*

1. When the Lord turned again the captivity of Sion :  
then were we like unto them that dream.
2. Then was our mouth filled with laughter : and our tongue with joy.
3. Then said they among the heathen :  
The Lord hath done great things for them.
4. Yea, the Lord hath done great things for us already :

whereof we rejoice.

5. Turn our captivity, O Lord : as the rivers in the south.

6. They that sow in tears : shall reap in joy.

7. He that now goeth on his way weeping, and beareth forth good seed : shall doubtless come again with joy, and bring his sheaves with him.

**Glory to God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit**

**As in the beginning, so now and for ever. Amen**

**The Second Reading is taken from St Paul's Epistle to the  
Philippians, Chapter 1, beginning at the 3<sup>rd</sup> verse**

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

This is the Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

**The Holy Gospel**

**Sequence Hymn 3ii** (*CROSS OF JESUS, New English Hymnal*)

*Sung by all.*

*Second Sunday of Advent, 5 December 2021; 9:30am*

## **Advent Sequence Hymn**

*Sung by the cantor alone*

*The Gospel Acclamation is sung by all.*

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

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

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

**The Holy Gospel is written in the Gospel according to St Luke,**  
Chapter 3, beginning at the 1<sup>st</sup> verse

**Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

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, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as 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. Every 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; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.' "

*After the Gospel*

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

## **The Profession of Faith**

*All say:*

**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:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from 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.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the Prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

*Second Sunday of Advent, 5 December 2021; 9:30am*

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life ☩ of the world to come. Amen**

## **The Sermon**

### **THE MINISTRY OF PRAYER**

*The people sit or kneel for the intercessions and thanksgivings*

Almighty God your Son Jesus Christ has promised that you will hear us when we ask in faith, receive the prayers we offer:

Father, hear our prayer  
**through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

## **Parish Prayer**

**God our Father, send your Holy Spirit upon the people of this parish. Give us a greater love for all. Make us more compassionate for the sick, the lonely and all in need, more zealous in the inspiration of the young; more concerned about the wider mission of the Church and more generous in our giving of service and money. Help each one of us to know what we ought to do, and give us strength and courage faithfully to do it, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Accept our prayer 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 it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day 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.**

## **The Offertory**

### **Offertory Hymn 16** (*WACHET AUF, New English Hymnal*)

*Sung by all.*

## **THE PREPARATION**

*All sit or kneel*

Jesus said, "Come to me, all who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."

*Matthew 11:28*

Jesus said, "I am the bread of life; he who comes to me shall not hunger, and he who believes in me shall never thirst."

*John 6:35*

Jesus said, "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; even as I have loved you, that you also love one another."

*John 13:34*

## **The Prayer of Approach**

**We do not presume to come to your table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord whose nature is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.**

*Pause for self-examination*

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, confident in God's forgiveness:

**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**

*The priest says this or another absolution:*

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**

*All stand*

We are the body of Christ.

**His Spirit is with us.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have these gifts to share. Accept and use our offerings for your glory and for the service of your kingdom.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

## **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

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 our thanks and praise.**

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere, mighty Creator, ever living God.

We give you thanks and praise for our Saviour Jesus Christ, who by the power of your Spirit was born of Mary and lived as one of us. By his death on the cross and rising to new life, he offered the one true sacrifice for sin and obtained an eternal deliverance for all his people.

Therefore with angels and archangels, and with the all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and singing:

**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.*

*The people sit or kneel*

Merciful God, we thank you for these gifts of your creation, this bread and wine, and we pray that by your Word and Holy Spirit, we who eat and drink them may be partakers of Christ's body and blood.

On the night he was betrayed, Jesus took bread; and when he had given you thanks he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, 'Take and eat. This is my body given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.'

After supper he took the cup and again giving you thanks. He gave it to his disciples, saying, 'Drink from this, all of you. This is my blood of the new covenant shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

*All sing*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ has risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

Therefore, living God, as we obey his command, we remember his life of obedience to you, his suffering and death, his resurrection and exaltation, and his promise to be with us for ever. With this bread and this cup we celebrate his saving death until he comes.

Accept, we pray, our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, and send your Holy Spirit upon us and our celebration that all who eat and drink at this table may be strengthened by Christ's body and blood to serve you in the world.

As one body and one holy people, may we proclaim the everlasting gospel of Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom, with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory is yours, eternal God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*All sing*

**Blessing and honour and glory and power are yours forever and ever.  
Amen.**

## **THE COMMUNION**

As this broken bread was once many grains,  
which have been gathered together and made one bread:  
**so may your Church be gathered  
from the ends of the earth into your kingdom.**

*All sing*

*Second Sunday of Advent, 5 December 2021; 9:30am*

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world.**

**Have mercy upon us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world.**

**Have mercy upon us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world.**

**Grant us your peace.**

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Come let us take this Holy Sacrament of the Body and Blood of Christ, in remembrance that he died for us, and feed on him by faith with thanksgiving.

*The priest and other communicants receive Holy Communion*

The body and blood of Christ strengthen you and keep you in eternal life. **Amen**

## **THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE**

*The people sit or kneel*

Living God, in this holy meal you fill us with new hope. May the power of your love, which we have known in word and sacrament, continue your saving work among us, give us courage for our pilgrimage, and bring us to the joys you promise.

*This prayer is said by all*

**Father, we offer ourselves to you as a living sacrifice through Jesus Christ our Lord. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.**

*The people sit for any Announcements, then stand for the Blessing*

The Lord be with you  
**and also with you.**

*Second Sunday of Advent, 5 December 2021; 9:30am*

Christ the Sun of righteousness shine upon you 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, come down among you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

**Recessional Hymn 15** (*ST STEPHEN, New English Hymnal*)

*Sung by all.*

Recessional, *organ alone*