



A welcoming, inclusive, Christian community

# All Age Eucharist Advent 2

## Welcome to Lancaster Priory.

We are really pleased that you are worshipping with us today. Wherever you have come from, this is your church and you are unconditionally welcome.

Advent is the period of expectant waiting and preparation for the celebration of the Birth of Jesus, in other words, the time of preparation before Christmas. It is the beginning of the Christian year and commences on Advent Sunday.

During this All Age service we involve people of all age. There are resources for children to borrow, if you would like them, in the form of 'busy bags' and 'communion boxes' as well as colouring sheets. These can be found at the back of church.

*Throughout this booklet you will find instructions regarding posture (sit and stand), these capture what is normal for our congregation but are not intended to be restrictive for those who may need to sit or indeed not sit for too long.*

Notices are given at before the service, please see the notice sheet for more information.

Refreshments are served at the back of church following this service every week. Please join us.

*Before the service starts, look around at the things in the building.*

*What can you see from your seat? Can you see...*

*a cross a brass eagle a crown organ pipes a pink candle Stars animals angels*

This service paper is available in large print.

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### Acknowledgements

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# The Gathering

## Opening Hymn NEH10

*Please stand to sing the hymn during which servers, choir and clergy enter and the altar is censed.*

Long ago, prophets knew  
Christ would come, born a Jew,  
come to make all things new,  
bear his people's burden,  
freely love and pardon.

*Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring!*  
*Sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!*  
*When he comes,*  
*When he comes,*  
*Who will make him welcome?*

2. God in time, God in man,  
this is God's timeless plan:  
He will come born as man,  
born himself of woman  
God divinely human:

*Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring...*

3. Mary, hail! Though afraid,  
she believed, she obeyed.  
In her womb God is laid,  
till the time expected,  
nurtured and protected:

*Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring...*

4. Journey ends! Where afar-  
Beth'lem shines, like a star,  
stable door stands ajar.  
Unborn Son of Mary,  
Saviour, do not tarry.

*Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring...*

F. Pratt Green (1903-2000)

## The Greeting

*The president says*

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

**Amen.**

*The president greets the people*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

*The Children place the symbols of faith on a small table under the pulpit and read the opening sentences as they do every week in Young Church.*

*The Book of Bible Readings is opened and placed on the table.*

In the beginning was the Word.

**God's word is for everyone.**

*cf John 1.1*

*A candle is lit.*

The true light was coming into the world.

**God's light is for everyone.**

*cf John 1.9*

*The Cross, the sign of Christ is placed on the table.*

Jesus was born and died and is risen: forever alive.

**God's love is for everyone.**

## Prayer at the Advent Wreath

*The candle is lit by a member of the congregation*

God our Father,

you spoke to the prophets of old of a Saviour who would bring peace.

You helped them to spread the joyful message of his coming kingdom.

Help us, as we prepare to celebrate his birth,

to share with those around us

the good news of your power and love.

We ask this through Jesus Christ,

the light who is coming into the world. **Amen.**

Do you know...

How many candles are on the Advent Wreath?

How many are lit today?

What colour are the candles?

Why are they different colours?

# Prayers of Confession and Forgiveness

*A minister says*

A voice cries out in the wilderness,  
'Make straight the way of the Lord.'  
So let us listen, and turn to the Lord in penitence and faith.

*We sing*



(organ) *mp*  
Lord, have mer-cy,  
*mf*  
Lord, have mer cy. Christ, have mer-cy, Christ have mer cy.  
*mp*  
Lord, have mer-cy, Lord, have mer-cy.

*The president gives the absolution*

May the God of all healing and forgiveness  
draw us to himself,  
and +cleanse us from all our sins  
that we may behold the glory of his Son,  
the Word made flesh,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

Some people make a sign over themselves when receiving God's forgiveness. What is it?

They make this sign to remind themselves that it is because Jesus loved us so much that we are forgiven by God.

## The Collect

*The president says 'Let us pray' and silence is kept.*

Almighty God,  
purify our hearts and minds,  
that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again as  
judge and saviour  
we may be ready to receive him,  
who is our Lord and our God.  
**Amen.**

# The Liturgy of the Word

## First Reading 2 Peter 3.8-15a

*Please sit.*

A reading from the second letter of Peter.

But do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

For the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## The Gospel Acclamation

*We stand to sing and face the Gospel procession.*

*This acclamation heralds the Gospel reading, we sing the words in bold print*

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

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

**Alleluia.**

## **The Gospel Reading** Mark 1.1-8

*A minister says*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

*During these words, some people make the sign of the cross with their thumbs on their heads, mouth and chest. This reminds us that the words in the gospel should be in our minds, on our lips and in our hearts.*

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,  
who will prepare your way;

the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

“Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight” ’,

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, ‘The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.’

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**The Sermon** *Please sit.*

**The Creed** *Please stand.*

**We believe in God the father;**  
from whom every family in heaven and earth is named.

**We believe in God the Son, who lives in our hearts through faith,**  
and fills us with his love.

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,**  
who strengthens us with power from on high.

**We believe in God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

## Prayers of Intercession

*Please kneel or sit for the intercessions. These responses may be used*

Maranatha:

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

*And at the end*

Merciful Father,

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

Pray for....

- Someone you love
- Someone you can see in church
- Someone you saw on the way to church
- Someone on the other side of the world

## The Liturgy of the Sacrament

### The Peace

*The president introduces the Peace*

God will speak peace to his people,  
to those who turn to him in their hearts.

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

*The deacon says*

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*And all may exchange a sign of peace.*

### Offertory

*As we sing the hymn, a collection is taken  
and the Bread and Wine are placed on the Altar.*

What is happening on the altar during this hymn? Can you see all of the things that we are offering to God with thanks?

Look out for the person with smoke (this represents our prayers rising to God).  
Listen out for the bell ringing too!



## Offertory Hymn

Hills of the North, rejoice,  
river and mountain-spring,  
hark to the advent voice;  
valley and lowland, sing.  
Christ comes in righteousness and love,  
he brings salvation from above.

2. Isles of the Southern seas,  
sing to the listening earth,  
carry on every breeze  
hope of the world's new birth:  
in Christ shall all be made anew,  
his word is sure, his promise true.

3. Lands of the East, arise,  
he is your brightest morn,  
greet him with joyous eyes,  
praise shall his path adorn:  
Your seers have longed to know their Lord;  
to you he comes, the final word.

4. Shores of the utmost West,  
lands of the setting sun,  
welcome the heavenly guest  
in whom the dawn has come:  
he brings a never-ending light  
who triumphed o'er our darkest night.

5. Shout as you journey home,  
songs be in every mouth,  
lo, from the North they come,  
from East and West and South:  
in Jesus all shall find their rest,  
in him the universe be blest.

Editors of English Praise 1975\*, based on Charles E Oakley (1832-65)

# The Eucharistic Prayer

*The president says or sings*

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 now we give you thanks  
because when he humbled himself  
to come among us in human flesh,  
he 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.

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 *singing*:

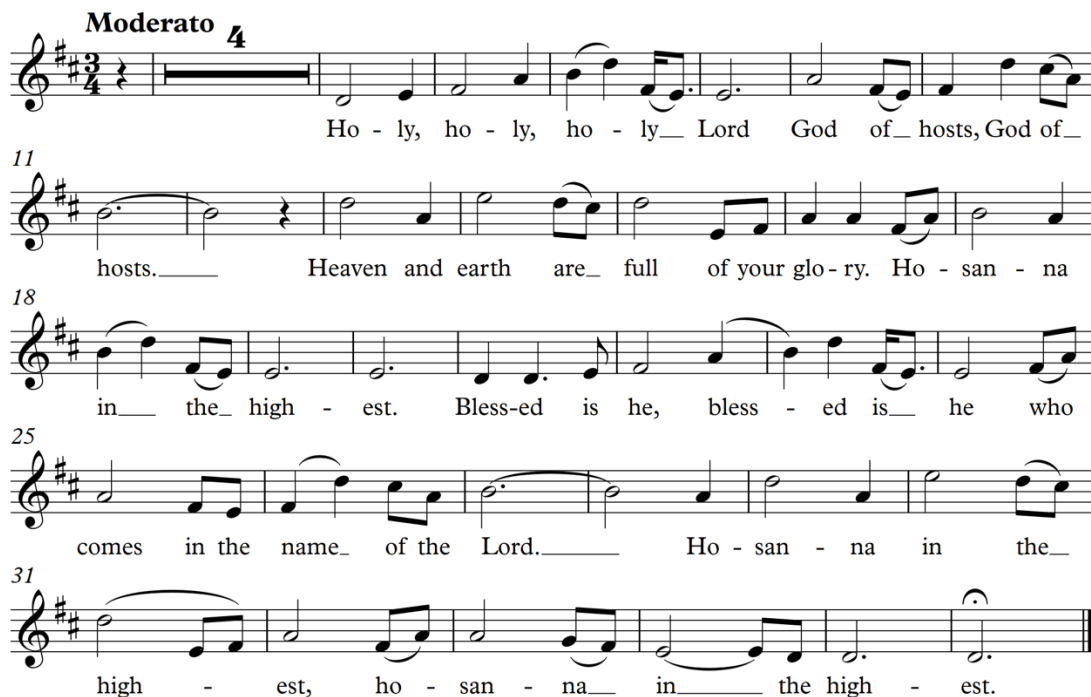
What is happening at the altar?

What does the priest do with their hands whilst they are praying?

Look out for the plate and the cup.

What happens to the bread?

**Moderato** 4



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of hosts, God of  
11 hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na  
18 in the high - est. Bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who  
25 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the  
31 high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;  
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,  
and according to your holy will, these gifts of bread and wine  
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;  
who, in the same night that he was betrayed,  
took bread and gave you thanks;  
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks;  
he gave it to them, saying:  
Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Christ is the bread of life:

**When we eat this bread and drink this cup,  
we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus until you come in glory.**

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,  
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world;  
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,  
and looking for his coming in glory,  
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.  
As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,  
we bring before you this bread and this cup  
and we thank you for counting us worthy  
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people and gather into one in your kingdom  
all who share this one bread and one cup,  
so that we, in the company of the Blessed Virgin Mary and all the saints,  
may praise and glorify you for ever, through Jesus Christ our Lord;  
by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,  
for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

## The Lord's Prayer

*Silence is kept.*

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  
forever and ever.  
Amen.

## Breaking of the Bread

*The president breaks the consecrated bread*

Every time we eat this bread and drink this cup  
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

## Giving of Communion

*The president invites the congregation to receive Holy Communion.*

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Jesus Christ is holy,  
Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

## Agnus Dei

*We sing*

Whilst we wait quietly for everyone to receive communion or a blessing, have another look around. Look at the stained glass windows.

Can you see any Christmassy pictures in the windows?

What else can you see?

Choir

Lamb of God, you take a -

All  
way the sin\_\_ of the\_\_ world, have mer - cy\_\_ on us.

Choir All

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin\_\_ of the\_\_ world, have

Choir

mer - cy\_\_ on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the

All

sin\_\_ of the world, grant\_\_ us peace.

*Please sit. The priest and people receive communion. We welcome communicant members of all Christian denominations to receive communion. If you would prefer to receive a blessing, please carry this booklet with you. Gluten-free hosts are available, please indicate this to the president, green cards are available from the sidespeople for this purpose.*

## Communion Anthem

*Ave Verum Corpus* W. A. Mozart (1756-91)

## Communion Hymn

*We remain seated to sing.*

Peace, perfect peace, is the gift of Christ our Lord,  
 Peace, perfect peace, is the gift of Christ our Lord.  
 Thus, says the Lord, will the world know my friends,  
 Peace, perfect peace, is the gift of Christ our Lord.

Hope, perfect hope, is the gift of Christ our Lord,  
 Hope, perfect hope, is the gift of Christ our Lord.  
 Thus, says the Lord, will the world know my friends,  
 Hope, perfect hope, is the gift of Christ our Lord.

Joy, perfect joy, is the gift of Christ our Lord,  
Joy, perfect joy, is the gift of Christ our Lord.  
Thus, says the Lord, will the world know my friends,  
Joy, perfect joy, is the gift of Christ our Lord.

Kevin Mayhew (1942-2021)

## Prayer after Communion

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.**

*All say this prayer*

**Generous God,  
you have fed us at your heavenly table;  
set us on fire with your Spirit  
that when Christ comes again  
we may shine like lights before his face,  
who with you and the Spirit lives for ever.  
Amen.**

## The Blessing

*Please stand. The president says*

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

*The president uses blesses the congregation.*

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.**

## Closing Hymn NEH5

Hark, a herald voice is calling;  
'Christ is nigh,' it seems to say;  
'cast away the dreams of darkness.  
O ye children of the day.'

2. Startled at the solemn warning,  
let the earth-bound soul arise;  
Christ, her Sun, all sloth dispelling,  
shines upon the morning skies.

3. Lo, the Lamb, so long expected,  
comes with pardon down from heaven;  
let us haste, with tears of sorrow,  
one and all to be forgiven;

4. So when next he comes in glory,  
and earth's final hour draws near,  
May he then as our defender,  
On the clouds of heaven appear.

5. Honour, glory, virtue, merit,  
to the Father and the Son,  
with the co-eternal Spirit,  
while unending ages run. Amen

Latin, tr. Edward Caswall (1814-78)

## The Sending Out

*A minister says*

With love and compassion, **come, Lord Jesus.**

With judgement and mercy, **come, Lord Jesus.**

In power and glory, **come, Lord Jesus.**

In wisdom and truth, **come, Lord Jesus.**

May the Lord, when he comes, find us watching and waiting. **Amen.**

## Organ Voluntary *Prelude on 'Personent Hodie'* (Burtonwood)

*Please leave quietly during the voluntary as our organists are offering their music as worship and many want to listen and pray through it.*