



Second Sunday of Advent

Sunday 8 December 2024, 11.00am

President:

The Revd Dr John Barker

Preacher:

The Revd Jennifer Midgley-Adam

Our church services are recorded and streamed on our website. You may be filmed during the service, and pictures of you may be transmitted online and as mobile content. By entering the church you consent to such filming and to the transmission of any broadcast. If you do not wish to be filmed please speak to one of the welcome team who will direct you to an unfilmed area in the north aisle.

WELCOME

to all who are joining us today, whether in church or online.

For those with children you will find space in the south aisle where you will be able to see and participate in the whole service. You will find some activity sheets to enable you and any children you have brought with you to engage with our service. Please ask one of our friendly welcomers if you need anything before or during the service.

We will be taking a collection during the service, and we encourage those who are UK tax payers to use one of the gift aid envelopes which are available in the pews. This will increase the value of your gift by 25% at no extra cost to you.

You can also make a debit/credit card donation to All Hallows by using the donations machine at the back of the church, by using the QR code on your phone, or via our website at www.ahbtt.org.uk/donate

Thank you.



Security Notice

We advise you not to leave personal belongings unattended and to keep them in sight at all times. Do not leave bags on the floor by your feet, and make sure you take any valuables with you when you go up to receive Communion. For additional safety and security, 24 hour CCTV recording is in operation on these premises.

Music Before the Service

Gott, durch deine Güte BWV 600 – JS Bach

Organist: David Cook

The Gathering

Please stand.

Hymn

**Come, thou long expected Jesus,
Born to set thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us,
Let us find our rest in thee.**

**Israel's strength and consolation,
Hope of all the earth thou art;
Dear desire of every nation,
Joy of every longing heart.**

**Born thy people to deliver,
Born a child and yet a king,
Born to reign in us forever,
Now thy gracious kingdom bring.**

**By thine own eternal spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone;
By thine all sufficient merit,
Raise us to thy glorious throne.**

Charles Wesley (1707-88) Tune: Cross of Jesus

Welcome and Introduction

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.**

Words of welcome and introduction are said.

Lighting of the Advent Candle

A member of the congregation is invited to light the second candle on the Advent wreath and the following prayer is said:

Blessed are you, sovereign Lord, just and true:
to you be praise and glory for ever.
Of old you spoke by the mouth of your prophets,
but in our days you speak through your Son,
whom you have appointed the heir of all things.
Grant us, your people, to walk in his light,
that we may be found ready and watching
when he comes again in glory and judgement;
for you are our light and our salvation.

All **Blessed be God for ever.**

Prayers of Confession

Please sit or kneel.

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.

Silence is kept.

You bring our fear into the light of love;
we prefer to hide in the shadows.



You promise healing for the earth;
we turn our backs on our common world.



You come near in the vulnerable word made flesh;
we are unprepared for your coming.



The almighty and merciful Lord
grant you pardon and forgiveness of all your sins,
time for amendment of life,
and the grace and strength of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

The Collect

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.

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading: Malachi 3.1-4 *read by Alastair King*

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight – indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Remain seated for **The Cantic: Benedictus** sung by Sarah Alder



Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel:
for he has come to his people
and set them free.

He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour:
in the house of his servant David. **R/**

Through His holy prophets
he promised of old:
that He would save us from our enemies
from the hands of all who hate us.
He promised to show mercy to our forebears:
and to remember his holy covenant. **R/**

This was the oath he swore
to our father Abraham:
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
free to worship him without fear,
holy and righteous in his sight
all the days of our life. **R/**

You my child shall be called
the prophet of the Most High:
for you will go before the Lord
to prepare his way,
to give his people knowledge of salvation:
by the forgiveness of their sins. **R/**

In the tender compassion of our God:
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
to shine on those who dwell
in darkness and the shadow of death:
and to guide our feet into the way of peace. **R/**

Second Reading: Philippians 1.3-11 read by John Price

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 defence 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 on 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.

All **Thanks be to God.**

All stand and face the Gospel for the **Gospel Acclamation**

Gospel Reading: Luke 3.1-6



Alleluia! Your words, O Lord, are spirit and life.

Alleluia! Open our hearts to your word.

All **Alleluia! Your words, O Lord, are spirit and life.**
Alleluia! Open our hearts to your word.

Prepare a way for the Lord.

Make God's pathway straight,

and all the earth shall see the saving love of God.

All **Alleluia! Your words, O Lord, are spirit and life.**
Alleluia! Open our hearts to your word.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

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.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please sit.

The Sermon

The Revd Jennifer Midgley-Adam

The Nicene Creed

Please stand.

**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.

Please sit or kneel.

Prayers of Intercession *led by Kate Price*

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.

Please stand.

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

In the tender mercy of our God,
the dayspring from on high shall break upon us,
to give light to those who dwell in darkness
and in the shadow of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

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

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Offertory Hymn

During the hymn a collection will be taken towards the ministry of this church. If you are a UK Tax Payer, you can increase the value of your gift by 25% by completing one of the Gift Aid envelopes which are available in the pews. Thank you.

**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?*

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

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

**Journey ends! Where afar
Bethlem shines, like a star,
stable door stands ajar.
unborn Son of Mary,
Saviour, do not tarry!**

*Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring!
Sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!
Jesus comes! Jesus comes!
We will make him welcome!*

F. Pratt Green (b1903) Tune: Personent Hodie

The Preparation of the Table

As the grain once scattered in the fields
and the grapes once dispersed on the hillside
are now reunited on this table in bread and wine,
so, Lord, may your whole Church soon be gathered together
from the corners of the earth
into your kingdom.

Amen.

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you

All **and also with you.**

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.**

It is indeed right and good to give you thanks and praise,
almighty God and everlasting Father,
through Jesus Christ your Son.

For when he humbled himself to come among us in human flesh,
he fulfilled the plan you formed before the foundation of the world
to open for us the way of salvation.

Confident that your promise will be fulfilled,
we now watch for the day

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:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - - est.

Bles - sed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Accept our praises, heavenly Father,
 through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,
 and as we follow his example and obey his command,
 grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit
 these gifts of bread and wine
 may be to us his body and his blood;

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.

Therefore, heavenly Father,
 we remember his offering of himself
 made once for all upon the cross;
 we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;
 we look for the coming of your kingdom,
 and with this bread and this cup
 we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus:

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

Accept through him, our great high priest,
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts
in the presence of your divine majesty,
renew us by your Spirit,
inspire us with your love
and unite us in the body of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,
we worship you, Father almighty,
in songs of everlasting praise:

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

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

All **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.**

The Breaking of the Bread

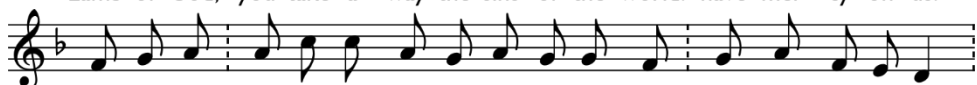
We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ,

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

Agnus Dei



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: have mer - cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: have mer - cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Invitation to Communion

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.**

Communicant members of all Christian churches are invited to receive Holy Communion at All Hallows. All others may come forward for a prayer of blessing - please indicate this by bowing your head.

Music During Communion

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland BuxWV 211 – Dietrich Buxtehude

Post-Communion Prayer

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 **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.

Notices

The Dismissal

Please stand.

Hymn

Hills of the North, rejoice
Echoing songs arise,
Hail with united voice
Him who made earth and skies:
He comes in righteousness and love,
He brings salvation from above.

Isles of the Southern seas,
Sing to the listening earth,
Carry on every breeze
Hope of a world's new birth:
In Christ shall all be made anew,
His word is sure, his promise true.

Lands of the East, arise,
He is your brightest morn,
Greet him with joyous eyes,
Praise shall his path adorn:
The God whom you have longed to know
In Christ draws near, and calls you now.

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.

**Shout, as you journey on,
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 sons of earth be blest.**

CE Oakley (1823-65)Tune: Little Cornard

The Blessing

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.

All **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

Music after the Service

Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme BWV 645 – JS Bach

You are invited to stay for refreshments after the service.

Notices

Looking Closer, Looking Deeper

Podcast Episode 9 is now out! "A Solid Patchwork - The Very Stones Would Shout Out"

To listen, go to www.spotify.com and search for 'All Hallows by the Tower', or use link: <https://rb.gy/yqozty>

Advent Reading

Join us this Advent as we read together Isabelle Hamley's book Embracing Humanity: A Journey towards becoming flesh.

"Through the lens of Advent and Christmas, Isabelle Hamley guides us through daily reflections and prayers, encouraging us to meditate on being human in the light of God's choice to reach out to us in Jesus."

We have a couple of the books in church which are available for £10. Please let Michael know if you would like one. (parish@ahbtt.org.uk)

Join us in person or on zoom as we journey with Isabelle's book through Advent:
The first session: Sunday 8th December at 1pm.

The second session: Sunday 5th at 1pm or Wednesday 8th January at 7pm.

Collecting for Bow Foodbank and the Square Mile Hygiene Bank

You can donate to the Bow Foodbank and the Square Mile Hygiene Bank by using the collection boxes in church. The Bow Foodbank accepts non-perishable, in date, unopened and labelled food, and the Hygiene Bank accepts new, unused, in-date personal care and household cleaning essentials; your donations can make a real difference to those in need in our local area.

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS

Community Carols by Candlelight

Thursday 12 December, 6.30pm

Our Community Carols by Candlelight brings together those who live and work in our local area for a festive service of carols, with music by the Tower Hill Voices.

Lessons and Carols

Sunday 15 December, 4pm

A festive service of Lessons and Carols, with music by the Tower Hill Voices.

Taizé Prayer Around the Crib Wednesday 18 December, 6pm

A special service of Taizé prayer around the crib, as we prepare to welcome the Christ child.

Midnight Mass

Tuesday 24 December, 11.30pm

A candlelit communion service with carols celebrating the birth of Christ.

Christmas Day

Wednesday 25 December, 11am

A joyful communion service to celebrate the birth of Christ.

Two Cities EcoTips

Christmas is coming – but all those cards use a lot of paper, and are expensive too. Think about sending a card by email, or a single card to all your friends at church, or in the office, instead of individual ones.

The Week Ahead

Church Opening Times

Monday-Friday: 8am-5pm Saturday-Sunday: 10am-5pm

Services at All Hallows

You are welcome to join us for any of our services in church.
Our Sunday Eucharist and Taizé services are streamed on Zoom.

Monday 9 December

No services today

Tuesday 10 December

8.30am Morning Prayer

Wednesday 11 December

8.30am Morning Prayer

6pm Taizé Prayer

Thursday 12 December

8.30am Said Eucharist

Friday 13 December

8.30am Morning Prayer

Saturday 14 December

No services today

Sunday 15 December: Third Sunday of Advent

11am Parish Eucharist; Preacher: The Revd Jennifer Midgley-Adam

Taizé Prayer – Wednesdays at 6pm

Our weekly Taizé service takes place **in church and online**. You are welcome to join us for this meditative time of prayer, music and reflection.

If you can't attend in person and would like to join us online, you can view the livestream at **ahbtt.org.uk/livestream**.

Zoom links are included in our weekly email, but if you would like a link for a particular service or event please email parish@ahbtt.org.uk.

Weekly Email

Sign up to our email to receive our weekly news – go to ahbtt.org.uk, enter your email address in the 'Join our Mailing List' box and click 'Subscribe'.

Byward Kitchen & Bar

The Byward Kitchen is open for drinks, meals and light refreshments from 9am-3.30pm, with indoor and outdoor seating available.

bywardkitchenandbar.com

The Team at All Hallows

CurateThe Revd Jennifer Midgley-Adam
Associate PriestThe Revd Dr John Barker
Parish Administrator Michael Griffiths
Education & History Officer Adey Grummet
Director of MusicDavid Cook
Churchwardens Ken Marshall & Di Robertshaw
Safeguarding Officer (safeguarding@ahbtt.org.uk) Siobhán Martin



**All Hallows by the Tower
with St Dunstan in the East**

Byward Street, London, EC3R 5BJ

Tel: 020 7481 2928 Email: parish@ahbtt.org.uk

Registered Charity no 1129137

ahbtt.org.uk @allhallowstower facebook.com/ahbtt



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