



The Second Sunday of Advent

Sunday 7 December 2025, 11.00am

President:

The Revd Nicol Kinrade

Preacher:

The Revd Dr John Barker

WELCOME

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

All Hallows is a member of Inclusive Church and we are delighted you have joined our worship today. Please ask one of our welcomers if you need any assistance during the service. If you are able, we'd love you to join us for refreshments when the service has finished.

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.

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 unfiled area in the north aisle.

Music Before the Service

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland BWV 659 – J S 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

We light the first candle on the Advent wreath as we sing:

**Prophet voices loudly crying,
making pathways clear;
glimpsing glory, self-denying,
calling all to hear.**

**Through their message – challenged, shaken –
hearts awoken: God is near!**

Mark Earey (b. 1965) Tune: Angel Voices

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.

Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness
and cleanse me from my sin.



Lord, _____ have _____ mer - cy. Lord, _____ have _____ mer - cy.

Make me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me



Christ, _____ have _____ mer - cy. Christ, _____ have _____ mer - cy.

Cast me not away from your presence
and take not your holy spirit from me.



Lord, _____ have _____ mer - cy. Lord, _____ have _____ mer - cy.

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.

Setting: Merbecke

The Collect

Let us pray

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: Isaiah 11.1-10

read by Kate Price

A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.
The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.
His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide by what his ears hear;
but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb,
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
and a little child shall lead them.

The cow and the bear shall graze,
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

They will not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain;
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord
as the waters cover the sea.

On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the
nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Remain seated for **The Psalm: 72.1-7, 18, 19**

sung by Sarah Alder



Give the king your judgements, O God,
and your righteousness to the son of a king.
Then shall he judge your people righteously
and your poor with justice.

May the mountains bring forth peace,
and the little hills righteousness for the people. **R/**

May he defend the poor among the people,
deliver the children of the needy and crush the oppressor.

May he live as long as the sun and moon endure,
from one generation to another. **R/**

May he come down like rain upon the mown grass,
like the showers that water the earth.
In his time shall righteousness flourish,
and abundance of peace
till the moon shall be no more. **R/**

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel,
who alone does wonderful things.
And blessed be his glorious name for ever.
May all the earth be filled with his glory.
Amen. Amen. **R/**

Second Reading: Romans 15.4-13

read by Howard Redgewell

For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

‘Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles,
and sing praises to your name’;

and again he says,

‘Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people’;

and again,

‘Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,
and let all the peoples praise him’;

and again Isaiah says,

‘The root of Jesse shall come,
the one who rises to rule the Gentiles;
in him the Gentiles shall hope.’

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

All stand and face the Gospel

Gospel Reading: Matthew 3.1-12

The Lord be with you

All **And also with you**

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

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

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.' This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

"Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight."'

Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

'I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing-floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Please sit.

The Sermon

The Revd Dr John Barker

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 Sarah Alder

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:



All glory be to you, our heavenly Father,
who, in your tender mercy,
gave your only Son our Saviour Jesus Christ
to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption;
who made there by his one oblation of himself once offered
a full, perfect and sufficient sacrifice, oblation and satisfaction
for the sins of the whole world;
he instituted, and in his holy gospel commanded us to continue,
a perpetual memory of his precious death until he comes again.

Hear us, merciful Father, we humbly pray,
and grant that, by the power of your Holy Spirit,
we receiving these gifts of your creation, this bread and this wine,
according to your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution,
in remembrance of his death and passion,
may be partakers of his most blessed body and 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.

Praise to you Lord Jesus:

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

Therefore, Lord and heavenly Father,
in remembrance of the precious death and passion,
the mighty resurrection and glorious ascension
of your dear Son Jesus Christ,
we offer you through him this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving.

Grant that by his merits and death,
and through faith in his blood,
we and all your Church may receive forgiveness of our sins
and all other benefits of his passion.

Although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins,
to offer you any sacrifice,
yet we pray that you will accept this
the duty and service that we owe.

Do not weigh our merits, but pardon our offences,
and fill us all who share in this holy communion
with your grace and heavenly blessing;

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

Awaiting his coming in glory,
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

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.

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 universe be blest.**

CE Oakley (1823-65) Tune: Little Cornard

The Blessing

The Lord be with you

All And also with you

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 – J S Bach

You are invited to stay for refreshments after the service.

Notices

Taizé Christmas Social

After the service of Taizé Prayer this Wednesday, everyone is invited to stay for a Christmas social. If you are able, please bring some food to share.

Queenhithe Ward Club visit



Last week we were pleased to welcome members of the Queenhithe Ward Club to All Hallows.

Their time with us was limited. Thank you so much to our volunteer guide, Susan Konowich, who took them on a whistlestop tour of our church. Do get in touch with the office if you'd like to bring a group for a guided tour.

Decorated for Christmas

Thank you to everyone who helped to decorate All Hallows last weekend. The church was looking spectacular for the first two Carol services we hosted this week (for the Mission to Seafarers and the Worshipful Company of Word Traders).

We're looking forward to a busy time with more Carol services this week.



Bishop Sean visits All Hallows

It was a pleasure to see Bishop Sean Semple, Bishop of the Diocese of Cyprus and the Gulf, back at All Hallows this week. Next year the Diocese will be celebrating their Golden Jubilee and Bishop Sean came to meet Nicol to plan their anniversary service.

Christmas at All Hallows by the Tower

We are looking forward to hosting a large number of carol services for local charities and companies. We hope you will join us for the following:

Thursday 11 December, 6.30pm
Festive Carols by Candlelight

Wednesday 17 December, 6.00pm
Taizé Prayers around the Crib

Sunday 21 December, 4.00pm
Nine Lessons and Carols

Wednesday 24 December, 11.30pm
Midnight Mass

Thursday 25 December, 11.00am
Christmas Day Eucharist



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 8 December

8.30am Morning Prayer

4.30pm Evening Prayer

Tuesday 9 December

8.30am Morning Prayer

1.30pm HMRC Carol Service

7pm Commonwealth War
Graves Foundation Carol
Service

Wednesday 10 December

8.30am Morning Prayer

12 noon Marsh McClennan
Carol Service

6pm Taizé Prayer followed by
Christmas Social

Thursday 11 December

8.30am Said Eucharist

12.30pm Sailors Society Carol
Service

6.30pm Festive Carols by
Candlelight

Friday 12 December

8.30am Morning Prayer

4.30pm Evening Prayer

6pm Streetwise Opera
Christmas Concert

Saturday 13 December

8.30am Morning Prayer

4.30pm Evening Prayer

Sunday 14 December: Third Sunday of Advent

11am Parish Eucharist; Preacher: The Revd Nicol Kinrade

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

Vicar The Revd Nicol Kinrade
Associate Priest The Revd Dr John Barker
Parish Administrator Michael Griffiths
Education & History Officer Adey Grummet
Director of Music David Cook
Churchwardens Di Robertshaw & Robert Stichbury
Safeguarding Officer (safeguarding@ahbtt.org.uk) Sarah Alder

All Hallows by the Tower with St Dunstan in the East

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