

# *Christ is born!*

## **Christmas Day**

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Thursday 25 December 2025, 11am

President and Preacher: **The Revd Nicol Kinrade**

# **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.

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](http://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 unfilmed area in the north aisle.*

## **Music Before the Service**

*Vom Himmel hoch da komm ich her – Heinrich Scheidemann*

Organist: David Cook

## **The Gathering**

*Please stand.*

### **Hymn**

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
let earth receive her King;  
let every heart prepare him room,  
and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.**

**Joy to the world! the Saviour reigns!  
let all their songs employ;  
while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

**He rules the world with truth and grace,  
and makes the nations prove  
the glories of his righteousness  
and wonders of his love,  
and wonders of his love,  
and wonders, wonders, of his love.**

*Isaac Watts (1674-1748) Tune: Antioch*

### **Welcome and Opening Responses**

‘Do I not fill heaven and earth?’ says the Lord.

**All Now the Word is made flesh and laid in a narrow manger.**

From eternity to eternity you are God,

**All and now we see you as a newborn child.**

Grace, mercy and peace  
from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ  
be with you

**All and also with you.**

*Words of welcome and introduction are said.*

## Prayers of Confession

Christ the light of the world has come  
to dispel the darkness of our hearts.  
Let us turn to the light and confess our sins.

*Silence is kept.*

God our Father,  
you sent your Son full of grace and truth:  
forgive our failure to receive him.  
Lord, have mercy.

*All* **Lord, have mercy.**

Jesus our Saviour,  
you were born in poverty and laid in a manger:  
forgive our greed and rejection of your ways.  
Christ, have mercy.

*All* **Christ, have mercy.**

Spirit of Love,  
your servant Mary responded joyfully to your call:  
forgive the hardness of our hearts.  
Lord, have mercy.

*All* **Lord, have mercy.**

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

## The Gloria

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on  
earth. Lord God, hea - ven - ly King, al - migh - ty God and  
Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we  
praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly  
Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a -  
- way the sin of the world, have mer - cy on us; you are  
sea - ted at the right hand of the Fa - ther, re - ceive our  
prayer. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a -  
- lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus  
Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit in the glo - ry of God the  
Fa - - ther. A - - - - - men.

## The Collect

Let us pray in the peace of this Christmas celebration  
that our joy in the birth of Christ will last for ever.

Almighty God,  
you have given us your only-begotten Son  
to take our nature upon him  
and as at this time to be born of a pure virgin:  
grant that we, who have been born again  
and made your children by adoption and grace,  
may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

## The Liturgy of the Word

### First Reading: Isaiah 52.7-10

*read by John Price*

How beautiful upon the mountains  
are the feet of the messenger who announces peace,  
who brings good news,  
who announces salvation,  
who says to Zion, 'Your God reigns.'  
Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices,  
together they sing for joy;  
for in plain sight they see  
the return of the Lord to Zion.  
Break forth together into singing,  
you ruins of Jerusalem;  
for the Lord has comforted his people,  
he has redeemed Jerusalem.  
The Lord has bared his holy arm  
before the eyes of all the nations;  
and all the ends of the earth shall see  
the salvation of our God.

This is the word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand for* **The Psalm: 98**

**Sing a new song to our Saviour  
For the marvels God has done.  
Lord, your hand has brought us triumph,  
And revealed your vict'ry won.  
Steadfast love and constant caring  
To your people you have shown.  
All the earth has seen your glory  
And your goodness to your own.**

**Make a joyful noise, all people;  
Earth break forth in joyful song.  
Organ, trumpet, bells, and cymbals  
Come and join the singing throng.  
For our God is your own Maker,  
Saving all who turn in need.  
Lift your hearts to sing new praises,  
For our God is King indeed.**

**Let the sea and all that fills it  
Roar with praise like crashing waves.  
Let the waters shout in cascade  
For the Saviour of our days.  
Hills break forth to sing with laughter  
At the coming of our King.  
Right and holy are the judgments  
Which our sovereign God shall bring.**

*Tune: Austria*

*Please sit*

## **Second Reading: Hebrews 1.1-4**

*read by Jane Cruse*

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

This is the word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

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

**Gospel Reading: John 1.1-14**

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

*All* **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

The Lord be with you

*All* **and also with you.**

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

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

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

**The Sermon**

The Revd Nicol Kinrade

**The Nicene Creed**

*Please stand.*

*All* **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 Robert Stichbury*

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**

Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given,  
and his name shall be called the Prince 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.*

**See, amid the winter's snow,  
born for us on earth below,  
see, the Lamb of God appears,  
promised from eternal years!**

*Hail, thou ever-blessèd morn!  
Hail, redemption's happy dawn!  
Sing through all Jerusalem:  
"Christ is born in Bethlehem."*

**Lo, within a manger lies  
he who built the starry skies,  
he who, throned in height sublime,  
sits amid the cherubim!**

**Say, ye holy shepherds, say,  
what's your joyful news today;  
wherefore have ye left your sheep  
on the lonely mountain steep?**

**'As we watched at dead of night,  
lo, we saw a wondrous light;  
angels singing "Peace on earth"  
told us of the Savior's birth.'**

**Sacred Infant, all divine,  
what a tender love was thine,  
thus to come from highest bliss  
down to such a world as this!**

*Edward Caswall (1814-1878) Tune: Humility*

## The Preparation of the Table

Word made flesh, life of the world,  
in your incarnation you embraced our poverty:  
by your Spirit may we share in your riches.  
**Amen.**

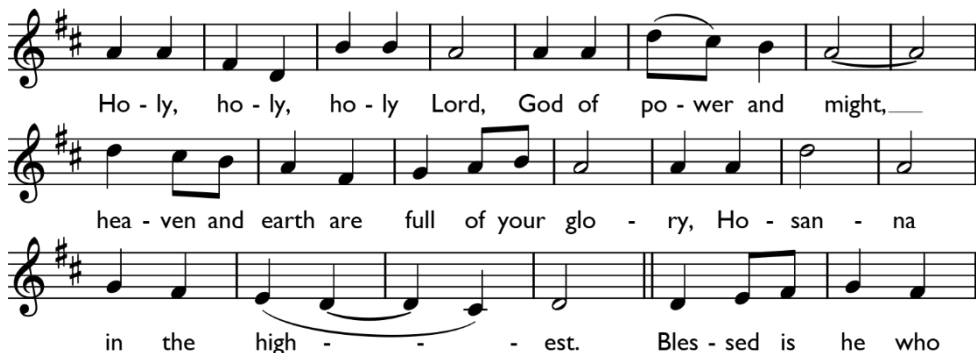
## The Eucharistic Prayer

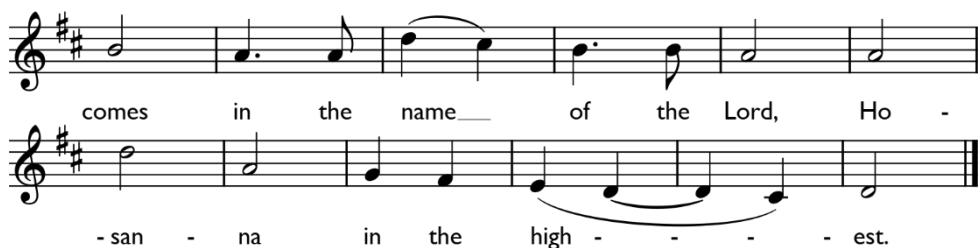
The Lord be with you  
*All* **and also with you.**

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.**

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere,  
mighty creator, ever-living God.  
We give you thanks and praise for your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
who for love of our fallen race humbled himself,  
and on this night was born of the Virgin Mary  
by the power of your Spirit,  
and lived as one of us.  
In this mystery of the Word made flesh  
you have caused his light to shine in our hearts,  
to give knowledge of your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.  
In him we see our God made visible  
and so are caught up in the love of the God we cannot see.  
Therefore with all the angels of heaven  
we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name  
and sing our joyful hymn of praise:





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.

Great is the mystery of faith:

*All* **Christ has died;  
 Christ is risen;  
 Christ will come again.**

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**

Rejoicing in the presence of God here among us,  
as our Saviour taught us so we pray:

*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 the bread of life,  
and that life is the light of the world.

*All* **God here among us,  
light in the midst of us,  
bring us to light and life.**

## Agnus Dei



## Invitation to Communion

Christ is the true bread which has come down from heaven.

**All Lord, give us this bread always.**

*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

*In dulci jubilo BuxWV 197 – Dietrich Buxtehude*

## Post-Communion Prayer

God our Father,  
whose Word has come among us  
in the Holy Child of Bethlehem:  
may the light of faith illumine our hearts  
and shine in our words and deeds;  
through him who is Christ the 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.*

### The Blessing

The Lord be with you

*All* **And also with you**

May the Father,  
who has loved the eternal Son  
from before the foundation of the world,  
shed that love upon you his children.

*All* **Amen.**

May Christ,  
who by his incarnation gathered into one  
things earthly and heavenly,  
fill you with joy and peace.

*All* **Amen.**

May the Holy Spirit,  
by whose overshadowing Mary became the God-bearer,  
give you grace to carry the good news of Christ.

*All* **Amen.**

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  
and proclaim the Word made flesh.

*All* **Glory, thanks and praise to God.**

## Hymn

O come, all ye faithful,  
Joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
Come, and behold him,  
Born the King of angels;

O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord.

God of God,  
Light of Light,  
Lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;  
Very God,  
Begotten, not created:

See how the Shepherds,  
Summoned to his cradle,  
Leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear;  
We too will thither  
Bend our joyful footsteps:

Sing, choirs of Angels,  
Sing in exultation,  
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;  
Glory to God,  
Glory in the Highest:

Yea, Lord, we greet thee,  
Born this happy morning,  
Jesus, to thee be glory given;  
Word of the Father,  
Now in flesh appearing:

*Latin 18<sup>th</sup> century Tr Frederick Oakeley (1802-80) and others Tune: Adeste Fideles*



## **Music after the Service**

*Fugue from Variations on 'Adeste Fideles' – Marcel Dupré*

***Please join us for festive refreshments after the service.***

## Notices

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### **A Christmas message from All Hallows Episcopal Church, Wyncote, PA**

The Rector, The Very Rev Christopher Exley, has sent us a Christmas message from our brothers and sisters in Christ:

*May the light of Christ, who comes to dwell among us, fill All Hallows by the Tower with joy, hope, and peace this blessed Advent and Christmas season.*

We are often visited by members of the congregation, and in the past have held pilgrimages between the two churches. Our Vicar has sent a Christmas message in return.



### **Your Always Serious Staff Team**

The staff team 'let their hair down' on Monday when they celebrated with the Churchwardens at a Christmas Brunch in the Byward Kitchen and Bar.

### **Christmas and New Year services and opening**

The next service at All Hallows will be a said Eucharist on Sunday 28 December at 11am, the Feast of the Holy Innocents. We also have a sung Eucharist on Sunday 4 January 2026 at 11am for the Feast of the Epiphany.

All Hallows will be closed for visits and other services over the Christmas and New Year period, opening again at 10am on Saturday 3 January.

*Nicol and all the team at All Hallows send you their best wishes for a Happy and Peaceful Christmas*





## ***The Team at All Hallows***

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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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Registered Charity no 1129137

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