

# WORTHING CHRIST CHURCH

Grafton Road BN11 1QY

## ORDER OF SERVICE

The Fourth Sunday of Advent  
19<sup>th</sup> December 2021

10.30am Holy Communion  
with The Revd Roger Walker

Epistle: Hebrews 10: 5 - 10  
read by Tony S

Gospel: Luke 1: 39 - 45  
read by Janine H

Intercessions  
led by John B

*There is prayer in the organ vestry every Sunday at  
10am for 15 minutes before the service, which you are  
welcome to join at any time*

The Organ Voluntary after our service today is:  
*Praeludium and Ricercar in G minor (1699)*  
by Johann Krieger, 1651-1735, Zittau

## A Service of Holy Communion

### The Greeting *[Stand]*

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

### Hymn [63] *Please stand to sing*

O little town of Bethlehem,  
how still we see thee lie,  
above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
the silent stars go by:  
yet in thy dark streets shineth,  
the everlasting Light;  
the hopes and fears of all the years  
are met in thee tonight.

O morning stars, together  
proclaim the holy birth,  
and praises sing to God the King,  
and peace to men on earth.  
For Christ is born of Mary,  
and gathered all above,  
while mortals sleep, the angels keep  
their watch of wondering love.

How silently, how silently  
the wondrous gift is given,  
so God imparts to human hearts  
the blessings of his heaven.  
No ear may hear his coming,  
but in this world of sin,  
where meek souls will receive him, still  
the dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem,  
descend to us, we pray;  
cast out our sin and enter in,  
be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels  
the great glad tidings tell,  
O come to us, abide with us,  
our Lord Emmanuel.

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## **Prayer of Preparation**

***All* 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.**

# Prayers of Penitence *[Sit or kneel]*

## Summary of the Law

Our Lord Jesus Christ said:

Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is one Lord;  
and you shall love the Lord your God  
with all your heart, and with all your mind,  
and with all your soul, and with all your strength.

This is the first and greatest commandment.

And the second is like, namely this:

You shall love your neighbour as yourself.

There is no other commandment greater than these.

On these two commandments hang all the law and  
the prophets.

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

## Invitation to confession

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son  
Jesus Christ to save us from our sins, to be our  
advocate in heaven, and to bring us to eternal life.

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith,  
firmly resolved to keep God's commandments  
and to live in love and peace with all.

**All** Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
we have sinned against you  
and against our neighbour  
in thought and word and deed,

**through negligence, through weakness,  
through our own deliberate fault.  
We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
who died for us, forgive us all that is past  
and grant that we may serve you in newness  
of life to the glory of your name. Amen.**

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent,  
have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you  
from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you  
in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **All Amen.**

## **The Collect**

God our redeemer, who prepared the Blessed Virgin  
Mary to be the mother of your Son:  
grant that, as she looked for his coming as our  
saviour, so we may be ready to greet him  
when he comes again as our judge;  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
**All Amen.**

# The Liturgy of the Word



**Epistle** *[Sit]*

**Hebrews 10: 5 - 10**

Therefore, when Christ came into the world, he said: 'Sacrifice and offering you did not desire, but a body you prepared for me; with burnt offerings and sin offerings you were not pleased.

Then I said, "Here I am – it is written about me in the scroll – I have come to do your will, my God."

First he said, 'Sacrifices and offerings, burnt offerings and sin offerings you did not desire, nor were you pleased with them'– (although the law required them to be made). Then he said, 'Here I am, I have come to do your will.' He sets aside the first to establish the second. And by that will, we have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

***At the end the reader may say***

Here ends the Epistle.

***All*** **Thanks be to God.**

**HYMN [174] *[Stand to sing]***

Breathe on me, Breath of God,  
fill me with life anew,  
that I may love what thou dost love,  
and do what thou wouldst do.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,  
until my heart is pure;  
until with thee I will one will,  
to do and to endure.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,  
till I am wholly thine;  
until this earthly part of me  
glows with thy fire divine.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,  
so shall I never die,  
but live with thee the perfect life  
of thine eternity.

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## Gospel Reading *[Remain standing]*

*When the Gospel is announced the reader says*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to Luke *[Luke 1: 39 - 45]*



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

At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, where she entered Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. In a loud voice she exclaimed: 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear! But why am I so favoured, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. Blessed is she who has believed that what the Lord has said to her will be accomplished!'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

## Sermon *[Sit]*

*A short period of silence is kept.*

Let us declare our faith in God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.



## **The Creed**

***[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.

## Prayers of Intercession *[Sit]*

*And at the end, after a short period of silence*



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

## The Liturgy of the Sacrament *[Please stand]*

### **The Peace**

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

*We acknowledge each other with a sign of peace*

## **OFFERTORY HYMN [505] *[Please stand to sing]***

Lord Jesus Christ, you have come to us,  
you are one with us, Mary's Son;  
cleansing our souls from all their sin,  
pouring your love and goodness in;  
Jesus, our love for you we sing,  
Living Lord.

Lord Jesus Christ, now and every day  
teach us how to pray, Son of God.  
You have commanded us to do  
this in remembrance, Lord, of you:  
into our lives your power breaks through,  
Living Lord.

Lord Jesus Christ, you have come to us,  
born as one of us, Mary's Son;  
Led out to die on Calvary,  
risen from death to set us free,  
living Lord Jesus, help us see  
you are Lord.

Lord Jesus Christ, I would come to you,  
live my life for you, Son of God.  
All your commands I know are true,  
your many gifts will make me new,  
into my life your power breaks through,  
Living Lord.

# Preparation of the Table

## Taking of the Bread and Wine

Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendour, and the majesty; for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.

**All** All things come from you,  
and of your own do we give you.

## The Eucharistic Prayer

***Please remain standing***

The Lord is here.

**All** His Spirit is with us.

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, it is our duty and our joy, at all times and in all places to give you thanks and praise, holy Father, heavenly King, almighty and eternal God, through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

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



*All sing* **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.  
*[Sit or Kneel]***

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

# The Lord's Prayer

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.

## Breaking of the Bread

***The president breaks the consecrated 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.



# Giving of 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.

## ***The words of invitation to communion***

Draw near with faith.  
Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ  
which he gave for you,  
and his blood which he shed for you.  
Eat and drink  
in remembrance that he died for you,  
and feed on him in your hearts  
by faith with thanksgiving.

***During the distribution hymns and anthems may  
be sung.***

**Agnus Dei** *is sung*

*Jesus, Lamb of God,  
Have mercy on us*

*Jesus, bearer of our sins,  
Have mercy on us*

*Jesus, redeemer of the world,  
Give us your peace.*

***All are welcome to come forward to receive the  
bread at the Communion rail.***



***If you would just like to receive a blessing, please carry your order of service with you to help the priest know your intention.***

***If you prefer to receive communion in your pew, the priest will come to you, please let the churchwarden know you wish to receive communion as he approaches down the aisle.***

## **Post Communion Prayer *[Sit or Kneel]***

Heavenly Father,  
who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary  
to be the mother of the promised saviour:  
fill us your servants with your grace,  
that in all things we may embrace your holy will  
and with her rejoice in your salvation;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen**

***Silence is kept.***

***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.**

## Final Hymn [362] *[Please stand to sing]*

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!  
Unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice;  
tender to me the promise of his word;  
in God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his name!  
make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;  
his mercy sure, from age to age the same;  
his holy name, the Lord, the mighty one.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might!  
Powers and dominions lay their glory by;  
Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight;  
the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.

Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word!  
Firm is His promise, and his mercy sure.  
Tell out my soul, the greatness of the Lord  
to children's children and for evermore!

*CCLI 2765 Timothy Dudley-Smith © b. 1926*

## The Blessing

The peace of God, which passes all understanding,  
keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and  
love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord;  
and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son,  
and the Holy Spirit rest within you, and remain with  
you always. **All Amen.**

***The Minister says***

Go in the peace of Christ.

***All*** Thanks be to God.

*Our thanks to Revd Roger Walker for leading our service of Holy Communion today*

***Please stay for coffee and a chat after the service!  
Seats are available in the organ vestry or pews  
whilst the work is being carried out in the west  
end!***



All those who are sick, lonely, recently bereaved and all in local nursing and care homes.

**Contact us:**

**Church Wardens:**

email: [christchurchfinance@btinternet.com](mailto:christchurchfinance@btinternet.com)

Email: [christchurchvolunteers@btinternet.com](mailto:christchurchvolunteers@btinternet.com)

**Parish Administrator:**

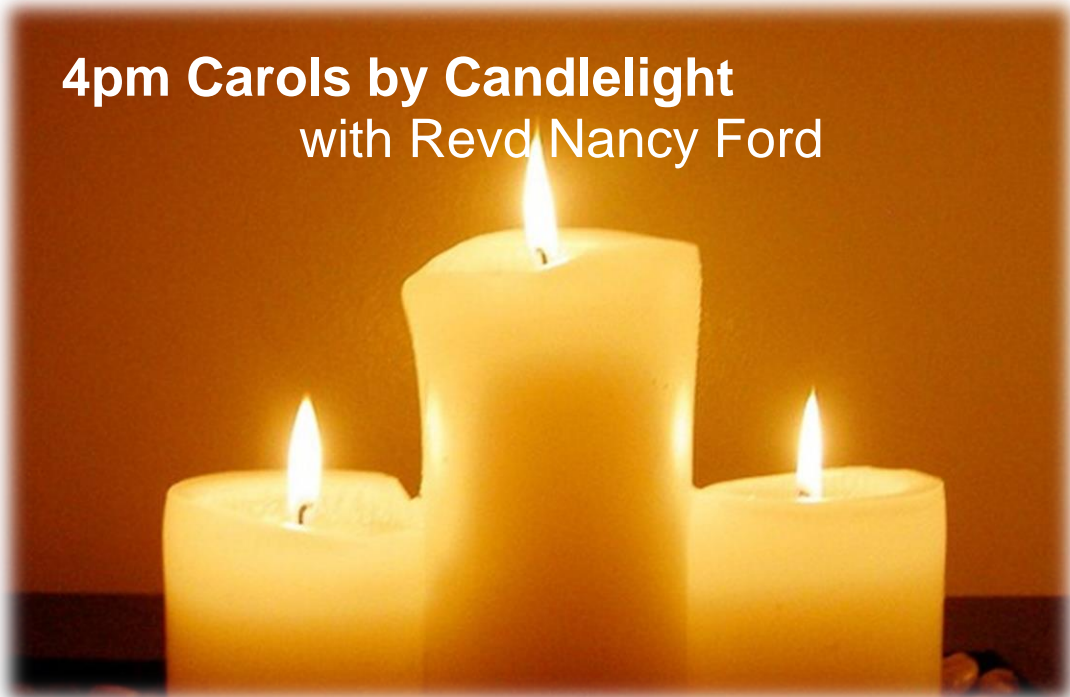
email: [christchurchadmin@btinternet.com](mailto:christchurchadmin@btinternet.com)

**If you wish to donate to the Christian Aid  
Christmas Appeal, please see the mission page  
of our website!**

# Christmas Services

**THIS AFTERNOON!**

**4pm Carols by Candlelight**  
with Revd Nancy Ford



**24<sup>th</sup> 11.30pm**  
**Holy Communion**  
with Revd Roger Walker

**25<sup>th</sup> 10.30am Holy**  
**Communion**  
with Revd Maurice Slattery

**26<sup>th</sup> 10.30am**  
**Morning Prayer**  
with Derek Hansen

