

**Welcome to a
service of Holy Communion
30th November 2025
First Sunday of Advent**

The Greeting

The Lord be with you
And also with you.

Hymn: On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry

Lighting the Advent Candle

First Sunday of Advent – The Patriarchs: Theme: Hope and Promise

We light this candle for the Patriarchs,
for Abraham and Sarah, for David
and all who trusted in the promise.
May this flame shine
with the hope of God's covenant,
and kindle in us a longing for the coming Christ.
Amen.

Prayer of Preparation

**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.**

Invitation to confession

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.

cf John 1. 23

Confession

Turn to us again, O God our saviour,
and let your anger cease from us:
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Show us your compassion, O Lord,
and grant us your salvation:
Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Your salvation is near for those that fear you,
that glory may dwell in our land:
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Absolution

May the God of love and power
forgive *you* and free *you* from *your* sins,
heal and strengthen *you* by his Spirit,
and raise *you* to new life in Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Collect

Almighty God,
as your kingdom dawns,
turn us from the darkness of sin
to the light of holiness,
that we may be ready to meet you
in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 2.1–5

At the end:
This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

New Testament Reading

Romans 13.11–14

At the end:
This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Hymn: Christ be our light

Gospel Reading

Matthew 24.36–44

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

cf Isaiah 40.3-5

Alleluia.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord
Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
Glory to you, O Lord.

Matthew 24.36–44

At the end:

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you O Christ

Sermon

Hymn: I cannot tell

Profession of faith

We say together in faith

**Holy, holy, holy
is the Lord God almighty,
who was, and is, and is to come.**

We believe in God the Father, who created all things:

**for by his will they were created
and have their being.**

We believe in God the Son, who was slain:

**for with his blood,
he purchased us for God,
from every tribe and language,
from every people and nation.**

We believe in God the Holy Spirit:

**the Spirit and the Bride say, 'Come!'
Even so come, Lord Jesus!
Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

We pray for the coming of God's kingdom, saying:
Father, by your Spirit
bring in your kingdom.

This response may be used:
Lord in your mercy
Hear our prayer

At the end:
Lord of the church,
**hear our prayer,
and make us one in heart and mind
to serve you with joy for ever.
Amen.**

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.
And also with you.
Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Hymn: Hills of the North rejoice

Preparation of the Table

Blessed be God,
who feeds the hungry,
who raises the poor,
who fills our praise.
Blessed be God for ever.

Eucharistic Prayer A

The Lord is here.

His Spirit is with us.

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.

Extended preface

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 *saying*:

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.

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:

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:

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

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray for the coming of God's kingdom
in the words our Saviour taught us.

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

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

Agnus Dei

**Jesus, Lamb of God,
have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins,
have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer of the world,
grant us peace.**

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.
**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

Music for distribution of communion

Prayer After Communion

Loving Father,
your Son Jesus Christ has come to us
in word and Spirit, in bread and cup.
Make us holy
and bring us to perfection,
when we stand before him
as he comes to judge the living and the dead,
Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

**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.**

Notices

Advent Devotional

available online or in booklet form

Daily scripture reading and suggested prayers and activities.

Playlists for the suggested music are available too!

All can be found on the Blackley church website:

blackleycofe.church/discipleship

and then navigate to the Advent Devotional section

If you want a CD of the music, please let Pam know and she will get one to you

(available for all churches if they wish)

Carol Services

4th December – St Mary's

7th December – St Andrew's

14th December – St Peter's

21st December – St Paul's

The Dismissal

Our Lord says, I am coming soon.

Amen. Come Lord Jesus.

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

Amen.

The blessing

May God himself, the God of peace,

make you perfect and holy;

and keep you all safe and blameless, in spirit, soul and body,
for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

And the blessing ...

Hymn: Walk in the light

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and to serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ,

Amen.

Exit Music

*Common Worship: Prayers and Services for the Church of England, and New
Patterns for Worship*

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