

**Welcome to a
Service of the Word
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.

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

At the end:

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Sermon/Talk

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 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.**

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.

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

Also, notices for Carol Services:

4th December – St Mary's

7th December – St Andrew's

14th December – St Peter's

21st December – St Paul's

Acclamation

With love and compassion,
come, Lord Jesus.

With judgement and mercy,
come, Lord Jesus.

In power and glory,
come, Lord Jesus.

In wisdom and truth,
come, Lord Jesus.

The Dismissal Gospel

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

Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.'

Mark 1.14,15

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

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.

Hymn: Walk in the light

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 of God almighty,
the Father, the Son
and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always,

Amen.

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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