



THE PARISH CHURCH OF
ST LAURENCE LUDLOW



SUNDAY 22 DECEMBER 2024

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

PARISH EUCHARIST 10am

Revd Nicol Kinrade *President & Preacher*

Michael Oakley *Director of Music*

Robert Green *Organist*

The Choir of St Laurence's

WELCOME

We warmly welcome you to St Laurence's, especially if you are a visitor or newcomer to our congregation. Please be aware that this service will be live-streamed and the recording will be available on YouTube afterwards.

During communion all are welcome to come forward to receive if you have been baptised in any Christian church, all others are invited to come forward for a blessing. Please note communion will be offered in both kinds. Intinction by individuals is not permitted, following the hygiene guidance issued by the Church of England.

St Laurence's is an inclusive church, and everyone is welcome. If you need any assistance accessing our services, please ask one of the stewards.

Children are always welcome in St Laurence's and there is a children's area in the North aisle with toys, games and art materials available for use at any time.

A toilet, including facilities for people with disabilities, is in the North aisle of the Church.

No Photography or Recording is allowed during this service.

A donation to support the work of this church including gift aid envelopes can be placed in the basket either before the service begins or as you leave; donations made before the service will be presented at the appropriate point; your contribution is greatly appreciated. You can also donate by text, by sending STLL22 (add amount) to 70070, eg to donate £5, text STLL £5 to 70070.

Thank you for your support



If you use a hearing aid please switch to the 'T' position and you will be tuned into the induction loop system.

St Laurence's is an inclusive church in which all are welcome

THE GATHERING

PROCESSIONAL 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.

2. Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.

3. Born thy people to deliver;
born a child and yet a king;
born to reign in us for ever;
now thy gracious kingdom bring.

4. By thy own eternal Spirit,
rule in all our hearts alone:
by thy all-sufficient merit,
raise us to thy glorious throne.

Charles Wesley 1707–1788

CROSS OF JESUS

THE GREETING

In the name of the ☩ Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

THE ADVENT WREATH

A candle is lit and a prayer said

Blessed are you, sovereign Lord, merciful and gentle:
to you be praise and glory for ever.

Your light has shone in our darkened world
through the child-bearing of blessed Mary;
grant that we who have seen your glory
may daily be renewed in your image
and prepared like her for the coming of your Son,
who is the Lord and Saviour of all.

Blessed be God for ever.

Please sit.

Let us pray

PRAYERS OF PENITENCE

When the Lord comes,
he will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness,
and will disclose the purposes of the heart.
Therefore in the light of Christ let us confess our sins.

**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.**

KYRIE ELEISON

The image displays two staves of musical notation for the Kyrie Eleison. The first staff is divided into four sections: 'Solo' (Ky - ri-e), 'Choir and congregation' (e - le-i-son), 'Solo' (Chri - ste), and 'Choir and congregation' (e - le-i-son). The second staff is divided into two sections: 'Solo' (Ky - ri-e - e - le-i-son) and 'Choir and congregation' (Ky-ri-e e - e - le-i-son). The lyrics are written below the notes.

Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy

Plainsong Mass XVIII

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. **Amen.**

If you are able, please stand

Let us pray

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.
Amen

Please sit

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Micah 5.2–5a

A reading from the book of the prophet Micah

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,
 who are one of the little clans of Judah,
 from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel,
 whose origin is from of old, from ancient days.
 Therefore he shall give them up until the time
 when she who is in labour has brought forth;
 then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel.
 And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord,
 in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God.
 And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great
 to the ends of the earth;
 and he shall be the one of peace.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Choir sings

Hear, O thou Shepherd of Israel, thou that ledest Joseph like a sheep: shew thyself also, thou that sittest upon the cherubims.

2. Before Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasses: stir up thy strength, and come, and help us.

3. Turn us again, O God: shew the light of thy countenance, and we shall be whole.

4. O Lord God of hosts: how long wilt thou be angry with thy people that prayeth?

5. Thou feedest them with the bread of tears: and givest them plenteousness of tears to drink.

6. Thou hast made us a very strife unto our neighbours: and our enemies laugh us to scorn.

7. Turn us again, thou God of hosts: shew the light of thy countenance, and we shall be whole.

8. Thou hast brought a vine out of Egypt: thou hast cast out the heathen, and planted it.

NEW TESTAMENT READING
Hebrews 10.5-10

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Hebrews

Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said,

‘Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,
but a body you have prepared for me;
in burnt-offerings and sin-offerings
you have taken no pleasure.

Then I said, “See, God, I have come to do your will, O God”
(in the scroll of the book it is written of me).’

When he said above, ‘You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt-offerings and sin-offerings’ (these are offered according to the law), then he added, ‘See, I have come to do your will.’ He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God’s will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

This is the word of the Lord.

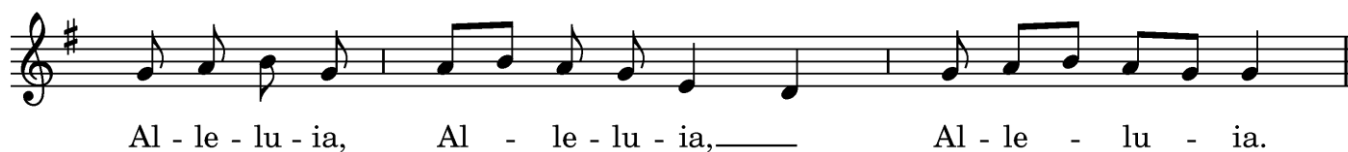
Thanks be to God.

If you are able, please stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

1st time Choir

2nd time Choir & Congregation



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

Repeat Alleluia

GOSPEL READING Luke 1.39-55

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke



In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leapt for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.'

And Mary said, 'My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Please sit

SERMON

A silence is kept

If you are able, please stand

THE CREED

**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

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The response after each bidding

Maranatha
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

And at the end

Come, Lord Jesus, do not delay:
give new courage to your people, who trust in your love.
By your coming, raise us to share in the joy of your kingdom
on earth as in heaven,
where you live and reign with the Father and the Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

If you are able, please stand

THE PEACE

Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord.
Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.

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

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

OFFERTORY HYMN

The people that in darkness sat
a glorious light have seen;
the light has shined on them who long
in shades of death have been.

2. To hail thee, Sun of Righteousness,
the gathering nations come;
they joy as when the reapers bear
their harvest treasures home.

3. For thou their burden dost remove,
and break the tyrant's rod,
as in the day when Midian fell
before the sword of God.

4. For unto us a child is born,
to us a Son is given,
and on his shoulder ever rests
all power in earth and heaven.

5. His name shall be the Prince of Peace,
the everlasting Lord,
the Wonderful, the Counsellor,
the God by all adored.

6. His righteous government and power
shall over all extend;
on judgement and on justice based,
his reign shall have no end.

7. Lord Jesus, reign in us, we pray,
and make us thine alone,
who with the Father ever art
and Holy Spirit One.

John Morrison 1750-1798

DUNDEE

PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

TAKING OF THE BREAD AND WINE

As this bread was scattered and then gathered and made one, so may your Church be gathered into your kingdom.

Glory to you, O God, for ever

Wisdom has built her a house; she has mixed her wine; she has set her table.

Glory to you, O God, for ever.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER E

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

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.

It is indeed right and good to give you thanks and praise,
almighty God and everlasting Father,
through Jesus Christ your Son.

He is the one foretold by all the prophets,
whom the Virgin Mother bore with love beyond all telling.

John the Baptist was his herald
and made him known when at last he came.

In his love Christ fills us with joy
as we prepare to celebrate his birth,
so that when he comes again he may find us watching in prayer,
our hearts filled with wonder and praise.

And so, with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your glory,
and join in their unending hymn of praise:

SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS

Solo Choir and congregation-----

Sanc-tus, — sanc-tus, — sanc-tus Dom-in-us De-us Sa-ba-oth. Ple-ni-sunt coe-li-et-ter-ra
glo-ri-a-tu - a - Ho-san-na-in ex-cel-sis
Be-ne-dic-tus qui ve-nit in nom-in - e Dom-in - i Ho-san - na in ex - cel - sis

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth. 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.

Plainsong Mass XVIII

We praise and bless you, loving Father,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;
and as we obey his command,
send your Holy Spirit,
that broken bread and wine outpoured
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.
On the night before he died he had supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he praised you.
He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:
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.
So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice
made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,
we proclaim his death and resurrection
until he comes in glory.

Great is the mystery of faith

Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

Lord of all life,

help us to work together for that day

when your kingdom comes

and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people,

gather us in your loving arms

and bring us with [*N and*] all the saints

to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,

for ever and ever

Amen.

Please sit

Silence is kept

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Awaiting his coming in glory,

let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has 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

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
**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.
**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

AGNUS DEI

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the Agnus Dei. The first staff is labeled 'Solo' and 'Choir and congregation'. The second staff is also labeled 'Solo' and 'Choir and congregation'. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Solo Choir and congregation

Ag-nus-De - i qui-tol-lis-pec-ca-ta mun-di mi-se-re-re no - bis

Solo Choir and congregation

Ag-nus-De - i qui tol-lis pec-ca-ta mun-di do-na no-bis pa-cem

*Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, have mercy on us
Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, grant us peace*

Plainsong Mass XVIII

The people receive communion.

*To the words of distribution the communicant replies **Amen.***

Communicant members of any Christian Church are welcome to receive communion here. All others are invited to come for a blessing, holding this service sheet.

The Choir sings

ANTHEM

Ave Maria gratia plena
Dominus tecum.
Benedicta tu in mulieribus
Et benedictus fructus ventris tui,
Jesus.

Sancta Maria, mater Dei,
Ora pro nobis peccatoribus,
nunc et in hora mortis nostrae.
Sancta Maria, ora pro nobis. Amen.

*Hail Mary, full of grace,
the Lord is with thee.
Blessed art thou among women,
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb,
Jesus.*

*Holy Mary, Mother of God,
pray for us sinners,
now and in the hour of our death.
Holy Mary, pray for us. Amen.*

Anton Bruckner 1824–1896

Silence is kept

POST COMMUNION COLLECT

**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.**

If you are able, please stand when directed

THE DISMISSAL

THE BLESSING

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

May God himself, the God of peace, make you perfect and holy, and keep you 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 the peace of Christ
Thanks be to God.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Earth has many a noble city;
Beth'hem, thou dost all excel:
out of thee the Lord from heaven
came to rule his Israel.

2. Fairer than the sun at morning
was the star that told his birth,
to the world its God announcing
seen in fleshly form on earth.

3. Eastern sages at his cradle
make oblations rich and rare;
see them give in deep devotion,
gold and frankincense and myrrh.

4. Sacred gifts of mystic meaning:
incense doth their God disclose,
gold the King of kings proclaimeth,
myrrh his sepulcher foreshows.

5. Jesu, whom the Gentiles worshipped
at thy glad Epiphany,
unto thee with God the Father
and the Spirit glory be.

Aurelius Clemens Prudentius
Tr. Edward Caswall

STUTTGART

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Gott, durch deine Güte BWV600

J.S. Bach 1685-1750

Please join us for coffee after the service

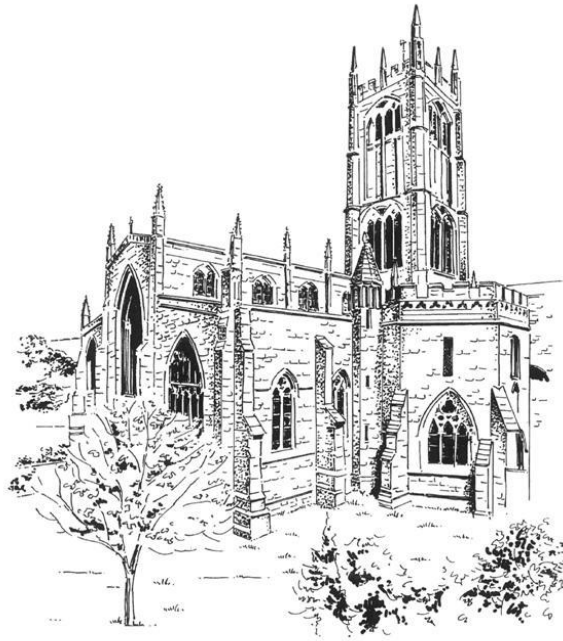
Today at 7pm Carols in the Castle

Next Sunday's Services

8.15am Holy Communion (BCP)
10am Benefice Eucharist (at St John's)

Christmas Services 2024

Monday 23 December	7pm	Nine Lessons and Carols
Tuesday 24 December	4pm	Christingle
	11.15pm	Midnight Mass
Wednesday 25 December	8.15am	Holy Communion (BCP)
	10.30am	Family Christmas Service



An inclusive church welcoming everyone



St Laurence's is committed to the goals of a Fairtrade Church. We use fairtrade communion wine, tea, coffee, sugar and other products where possible. We hold regular Fair Trade stalls and events promoting Fairtrade

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