

# St Mary's Church, Walkley



**The Church on the Road:**  
*Inclusive, Eucharistic, a safe place to be with God*

*O Sapientia*

*O Adonai*

*O Radix Jesse*

*O Clavis David*

*O Oriens*

*O Rex Gentium*

*O Emmanuel*

## The Second Sunday of Advent

### Eucharist

### 10<sup>th</sup> December 2023

Welcome to St Mary's Church, Walkley

**President:** The Revd Alison Wragg  
**Preacher:** Kath, Reader at St Mary's  
**Churchwarden on duty:** Vicky

## The Gathering and Opening Hymn

*We stand and we sing the opening hymn.*

*President* Jesus said,  
'Do not think that I have come to abolish the law and the prophets:  
I have not come to abolish them but to fulfil them.'

*All* **Amen. Come soon, Lord Jesus!**

*President* God our Father,  
you spoke to the prophets of old  
of a Saviour who would bring peace.  
You helped them to spread the joyful message  
of his coming kingdom.  
Help us, as we prepare to celebrate his birth,  
to share with those around us  
the good news of your power and love.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ,  
the light who is coming into the world.

*All* **Amen.**

*The second candle is lit.*

*President* Reveal among us the light of your presence  
*All* **that we may behold your power and glory.**

*We remain standing and we sing:*

*All* **Advent candles tell their story  
as we watch and pray,  
longing for the Day of Glory,  
'Come, Lord, soon,' we say.  
Pain and sorrow, tears and sadness,  
changed for gladness  
on that Day.**

**Prophet voices loudly crying,  
making pathways clear;  
glimpsing glory, self-denying,  
calling all to hear.  
Through their message – challenged, shaken –  
Hearts awaken:  
God is near!**

## The Confession and Absolution

*Minister* Jesus says, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.'  
So let us turn away from sin and turn to Christ, confessing our sins  
in penitence and faith.

Matthew 4.17

*We keep a time of silence.*

*All* **Lord our God,  
in our sin we have avoided your call.  
Our love for you is like a morning cloud,  
like the dew that goes away early.  
Have mercy on us;  
deliver us from judgement;  
bind up our wounds and revive us;  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

*We remain standing and we sing:*

*Cantor* Kyrie eléison

*All* **Kyrie eléison**

*Cantor* Christe eléison

*All* **Christe eléison**

*Cantor* Kyrie eléison

*All* **Kyrie eléison**

*Cantor* Kyrie eléison

*All* **Kyrie eléison**

*Cantor* Christe eléison

*All* **Christe eléison**

*Cantor* Kyrie eléison

*All* **Kyrie eléison**

*President* May the God of love  
bring us back to himself,  
forgive us our sins,  
and assure us of his eternal love  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All* **Amen.**

## The Collect

*President* Let us pray:

Almighty God,  
purify our hearts and minds,  
that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again as  
judge and saviour  
we may be ready to receive him,  
who is our Lord and our God.

*All* **Amen.**

*We sit.*

## The Reading: Isaiah 40. 1 - 11

*Reader* A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

Comfort, O comfort my people,  
says your God.  
Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,  
and cry to her  
that she has served her term,  
that her penalty is paid,  
that she has received from the Lord's hand  
double for all her sins.

A voice cries out:

'In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord,  
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.  
Every valley shall be lifted up,  
and every mountain and hill be made low;  
the uneven ground shall become level,  
and the rough places a plain.  
Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,  
and all people shall see it together,  
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.'

A voice says, 'Cry out!'

And I said, 'What shall I cry?'

All people are grass,  
their constancy is like the flower of the field.  
The grass withers, the flower fades,  
when the breath of the Lord blows upon it;  
surely the people are grass.

The grass withers, the flower fades;  
but the word of our God will stand for ever.  
Get you up to a high mountain,  
O Zion, herald of good tidings;  
lift up your voice with strength,  
O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,  
lift it up, do not fear;  
say to the cities of Judah,  
'Here is your God!'  
See, the Lord God comes with might,  
and his arm rules for him;  
his reward is with him,  
and his recompense before him.  
He will feed his flock like a shepherd;  
he will gather the lambs in his arms,  
and carry them in his bosom,  
and gently lead the mother sheep.

*Reader* This is the word of the Lord.  
*All* **Thanks be to God.**

## **The Gradual Hymn**

*We stand and we sing.*

## **The Gospel Reading: Mark 1. 1 - 8**

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

*All* **Alleluia.**

Isaiah 40.3–5

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

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.  
As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,  
'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,  
who will prepare your way;  
the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:  
"Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight" ',

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, 'The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.'

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

*We sit.*

## **The Sermon**

*We stand.*

## **The Creed**

*President* Let us declare our faith in God,

*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.**

*We sit or kneel.*

## **The Prayers of Intercession**

*Intercessor* Maranatha:  
*All* **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

*Or another response is used.*

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

*We stand.*

## The Liturgy of the Sacrament

### The Peace

*President* 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.

*Luke 1.78,79*

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

*Minister* Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*We remain in our seats, sharing the peace through waves to those around us.*

### The Offertory Hymn

*We stand and we sing as the altar is prepared. If you would like to support St Mary's, donations can be made after the service at the back of church using the collection plate or contactless card giving station.*



## The Eucharistic Prayer

*President* The Lord is here.

*All* **His Spirit is with us.**

*President* Lift up your hearts.

*All* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*President* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*All* **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

*President* 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 singing:

*Cantor* Holy, holy, holy is the Lord,  
Holy is the Lord God almighty,

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

*President* 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.

*Minister* Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

*Cantor* Jesus, Jesus, Jesus is the Lord,  
Jesus is the Lord God almighty,

*All* **Jesus, Jesus, Jesus is the Lord,  
Jesus is the Lord God almighty,  
who was, and is, and is to come;  
Jesus, Jesus, Jesus is the Lord.**

*President* 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 Mary, Mark, John 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.

*Cantor* Glory, glory, glory to the Lord,  
glory to the Lord God almighty,

*All* **Glory, glory, glory to the Lord,  
glory to the Lord God almighty,  
who was, and is, and is to come;  
glory, glory, glory to the Lord.**

*We sit or kneel.*

## **The Lord's Prayer**

*President* Awaiting his coming in glory,  
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

*All*           **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 Breaking of the Bread**

*President* Every time we eat this bread  
and drink this cup,

*All*           **we proclaim the Lord's death  
until he comes.**

## **The Giving of Communion**

*President* 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 president will give instructions on how to come forward for communion and on returning to our seats. All are welcome to come to front for the bread or a blessing. If you would like a blessing please keep your arms folded across your chest at you approach the front. During the distribution we sing and music is played.*

## The Prayer after Communion

*President* Let us pray.

Father in heaven,  
who sent your Son to redeem the world  
and will send him again to be our judge:  
give us grace so to imitate him  
in the humility and purity of his first coming  
that, when he comes again,  
we may be ready to greet him  
with joyful love and firm faith;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All* **Amen.**

*All* **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.**

## The Notices

*We stand.*

## The Blessing

*President* May God the Father, judge all-merciful,  
make us worthy of a place in his kingdom.

*All* **Amen.**

*President* May God the Son, coming among us in power,  
reveal in our midst the promise of his glory.

*All* **Amen.**

*President* May God the Holy Spirit make us steadfast in faith,  
joyful in hope and constant in love.

*All* **Amen.**

*President* And the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among us and remain with us always.

*All* **Amen.**

## The Closing Hymn

*We remain standing and we sing during which we turn to face the back of church as the ministers process.*

## The Dismissal

*Minister* As we await our coming Saviour,  
go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
*All* **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

***Coffee and tea are served after the service please move to the hall through the door at the back of the church.***

*Please be mindful of those who prefer to keep their distance from others at the moment.*

**For more information: [stmaryswalkley.co.uk](http://stmaryswalkley.co.uk)**

