

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 7th December 2025

Welcome to St Mary's Church, Walkley

President: The Revd Beth Keith, Priest in Charge
Preacher: The Revd Beth Keith, Priest in Charge
Team Warden on duty: Janet

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 11. 1 - 10

Reader A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.
The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.
His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.
He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide by what his ears hear;
but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.
The wolf shall live with the lamb,
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
and a little child shall lead them.
The cow and the bear shall graze,
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

They will not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain;
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord
as the waters cover the sea.

On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples;
the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

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

The Gradual Hymn

We stand and we sing. During the hymn we turn to face the processional cross as the book of the Gospels moves to the middle of the people.

The Gospel Reading: Matthew 3. 1 - 12

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 Matthew.

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

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, “The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.’” Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. “I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

Minister This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

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 exchange the peace through smiles, waves and handshakes
with those around us, as you feel comfortable.*

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. If you would like to give regularly to St Mary's please speak to the Treasurer, or one of the Team Wardens.

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 and wine or a blessing. If you would like a blessing please keep your arms folded across your chest at you approach the front.

*The president will dip the wafer in the wine before giving it to you.
Gluten free wafers are available, please ask at the altar. During the
distribution we sing and music is played.*

**Praise to the God who clears the way
preparing room and space;
for power and pride will lose their sway
as peace comes in their place.**

**Praise to the God who comes to judge
the truth of word and deed,
who calls our minds and wills to change,
rebuking wealth and greed.**

**Praise to the God who waits with us
for hope and joy to reign,
who shares our suffering and our loss,
embodied in our pain.**

**Praise to the God who comes to bring
comfort to all who mourn,
The whole creation 'Glory' sings
as Christ the light is born.**

Words: Jan Berry b.1953
Reproduced under CCLI licence: 290314

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 robed ministers process.

**Long ago, prophets knew
Christ would come, born a Jew,
come to make all things new;
bear his People's burden,
freely love and pardon:
*Ring, bells, ring, ring ring!
Sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!
When he comes, when he comes,
who will make him welcome?***

**God in time, God in man,
this is God's timeless plan:
he will come, as a man,
born himself of woman,
God divinely human:
*Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring...***

**Mary, hail! Though afraid,
she believed, she obeyed,
in her womb, God is laid;
till the time expected,
nurtured and protected:
*Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring...***

**Journey ends! Where afar
Bethlem shines, like a star,
stable door stands ajar.
Unborn Son of Mary,
Saviour, do not tarry!
*Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring!
Sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!
Jesus comes!
Jesus comes!
We will make him welcome!***

Words: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000
© Stainer & Bell Ltd
Reproduced under CCLI licence: 290314

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, all are welcome.

If you would like to provide feedback on this service please speak a member of the Worship Group, Kath, Catherine, Janet or David. You can also email us

worship@stmaryswalkley.co.uk

For more information: stmaryswalkley.co.uk

