

## St James's Church, Piccadilly

### Christmas Day Eucharist

Friday 25th December 2020

11.00am

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#### IN ST JAMES'S CHURCH AND LIVE ON YOUTUBE

*At 11.00am, the choir sings*

#### THE INTROIT

Vom Himmel hoch, da komm ich her.  
Ich bring' euch gute neue Mär,  
Der guten Mär bring ich so viel,  
Davon ich sing'n und sagen will.

*From heaven above to earth I come  
To bear good news to every home;  
Glad tidings of great joy I bring  
Whereof I now will say and sing.*

*Words by Martin Luther; music attr. Luther  
and arranged by J.S. Bach*

*The priest says*

God says 'Do I not dwell in heaven and earth'?

**Now the Word is made flesh and laid in a manger.**

From eternity to eternity you are God!  
**And we see you now, born in a vulnerable child.**

Grace, mercy and peace from God and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

*The priest welcomes all to the in-person and online service and invites those attending to say where they are joining from in the YouTube chat function.*

*All say*

**Eternal 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 we pray.**

**Amen.**

#### PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION

*The deacon introduces the prayer of reconciliation*

The sun of righteousness has dawned!  
The Light of Christ has come!  
Let us come before the God of compassion and grace, trusting in the promise of forgiveness and peace.

*Silence is kept.*

**Ever-loving God,  
we confess that we have sinned  
in thought, word and deed.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, that we may do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with you our God.**

**Amen.**

## **THE ABSOLUTION**

*The priest says*

May the God of mercy and truth forgive you and set you free. May you know you are forgiven and be at peace.

**Amen.**

*The choir sings*

### **Gloria In Excelsis, from the Spatzen-Messe**

by W.A. Mozart K.220 (1776)

Gloria in Excelsis Deo!

*Glory to God in the highest heaven!*

## **THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

### **The Collect (Prayer for the Day)**

*The priest says*

Let us pray.

Jesus Christ,  
your birth at Bethlehem  
draws us to kneel in wonder  
at heaven touching earth;  
accept our heartfelt praise  
as we worship you,  
our Redeemer and our eternal God.

**Amen.**

## **THE FIRST READING**

### **Isaiah 62.6-end**

Upon your walls, O Jerusalem,  
I have posted sentinels;  
all day and all night  
they shall never be silent.  
You who remind the LORD,  
take no rest,  
and give him no rest  
until he establishes Jerusalem  
and makes it renowned throughout the  
earth.

The LORD has sworn by his right hand  
and by his mighty arm:

I will not again give your grain  
to be food for your enemies,  
and foreigners shall not drink the wine  
for which you have laboured;  
but those who garner it shall eat it  
and praise the LORD,  
and those who gather it shall drink it  
in my holy courts.

Go through, go through the gates,  
prepare the way for the people;  
build up, build up the highway,  
clear it of stones,  
lift up an ensign over the peoples.  
The LORD has proclaimed  
to the end of the earth:  
Say to daughter Zion,  
'See, your salvation comes;  
his reward is with him,  
and his recompense before him.'  
They shall be called, 'The Holy People,  
The Redeemed of the LORD';  
and you shall be called, 'Sought Out,  
A City Not Forsaken.'

Listen for what the Spirit is saying.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand.*

## **THE GOSPEL**

### **Luke 2.1-20**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to Luke.

**Glory to you O Lord.**

In those days a decree went out from  
Emperor Augustus that all the world should  
be registered. This was the first registration  
and was taken while Quirinius was governor  
of Syria. All went to their own towns to be  
registered. Joseph also went from the town  
of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of  
David called Bethlehem, because he was  
descended from the house and family of

David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.' And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!'

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

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

## **THE SERMON**

The Revd Lucy Winkett

### ***O Emmanuel by Malcom Guite***

*O come, O come, and be our God-with-us  
O long-sought With-ness for a world without,  
O secret seed, O hidden spring of light.  
Come to us Wisdom, come unspoken Name  
Come Root, and Key, and King, and holy  
Flame,  
O quickened little wick so tightly curled,  
Be folded with us into time and place,  
Unfold for us the mystery of grace  
And make a womb of all this wounded world.  
O heart of heaven beating in the earth,  
O tiny hope within our hopelessness  
Come to be born, to bear us to our birth,  
To touch a dying world with new-made hands  
And make these rags of time our swaddling  
bands.*

*Silence is kept for personal reflection.*

*Please stand.*

## **THE NICENE CREED**

*(from the fourth century)*

**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:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit**

he became incarnate from 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.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped  
and glorified.  
He 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 or kneel.*

*The deacon says*

Let us pray for the world, for the church,  
for all in need, and for those who have  
asked for our prayers.

### **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*led by a member of the congregation.*

*Please stand.*

### **THE PEACE**

*The priest says*

Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given  
and his name shall be called the Prince of  
Peace.

*The deacon says*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

*Please share the peace without shaking  
hands in church, or in the chat section of  
YouTube.*

*During the offertory carol, the deacon  
prepares the altar for Communion.*

### **CAROL**

[Tune: Mendelssohn; Words: Charles Wesley (1707-  
1788) et al.]

Hark, the herald-angels sing  
glory to the new born King;  
peace on earth and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled:  
joyful, all ye nations rise,  
join the triumph of the skies,  
with th'angelic host proclaim,  
'Christ is born in Bethlehem.'

*Hark, the herald-angels sing  
Glory to the new born King.*

Christ, by highest heav'n adored,  
Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
late in time behold him come,  
offspring of a virgin's womb!  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,  
hail, th'incarnate Deity!  
Pleased as man with us to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel.

Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!  
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings,  
ris'n with healing in his wings;  
mild he lays his glory by,  
born that we no more may die,  
born to raise us from the earth,  
born to give us second birth.

## **PRAYER AT THE PREPARATION OF THE TABLE**

*The priest says*

Blessed are you  
O Christmas Christ,  
that your cradle was so low  
that shepherds,  
poorest and simplest of earthly folk,  
could kneel beside it and look level-eyed  
into the face of God.

Come to us in bread and wine.  
Come to us like child.  
**Amen.**

## **THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

*The priest leads the Church's Thanksgiving  
for Creation and Redemption in Christ ...*

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.**

*The priest continues the Church's prayer  
of thanksgiving ...*

## **SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS**

*All say*

Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory,  
Hosanna in the highest.

*All say*

**Blessed is the one who comes in the  
name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

*The prayer of consecration continues  
recalling Christ's command to his disciples  
at the Last Supper, ending with: "... as often  
as you drink it, in remembrance of me"*

*The deacon says*

Great is the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died.  
Christ is risen.  
Christ will come again.**

*The prayer continues. At the end of the  
prayer, all say*

**Amen.**

*Silence is kept.*

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

*You are invited to pray in your own language.*

*The priest says*

Rejoicing in the presence of God here among  
us, let us pray in the words that Jesus gave 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 Bread is broken as the priest says*

We break the bread of life,  
and that life is the light of the world.  
**God here among us,  
light in the midst of us,  
bring us to light and life.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

*The priest says*

Christ is the true bread come from heaven.  
The body of Christ keep you in eternal life.

**Amen.**

## THE COMMUNION

*If you are attending the service in person,  
you are invited to move to a communion  
station either in the nave or in the gallery.  
Please wear a face covering as you move  
among people and you may find it more  
convenient to take your consecrated wafer  
back to your seat to consume it.  
Everyone is welcome to come forward for  
communion or for a blessing.*

*Music during Communion:*

**O Lux Beata Trinitas** words by St Ambrose,  
music by Emma Brown (b.1985)

O lux beata Trinitas,  
Et principalis unitas,  
Iam sol recedit igneus,  
Infunde lumen cordibus.

Te mane laudum carmine,  
Te deprecemur vespere:  
Te nostra supplex gloria  
Per cuncta laudet saecula.

Deo Patri sit gloria,  
Eiusque soli Filio,  
Cum Spiritu paraclito,  
Et nunc, et in perpetuum.

*O blessed light, the Trinity,  
And principal Unity,  
Now the fiery sun recedes,  
Pour light into our hearts.*

*To you praises in the morning,  
To you prayers in the evening:  
To you our humble glory*

*Through all the ages.  
To God the Father be glory,  
And to the only Son,  
With the comforting Spirit,  
Now, and evermore.*

**Veni, Redemptor Gentium** words by St  
Ambrose, music arr. Andrew Smith (b. 1970)

Veni, redemptor gentium,  
Ostende partum Virginis;  
Miretur omne saeculum:  
Talis decet partus Deum.

*Wondrous birth! O wondrous child  
Of the virgin undefiled!  
Though by all the world disowned,  
Still to be in heaven enthroned.*

*From the Father forth he came  
And returneth to the same,  
Captive leading death and hell,  
High the song of triumph swell!*

*Brightly doth thy manger shine,  
Glorious is its light divine.  
Let not sin o'ercloud this light;  
Ever be our faith thus bright.*

Sit, Christe, rex piissime,  
Tibi Patrique gloria  
Cum Spiritu Paraclito,  
In sempiterna saecula. Amen

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**Eternal God,  
whose Word has come among us in bread  
and wine  
and in the Holy Child of Bethlehem:  
may the light of faith shine in our lives  
through the one who is Christ the Lord.  
Amen.**

*Notices are given by the priest.*

## **FINAL CAROL**

[Tune: Adeste fideles; Words: John Francis Wade (1710-1786)]

*Please hum along if you would like to join in the hymn.*

***In place of a collection, please make a text donation by texting WREN20, WREN10 or WREN5 to 70085 to donate £20, £10 or £5 respectively.***

O come, all ye faithful,  
joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
come and behold him, born the king of  
angels:

*O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.*

God of God,  
Light of Light,  
lo, he abhors not the Virgin's womb;  
very God, begotten not created:

Sing, choirs of angels,  
sing in exultation,  
sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;  
glory to God in the highest:

Yea, Lord, we greet thee,  
born this happy morning,  
Jesu, to thee be glory giv'n:  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:

## **THE BLESSING AND DISMISSAL**

*The priest gives the blessing.*

Christ who by his incarnation  
gathered into one things earthly and heavenly,  
bless you on this day of days  
and give you peace.

And the blessing of God; Creator, Christ and  
Holy Spirit be among you and remain with  
you now and always.

**Amen.**

*The deacon says*

Go in peace.  
Proclaim the Word made flesh.  
**Thanks be to God.**

***Please make an online donation to support the work of St James's Church***  
[www.sjp.org.uk](http://www.sjp.org.uk)

**WE WISH YOU ALL A BLESSED CHRISTMAS  
AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!**