



St James's  
PICCADILLY

# The Eucharist for the Second Sunday before Advent

Sunday 16th November 2025  
at 11am

With a congregation in the church  
and live on YouTube



*Welcome to St James's Church. Whether you are with us in person or joining us online, you are very welcome.*

*Everyone is warmly invited to receive communion or a blessing so please do come forward at the appropriate time.*

## **ORDER OF SERVICE**

### **OPENING HYMN**

[Tune: Darwall's 148th; Words: Richard Baxter (1615-1691), John Hampden Gurney (1802-1862) and Robert Chope (1830-1928)]

**Ye holy angels bright,  
who wait at God's right hand,  
or through the realms of light  
fly at your Lord's command,  
assist our song,  
for else the theme  
too high doth seem  
for mortal tongue.**

**Ye saints, who toil below,  
adore your heavenly King,  
and onward as ye go  
some joyful anthem sing;  
take what God gives  
and praise him still,  
through good or ill,  
who ever lives.**

**My soul, bear thou thy part,  
triumph in God above:  
and with a well-tuned heart  
sing thou the songs of love;**

**let all thy days  
till life shall end,  
whate'er God send,  
be filled with praise.**

## **OPENING RESPONSES**

*The priest says*

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

**And also with you.**

*The priest welcomes everyone and introduces the service.*

**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 our Lord.  
Amen.**

## **PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION**

*The deacon says*

Jesus said, 'Do not judge, and you will not be judged.  
Forgive, and you will be forgiven'.

## **KYRIE** (*Ghanaian*)

*The cantor sings*

Kyrie eleison.

(*Lord, have mercy.*)

*All sing*

**Kyrie Eleison (x4)**

**Christe Eleison (x4)**

**Kyrie Eleison (x4)**

*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 who is both power and love forgive you

and free you from your sin; give you healing and strength,

and raise you to new life in Christ.

**Amen.**

## **THE GLORIA** (*Peruvian*)

*Sing each phrase after the cantor*

**Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!**

**To God be glory for ever!**

**Alleluia amen, alleluia amen, alleluia amen.**

**Glory to God, glory to God, glory to Christ Jesus!**

**To God be glory for ever!**

**Alleluia amen, alleluia amen, alleluia amen.**

**Glory to God, glory to God, glory to the Spirit!**

**To God be glory for ever!**

**Alleluia amen, alleluia amen, alleluia amen.**

## **LITURGY OF THE WORD**

### **The Collect**

*The priest says*

Heavenly God,

you long for the world's salvation:

stir us from apathy, restrain us from excess

and revive in us new hope that all creation

will one day be made whole in Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

**Amen.**

### **FIRST READING**

2 Thessalonians 3.6-13

A reading from the Second Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians.

Now we command you, beloved, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from believers who are living in idleness and not according to the tradition that they received

from us. For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not idle when we were with you, and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it; but with toil and labor we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you. This was not because we do not have that right, but in order to give you an example to imitate. For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: Anyone unwilling to work should not eat. For we hear that some of you are living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work. Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

Listen for what the Spirit is saying.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand.*

*During the psalm, the Gospel is carried in procession down the central aisle of the church where it is read among the people. Please turn and face the Gospel as it passes.*

## **PSALM 98**

*Response: **God has done marvellous things.***

## **THE GOSPEL**

Luke 21.5-19

*The cantor sings and all repeat*

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

*The reader says*

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

*The cantor sings and all repeat*

Glory to you O Lord. **Glory to you O Lord.**

When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, he said, "As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down." They asked him, "Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?" And he said, "Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and, 'The time is near!' Do not go after them. "When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately." Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven. "But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. This will give you an opportunity to testify. So make up your minds not to prepare your defence in advance; for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. You will be hated by all because of my name. But not a hair of your head will perish. By your endurance you will gain your souls.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

*The cantor sings and all repeat*

Praise to you O Christ. **Praise to you O Christ.**

*The cantor sings and all repeat*

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

*Please sit.*

## **SERMON**

The Revd Daniel Norris

*A period of silence is kept for personal reflection.*

## **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *(from the Iona Community)*

We believe in God,  
maker and sustainer of all life.  
We believe in God beside us,  
Jesus Christ,  
the word made flesh,  
born of a woman, servant of the poor,  
tortured and nailed to a tree.  
A man of sorrows, he died forsaken.  
He descended into the earth to the place of death.  
On the third day he rose from the tomb.  
He ascended into heaven,  
to be everywhere present,  
and his kingdom will come on earth.  
We believe in God within us,  
the Holy Spirit of Pentecostal fire,  
life-giving breath of the Church,  
Spirit of healing and forgiveness,  
source of resurrection and of eternal life.  
**Amen.**

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*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.

*Please kneel or sit for prayers led by a member of the congregation.*

## THE PEACE

*The priest says*

Jesus says, 'Peace I leave with you.  
My peace I give you.  
Not as the world gives do I give to you'.

*The deacon says*

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

*The priest says*

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*Please share the Peace in a socially distanced way if you are in the building, and in the YouTube chat box if you are online.*

*During the offertory hymn, a collection will be taken.  
If you have cash, please fill in the Gift Aid envelopes in the pews with the pens available.*

*If you don't have cash, please use the tap donate device in the collection plate, which is set to £5, or the QR code on page 16.*

## OFFERTORY HYMN

[Tune: Slane; Words: Irish 8<sup>th</sup>c trans. Mary Byrne and Eleanor Hull (alt.)]

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,  
naught be all else to me, save that thou art;  
thou my best thought in the day and the night,  
waking and sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word,  
thou ever with me and I with thee, Lord;  
thou my great Father, thy child let me be,  
thou in me dwelling, and I one with thee.

Be thou my breastplate, my sword for the fight;  
be thou my dignity, thou my delight,  
thou my soul's shelter, and thou my strong tower;  
raise thou me heav'nward, great Pow'r of my pow'r.

Riches I heed not, nor earth's empty praise,  
thou mine inheritance, now and always;  
thou and thou only, the first in my heart,  
high King of heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven, thou heaven's bright sun,  
grant me its joys after vict'ry is won;  
heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

## PRAYER AT THE PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

*The priest says*

Wise and gracious God,  
you spread a table before us;

nourish your people with the word of life  
and the bread of heaven.

**Amen.**

**GATHERING**(*Molefe*)

*All are invited to gather round the altar. Should you need to sit,  
please use any of the benches or seats around the altar at the  
front of the church.*

*While moving to the altar, please join in singing ...*

**Amen siakudumisa. Amen siakudumisa.**

**Amen bawo, amen bawo,**

**Amen siakudumisa.**

*(Praise the name of the Lord.)*

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

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** (*Wetherick*)

*Please follow the lead of the cantor*

**Holy, holy, holy,**

**God of power and might.**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

**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 cantor sings*  
Great is the mystery of faith.

*All sing after the cantor*

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

*The prayer continues ...  
At the end of the prayer, sing after the cantor*

**Blessing and honour, glory and power,  
be yours for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

*Silence is kept.*

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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

*The priest says*  
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 and the priest says*

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.**

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

*The priest says*

Come to this table,  
not because you must but because you may,  
not because you are strong, but because you are weak.  
Come, not because your own goodness gives you the right,  
but because you know you need mercy and help.  
Come, because you love God and want to love more.  
Come and meet Christ, for we are one Body, united with God.

## THE COMMUNION

*Everyone is welcome to receive Communion or a blessing. Afterwards, please return to your seat. During Communion, the Lay Singers and Singing Scholars will sing **Now That You Have Purified Yourself**; words: 1 Peter 1.22 (NIV), music by Michael Haslam.*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of life and love,  
we thank you for feeding us with the bread of heaven.  
Hear our prayer for all your hurting world,  
that we may grow together in unity and go out with joy,  
as witnesses to your generosity and love.  
**Amen.**

*Notices are given by the congregation, wardens and clergy.*

## HYMN

[Tune: Thornbury; Words: Edward Hayes Plumptre (1821-1891)]

Thy hand, O God, has guided  
thy flock, from age to age;  
the wondrous tale is written,  
full clear, on ev'ry page;  
our forebears owned thy goodness,  
and we their deeds record;  
and both of this bear witness:  
one Church, one Faith, one Lord.

Thy heralds brought glad tidings  
to greatest, as to least;  
they bade them rise, and hasten  
to share the great King's feast;

and this was all their teaching,  
in ev'ry deed and word,  
to all alike proclaiming:  
one Church, one Faith, one Lord.

And we, shall we be faithless?  
Shall hearts fail, hands hang down?  
Shall we evade the conflict,  
and cast away our crown?  
Not so: in God's deep counsels  
some better thing is stored:  
we will maintain, unflinching,  
one Church, one Faith, one Lord.

Thy mercy will not fail us,  
nor leave thy work undone;  
with thy right hand to help us,  
the vic'try shall be won;  
and then by all creation,  
thy name shall be adored.  
And this shall be their anthem:  
One Church, One Faith, one Lord.

## THE BLESSING

*The priest says*

May God give you grace to follow the light of Christ,  
wherever you are led and however long the road.  
And the blessing of God almighty;  
Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit  
be among you and remain with you now and always.  
**Amen.**

*The deacon says*

Go in the peace of Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**



*In addition to the physical collection, if you do not have cash with you, please scan this QR code with your smartphone to make a one-off or regular donation.*

*Alternatively, please visit [sjp.org.uk/donate](https://www.sjp.org.uk/donate), or use one of the tap donation points in the church.*

## **For your prayers this week**

### **Parish life and events**

All members of our online community

Our staff and volunteers.

Disability History Month.

### **Those who are ill**

[Charles](#), [Bernard](#), [Jasmine](#)

### **Recently departed**

[Maureen](#), and for [Laura](#), [Glenn](#) and [Gary](#), and for all who mourn her.

*May she rest in peace and rise in glory.*

St James's Church, 197 Piccadilly, London W1J 9LL  
Tel: 020 7292 4860 • [www.sjp.org.uk](https://www.sjp.org.uk) • [@StJPiccadilly](https://twitter.com/StJPiccadilly)