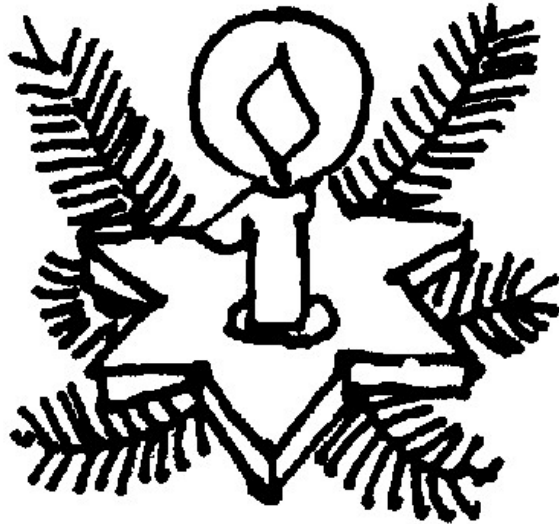




## ***An Advent Eucharist***



**in the Solihull Parish**

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> December**

## PROCESSIONAL HYMN – HON 400

### THE GREETING

✝ In the name of the Father and of the Son  
and of the Holy Spirit  
**All Amen.**

### OPENING PRAYER

**All We bless you, O Lord our God,  
whose light the darkness can never put out,  
whose life is the light of all that lives.  
Shine upon us as we wait in hope this day. Amen.**

### PRAYERS OF PENITENCE

Lord Jesus Christ,  
you see our restless hearts and you offer peace;  
you see our incompleteness and you offer wholeness;  
you see our failings and you offer forgiveness.

*A moment of stillness*

Lord Jesus, bring light to the darkness in our hearts.  
**All Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, open our eyes to your redeeming love.  
**All Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, open our ears to your life-giving word.  
**All Lord, have mercy.**

*All sing the Kyrie by John Rutter.*

**Lord have mercy; Lord have mercy; Lord have mercy;  
Christ have mercy; Christ have mercy; Christ have mercy;  
Lord have mercy; Lord have mercy; Lord have mercy.**

## WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

May the God of love and life

✝ forgive you and free you from all that divides you,  
heal and strengthen you by the Spirit,  
and restore you to wholeness in Christ.

**All Amen.**

## COLLECT PRAYER

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and for ever.

## LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

*Candles are lit and the Advent Prayer is said*

2nd Sunday of Advent

**All Lord Jesus, light of the world,  
the prophets said you would bring peace  
and save your people in trouble.  
Give peace in our hearts at Christmas  
and show all the world God's love. Amen.**

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

### BIBLE READING

#### **Philippians 1. 3-11**

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defence and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that on the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

*At the end of the Reading:*

This is the word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

### THE GOSPEL READING

Alleluia, alleluia.

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

**All Alleluia.**

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

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

### **Luke 3. 1-6**

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, 'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."'

*At the end of the Gospel:*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**All Praise to you, O Christ**

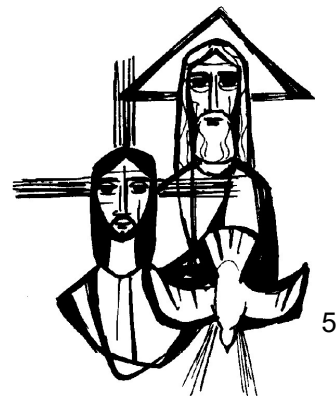
THE SERMON

THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Let us affirm 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.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*We sit.*

*This response may be used*

Father, by your Spirit

**All bring in your kingdom.**

*The prayers may conclude as follows:*

Lord of the Church

**All hear our prayer,**

**and make us one in heart and mind**

**to serve you with joy for ever. Amen.**

## THE PEACE

May God, the bringer of hope,  
bless you with courage  
to never give up believing in peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**All And also with you.**

## OFFERTORY HYMN – HON 416

## PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

God of surprises, who delights in giving,  
give us gratitude of heart  
that we might see the gifts of another;  
gratitude of spirit

that we might see the blessings you have brought to us;  
gratitude of open hands  
for all you will place into them this day.  
**All Amen.**





## THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord is here

**All His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Lord of all life, you created the universe,  
where all living things reflect your glory.  
You give us this great and beautiful earth,  
to discover and to cherish.

You saw the yearning of the earth,  
and prepared the coming of the Saviour  
by the waiting of the prophets, the message of angels,  
and the love of a human mother.

You made us all, each wonderfully different,  
to join with the angels and sing your praise:

*The Choir sings the Sanctus and Benedictus*

*Holy, holy, holy,*

*Lord God of Hosts;*

*Heaven and earth are full of thy glory,*

*Glory be to thee, O Lord most high.*

*Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.*

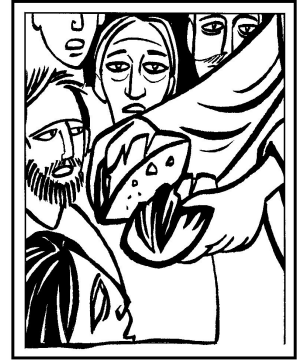
*Hosanna in the highest, in the highest.*

*Music by Charles Wood*

We thank you, loving Father,  
because, when we turned away,

you sent Jesus, your Son.  
He gave his life for us on the cross  
and shows us the way to live.  
Send your Holy Spirit  
that these gifts of bread and wine  
may be for us Christ's body and his blood.

On the night before he died,  
when darkness had fallen, Jesus took bread.  
He gave thanks, broke it,  
and shared it with his disciples, saying:  
'This is my body, given for you.  
Do this to remember me.'



After they had eaten, he took the cup of wine,  
gave thanks, and shared it with his disciples, saying:  
'This is my blood, poured out for you and for many,  
for the forgiveness of sins.'

So Father, with this bread and this cup  
we celebrate his love, his death, his risen life.  
As you feed us with these gifts, send your Holy Spirit,  
and change us more and more  
to be like Jesus our Saviour.



Help us, Father, to love one another,  
as we look forward to that day  
when suffering is ended,  
and all creation is gathered in your loving arms.

And now with Alphege, Helen, Michael... and all your saints  
we give you glory, through Jesus Christ,  
in the strength of the Spirit, today and for ever.

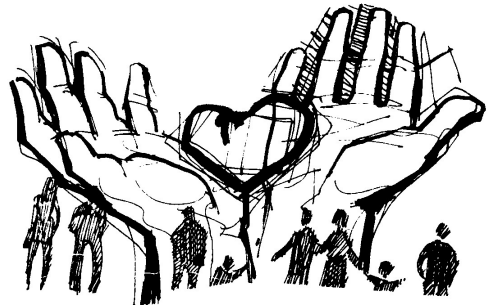
**All Amen.**

*We sit*

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

Awaiting his coming in glory,  
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

**All Our Father, who art in heaven:  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**



## BREAKING OF THE BREAD

*The president breaks the consecrated bread.*

Every time we eat this bread and drink this cup,  
**All we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**



## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

God's holy gifts, for God's holy people.

**All Jesus Christ is holy,  
Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.**

*These or other words may be said to those watching the service at home.*

For most of us participating at home, it may feel strange to be invited to Communion, not through the physical bread and wine we can touch, but in a Spiritual Communion with God who always comes to meet us wherever we are.

There are no special words or prayers for this, all the Church has ever thought necessary is true desire, lively faith and genuine love. Come honestly before God the way you know how. You may like to pray quietly using this prayer to help you:

Lord, you stand at the door of my heart and knock. You wait for me and only I can let you in. I believe and trust in you and ask you now to fill me with presence. Feed me with your body and unite me in your blood, that I may be your blessing to a world in need. Amen.  
Confession of St Thomas Jn. 20:28

*The celebrant raises the paten and chalice and says:*

The Body and Blood of Christ.

**Amen.**

### ***The Giving of Communion***

*Only the celebrant receives Communion under both kinds. Others present receive under the form of the consecrated bread.*

*The Choir sings the Agnus Dei while the Servers receive Communion.*

*O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,  
Have mercy upon us;*

*O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,  
Have mercy upon us;*

*O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,  
Grant us thy peace.*

*Music by Charles Wood.*

*The Choir sings an anthem during the distribution – The Truth from Above,  
arr. Vaughan Williams.*

## COMMUNION HYMN – HON 81

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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 Generous God,  
you have fed us at your heavenly table.  
Fill us with your Spirit  
that when Christ comes again  
we may shine as lights in his presence,  
who with you and the Spirit lives for ever. Amen.**

## NOTICES

### FINAL HYMN – HON 513

### THE BLESSING

May God, the bringer of hope,  
bless you with patience when the world weeps,  
bless you with work that you may do your part,  
bless you with prayer as you light your candle  
against the darkness.

And may God, ✝ the Creator, Redeemer and Giver of life,  
bless you this day and give you peace.

**All Amen.**

### DISMISSAL

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

**Organ Voluntary:** Final sur 'Ave Maris Stella' - Marcel Dupré

**Growing Disciples, Building Community, Transforming Lives**

[www.solihullparish.org.uk](http://www.solihullparish.org.uk)

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