Parish Church of St Alphege Solihull



11am Order of Service
Sundays 29th November, 6th and 13st December 2026

Sung Eucharist for Advent
Hymns Old and New

Setting:

29/11 –	Byrd, Mass for Three Voices	*(Latin text)*
6/12 –	Darke in F	*(English text)*
13/12 –	Thomas, Waltham Abbey	*(English text)*

The Gathering

The people are welcomed and the hymn announced.

Processional Hymn

29/11: 247 'Hark a herald voice is calling'
6/12: 469 'O come, O come, Emmauel'
13/12: 244 'Hail to the Lord's anointed'

✚ In the name of the Father and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit.

All **Amen.**

The Greeting

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

All **and also with you.**

The President introduces the service.

Prayer of Preparation

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.

Lighting the Advent Wreath

First Sunday of Advent (Hope)

Our first candle stands for The Patriarchs
such as Abraham, our father in faith,
and David who like Jesus was also born in Bethlehem.
We are reminded that Jesus is our hope
and that the light will come and conquer the darkness.

The first candle is lit, and we respond by saying the Advent Prayer:

All **Lord Jesus, light of the world,**
born in David's city of Bethlehem,
born like him to be a king:
be born in our hearts at Christmas,
be King of our lives today. Amen.

or

Second Sunday of Advent (Peace)

Our second candle stands for The Prophets
who helped to spread the joyful news of God's coming kingdom.
As we await Christ's coming in glory and judgement
let us pray that we may be found ready and watchful.

The second candle is lit, and we respond by saying the Advent Prayer:

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.

or

Third Sunday of Advent (Joy)

Our third candle stands for John the Baptist
who prepared the way for Jesus.
Through his message, we are reminded to make room in our hearts
for the coming of the Saviour:
Jesus, who will guide us out of darkness
and into his marvellous light.

The third candle is lit, and we respond by saying the Advent Prayer:

All **Lord Jesus, light of the world,**
John told the people to prepare, for you were very near.
As Christmas grows closer day by day,
help us to be ready to welcome you now. Amen.

Prayers of Penitence

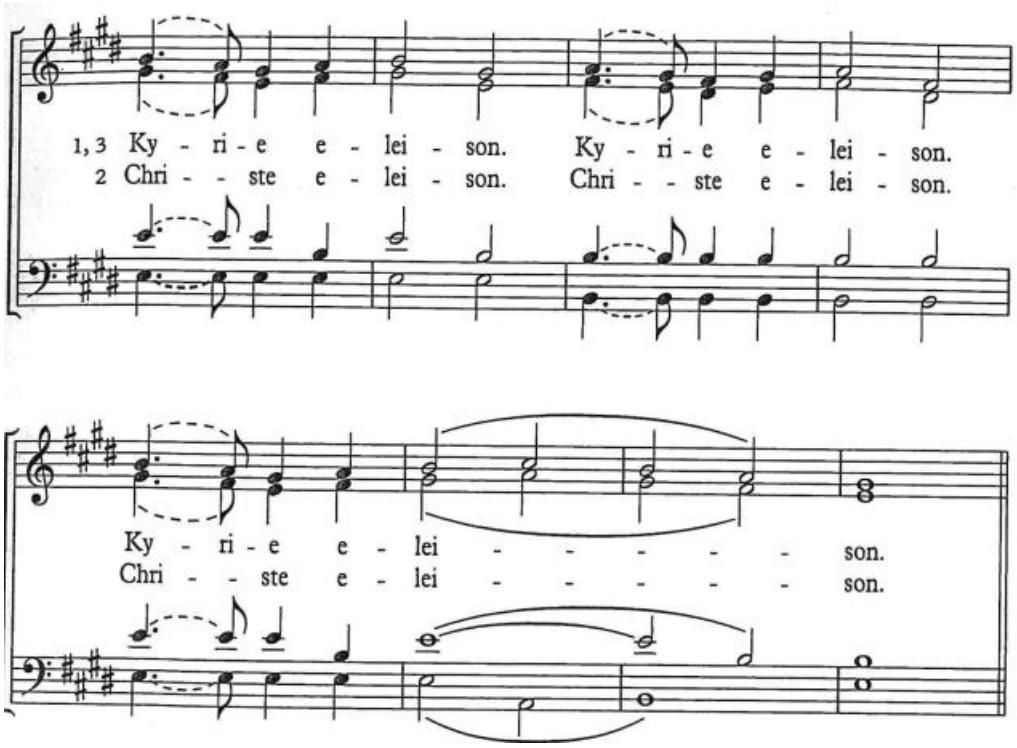
When the Lord comes,
he will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness,
and will disclose the purposes of the heart.
Therefore in the light of Christ let us confess our sins.

After each bidding, the choir leads us in singing Kyrie eleison (Lord, have mercy)

Turn to us again, O God our Saviour,
and let your anger cease from us:

Kyrie eleison:

All **Kyrie eleison**



Show us your mercy, O Lord,
and grant us your salvation:

Christe eleison:

All **Christe eleison**

Your salvation is near for those that fear you,
that glory may dwell in our land:

Kyrie eleison:

All **Kyrie eleison**

The Absolution

May the God of love and life
✚ forgive you and free you from all your sins,
heal and strengthen you by the Spirit,
and restore you to wholeness in Christ.

All **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

The Collect

Please see Pewslip

First Reading

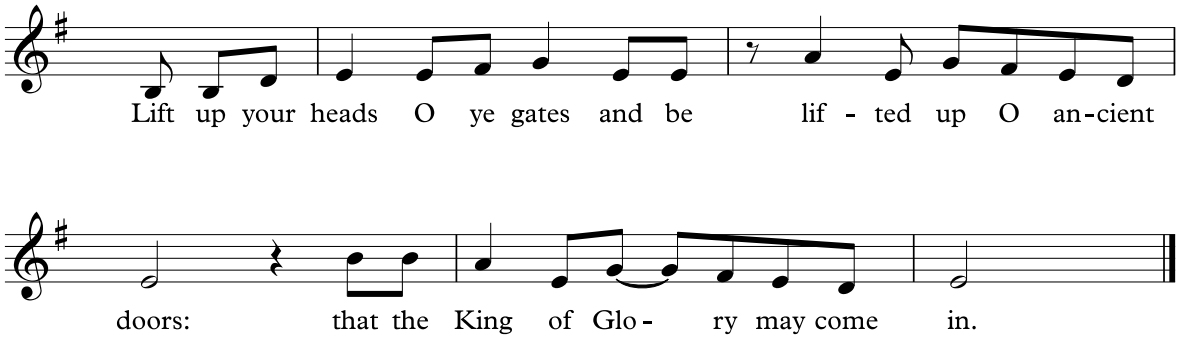
At the end of the reading:

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

29/11 – Psalm 24



We repeat this refrain after the choir, then once between verses, sung by the choir.

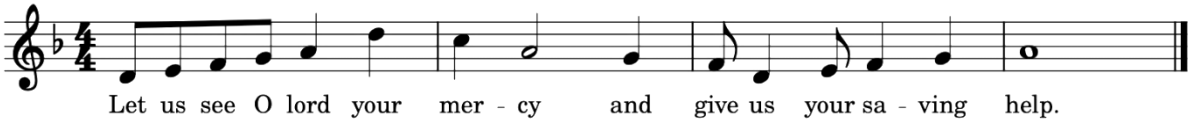
1. The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof,
   The world and those who dwell therein.
   He has founded it upon the seas,
   And has established it upon the rivers. REFRAIN

2. Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord,
   And stand in his holy place?
   He who has clean hands and a pure heart,
   Who does not lift up his soul to what is false. REFRAIN

3. The blessing of the Lord is theirs,
   And peace from the God of their salvation:
   Such is the people who seek him,
   Who seek the face of the God of Jacob. REFRAIN

4. Who is the King of Glory?
   The Lord strong and mighty in battle.
   Who is this King of Glory?
   The Lord of Hosts is his name. REFRAIN TWICE

7/12 – Psalm 85



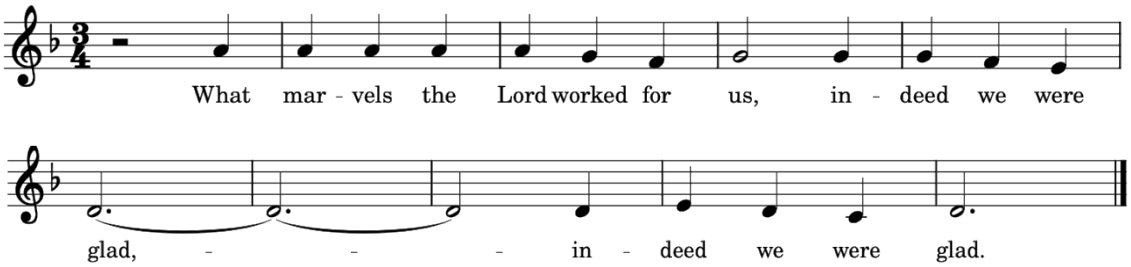
We repeat this refrain after the choir, then once between verses, sung by the choir.

1. I will hear what the Lord has to say:
   a voice that speaks of peace, speaks for his people.
   His help is near for those who fear him,
   and his glory will dwell in our land. REFRAIN

2. Mercy and faithfulness have met;
   justice and peace have embraced.
   Faithfulness shall spring forth from the earth
   and justice look down from heaven. REFRAIN

3. The Lord will make us prosper
   and our earth shall yield its fruit.
   Justice shall march before him,
   and peace shall follow his steps. REFRAIN

13/12 – Psalm 126



We repeat this refrain after the choir, then once between verses, sung by the choir.

1. When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage,
   it seemed like a dream.
   Then was our mouth filled with laughter,
   on our lips there were songs. REFRAIN

2. The heathens themselves said: ‘What marvels
   the Lord worked for them!’
   What marvels the Lord worked for us!
   Indeed we were glad. REFRAIN

3. Delver us O Lord from our bondage
as streams in dry land.
Those who are sowing in tears
will sing when they reap. REFRAIN

4. They go out, they go out fill of tears,
carrying seed for the sowing.
They come back, they come back full of song,
carrying their sheaves. REFRAIN

Second Reading

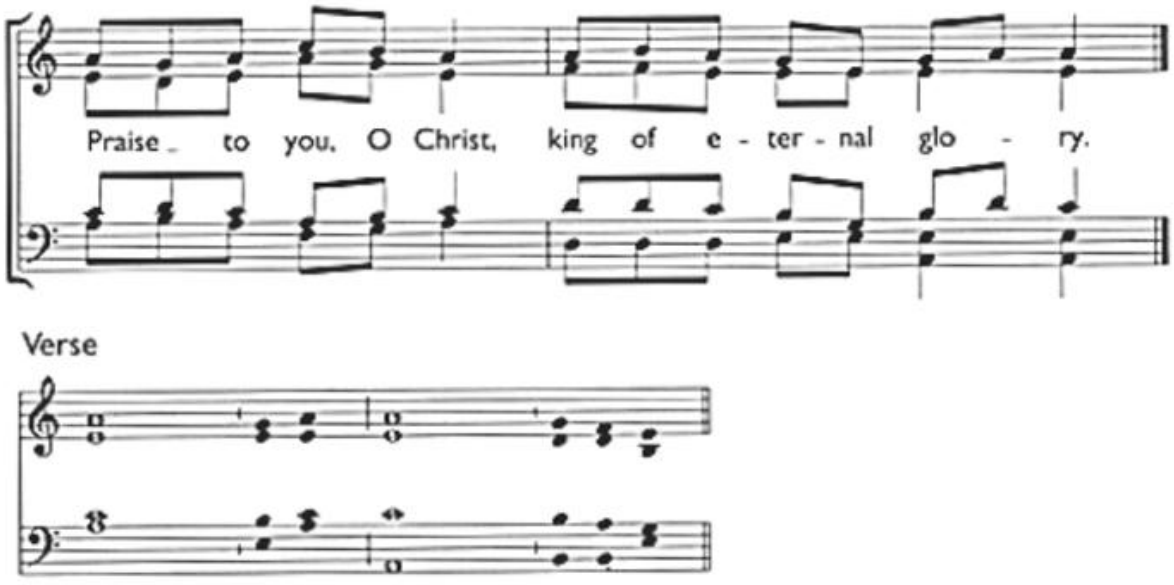
At the end of the reading:

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel

Please stand. The Choir and Congregation sing the Gospel acclamation.



Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

All **Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.**

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

All **Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.**

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

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

At the end of the Gospel reading:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon

Creed

Let us declare our faith in God.

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

We believe in God the Father,
who created all things:

All **for by his will they were created**
and have their being.

We believe in God the son,
who was slain:

All **for with his blood,**
he purchased us for God,
from every tribe and language,
from every people and nation.

We believe in God the Holy Spirit:

All **the Spirit and the Bride say, 'Come!'**
Even so come, Lord Jesus!
Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

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 Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

Please stand.

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.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All **And also with you.**

Offertory Hymn

29/11: 401 'Longing for light'
6/12: 679 'Thy kingdom come on bended knee'
13/12: (see below) 'People look east'

People, look east. The time is near
Of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able,
Trim the hearth and set the table.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the guest, is on the way.

Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare,
One more seed is planted there:
Give up your strength the seed to nourish,
That in course the flower may flourish.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the rose, is on the way.

Birds, though you long have ceased to build,
Guard the nest that must be filled.
Even the hour when wings are frozen
God for fledging time has chosen.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the bird, is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim
One more light the bowl shall brim,
Shining beyond the frosty weather,
Bright as sun and moon together.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the star, is on the way.

Angels, announce with shouts of mirth
Christ who brings new life to earth.
Set every peak and valley humming
With the word, the Lord is coming.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the Lord, is on the way.

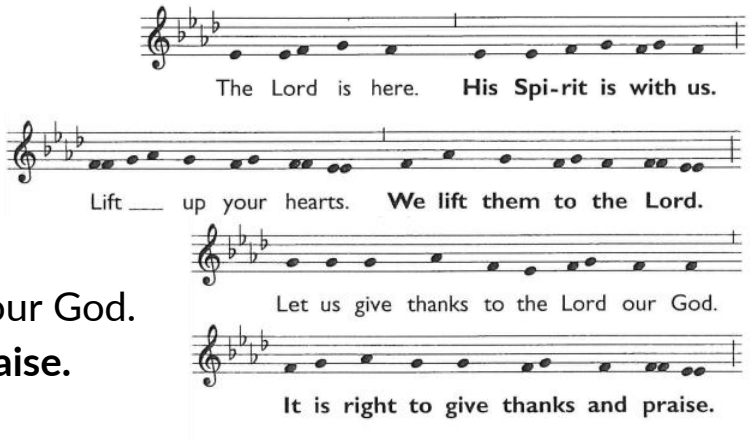
Eleanor Farjeon, 1928

Prayer at the Preparation of the Table

Blessed be God,
who feeds the hungry,
who raises the poor,
who fills our praise.

All **Blessed by God for ever.**

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.**

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:

The Choir sings the Sanctus and Benedictus:

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus	Holy, holy, holy
Dominus Deus Sabaoth.	Lord, God of Hosts,
Pleni sunt coeli et terra	heaven and earth
Gloria tua.	are full of thy glory.
Hosanna in excelsis.	Glory be to thee, O Lord most high.
Benedictus qui venit	Blessed is He that cometh
in nomine Domini.	in the Name of the Lord.
Hosanna in excelsis.	Hosanna in the highest.

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.

Great is the mystery of faith:

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

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 Blessèd Virgin Mary, Alphege, 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.

All **Amen.**

We sit or kneel.

The Lord's Prayer

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

Our Father, who art in heaven…

Our Father in heaven…

我們在天上的父…

Pater noster, qui es in caelis…

हे हमारे पिता, तू जो स्वर्ग में है…

Vater unser im Himmel…

Amen.

The Breaking of Bread

The celebrant breaks the consecrated bread.

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

We are all invited to draw near to God today. If you, or your children, regularly receive the bread and wine at any Christian church, you are most welcome to do so. If you do not usually receive the bread and wine, or prefer not to do so today, you are invited to come forward to receive a prayer of blessing. If you do this, you may want to hold your hands together in prayer so that we know your intention. Thank you.

The Invitation

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.

Agnus Dei

Whilst those helping with the administration receive, the Choir sings the Agnus Dei.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona nobis pacem.

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.

The Giving of Communion

The Choir sings an anthem during the Distribution:

29/11 'Zion hears the watchmen's voices' *by JS Bach*
6/12 'The truth from above' *by Ralph Vaughan Williams*
13/12 'This is the record of John' *by Orlando Gibbons*

Communion Hymn

29/11: 210 'God of mercy, God of grace'
6/12: 138 'Faithful shepherd'
13/12: 408 'Lord Jesus Christ'

Post-Communion Prayer

The president prays this week's post-communion prayer, after which we pray together:

All **Father of all, we give you thanks and praise**
that, when we were still far off,
you met us in your Son and brought us home.
Dying and living, he declared your love,
gave us grace and opened the gate of glory.
May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;
we who drink his cup bring life to others;
we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us
so we and all your children shall be free
and the whole earth live to praise your name,
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Dismissal

Notices

Final Hymn

29/11: 399 ‘Lo he comes’
6/12: 513 ‘On Jordan’s bank’
13/12: 354 ‘Jesus shall reign’

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.**

or

May Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you,
scatter the darkness from before your path,
and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory;
And the blessing of God Almighty,
✚ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be with you now and always.

All **Amen.**

The Sending

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

29th Nov: Veni Emmanuel – *Noel Rawsthorne*
6th Dec: Fantasia on Veni Emmanuel – *Alec Rowley*
13th Dec: O Adonai (from O Antiphon Sequence) - *Cecilia Mcdowall*

Growing Disciples, Building Community, Transforming Lives

www.solihullparish.org.uk

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