8 November 2026 –
3rd Sunday Before Advent

GATHERING SONG
Find Us Ready Lord

Find us ready, Lord, not standing still.
Find us working and loving and doing your will.
Find us ready, Lord, faithful in love,
building the kingdom that's here and above,
building the kingdom of mercy and love.

We must wait for the Lord
for we know not the time.
So here and today
we gather and pray,
discovering love in our midst.

We must make straight the path,
God's love revealed.
With sin cast aside,
God's mercy alive,
fear not for here is your God.

Lifting up those bowed down,
we prepare for our God.
Rejoice in the Lord,
for hope has been born
in hearts where our God finds a home.

Brick by brick, stone by stone,
find us working and loving and doing your will.
Find us ready, Lord, faithful in love,
building the kingdom that's here and above.

ENTRANCE HYMN *Stand*
Come And Seek The Words Of Wisdom

Come and seek the ways of Wisdom,
she who danced, when earth was new.
Follow closely what she teaches,
for her words are right and true.
Wisdom clears the path to justice,
showing us what love must do.

Listen to the voice of Wisdom,
crying in the market-place.
Hear the Word made flesh among us,
full of glory, truth and grace.
When the word takes root and ripens,
peace and righteousness embrace.

Sister Wisdom, come, assist us;
nurture all who seek rebirth.
Spirit-guide and close companion,
bring to light our sacred worth.
Free us to become your people,
holy friends of God and earth.

GREETING

✠In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you..

PRAYERS OF PENITENCE

Brothers and sisters,
let us acknowledge our sins,
and so prepare ourselves to
celebrate the sacred mysteries.

Lord, You are gracious and compassionate:

Kyrie Eleison, Lord have mercy,
Kyrie Eleison, Lord have mercy.

Lord, You are loving to all:

Christe Eleison, Christ have mercy,
Christe Eleison, Christ have mercy.

Lord, Your faithful servants bless Your Name:

Kyrie Eleison, Lord have mercy,
Kyrie Eleison, Lord have mercy.

Almighty God,
who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Glory to God in the Highest,
and on earth peace to people of goodwill.

We praise You,
we bless You,
we adore You,
we glorify You.
We give you thanks for Your great glory,
Lord God, Heavenly King,
O God, Almighty Father.

Glory to God in the Highest,
and on earth peace to people of goodwill.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
You take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us, have mercy on us;
You take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer, receive our prayer;
You are seated at the right hand of the Father,

have mercy on us, have mercy on us.

Glory to God in the Highest,
and on earth peace to people of goodwill.

For You alone are the Holy One,
You alone are the Lord,
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.
Amen, Amen.
Amen, Amen.

Glory to God in the Highest,
and on earth peace to people of goodwill.

COLLECT

Almighty Father,
whose will is to restore all things
in your beloved Son, the King of all:
govern the hearts and minds of those in authority,
and bring the families of the nations,
divided and torn apart by the ravages of sin,
to be subject to his just and gentle rule;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
Amen

FIRST READING: *Sit*
Wisdom 6:12-16

Wisdom is Radiant

Wisdom is radiant and unfading,
and she is easily discerned by those who love her,
and is found by those who seek her.
She hastens to make herself known to those who desire her.
One who rises early to seek her will have no difficulty,
for she will be found sitting at the gate.
To fix one's thought on her is perfect understanding,
and one who is vigilant on her account will soon be free from care,
because she goes about seeking those worthy of her,
and she graciously appears to them in their paths,
and meets them in every thought.

This is the word of the Lord:
Thanks be to God

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:
Psalm 70

O Lord, make haste to help me

O God, make speed to save me;
O Lord, make haste to help me.
Let those who seek my life
be put to shame and confusion;
let them be turned back and disgraced
who wish me evil.

O Lord, make haste to help me

Let those who mock and deride me
turn back because of their shame.
But let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you;
let those who love your salvation say always, 'Great is the Lord!'

O Lord, make haste to help me

As for me, I am poor and needy;
come to me quickly, O God.
You are my help and my deliverer;
O Lord, do not delay.

O Lord, make haste to help me

SECOND READING:
1 Thessalonians 4:13-end

God Will Bring With Him Those Who Have Died

But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died.

For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord for ever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

This is the word of the Lord:
Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Stand*

Alleluia, **alleluia!**
Stay awake and stand ready,
because you do not know the hour
when the Son of Man is coming.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL:
Matthew 25:1-13

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

✠ Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Matthew
Glory to you, O Lord.

'Keep Awake'

Jesus spoke this parable to this disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, "Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him." Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, "Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out." But the wise replied, "No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves."

And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, "Lord, lord, open to us." But he replied, "Truly I tell you, I do not know you." Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

The Gospel of the Lord:
Praise to you, O Christ

HOMILY *Sit*

NICENE CREED *Stand*

**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.

INTERCESSIONS *Stand*

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

✠ Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord,
and let light perpetual shine upon them.

Merciful Father,
accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.

PEACE

Lord Jesus Christ,
who said to your Apostles:
Peace I leave you, my peace I give you,
look not on our sins,
but on the faith of your Church,
and graciously grant her peace and unity
in accordance with your will.
Who live and reign for ever and ever.
Amen.

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

Let us offer one another a sign of peace

PROCESSION OF THE GIFTS:
91 Stay With Me

Stay with me,
watch here with me,
watch and pray,
watch and pray.

During the next hymn a collection will be taken. If you are a UK taxpayer and can gift aid your donation, please place it in a yellow gift aid envelope (available in the pews) and complete all the details requested. You can also donate using the card machine at the back if you'd prefer. Anyone who uses the Parish Giving Scheme can use a token to indicate their giving.

OFFERTORY HYMN:
Christ Be Our Light

In deepest night, shadows are lifted
Now let your servant go forth in peace
Your Word fulfilled, your promise honoured
Love that will never cease!

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts
Shine through the darkness
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today

With our own eyes, we see salvation
Within our hearts, we are set free
Your Word made flesh, hope of the nations
Light for the world to see!

Chorus

Christ, be our hope! Christ, be our purpose!
Christ, be our vision, radiant and bright!
Christ, be our Way, shatt'ring our blindness
Gifting us with your sight!

Chorus

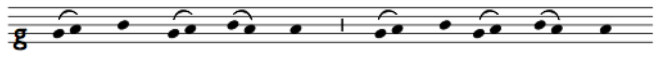
OFFERTORY PRAYERS

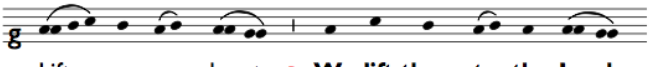
Pray, my brothers and sisters,
that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God,
the almighty Father.
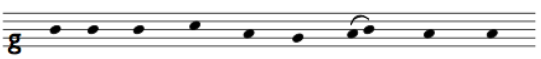
May the Lord accept
the sacrifice at your hands,
for the praise and glory of his name,
for our good, and the good of all his Church.
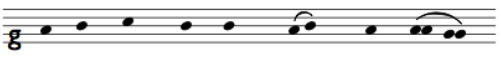
Look with favour, we pray, O Lord,
upon the sacrificial gifts offered here,
that, celebrating in mystery the Passion of your Son,
we may honour it with loving devotion.
Through Christ our Lord
Amen

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER









The Priest continues singing the Preface, ending with:

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts,
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory,
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest!
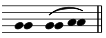
Blessed, blessed, blessed is He,
who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest!
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest!

The Priest continues the Eucharistic Prayer

Great is the mystery of faith:

When we eat this bread,
and drink this cup,
we proclaim Your death, O Lord,
until You come again,
until You come again.

At the end of the Eucharistic Prayer, the people sing:



THE LORD'S PRAYER

At the Saviour's command
and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

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

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.

AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world,
have mercy, have mercy, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world,
have mercy, have mercy, have mercy on us.

**Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world,
have mercy, have mercy, have mercy on us.**

Grant us peace, grant us peace.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

This is the Lamb of God
who takes away the sins of the world.
Happy are those who are called to his supper.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

Please follow the guidance of the stewards as you come forward for the distribution of Communion. If you would like to receive a blessing instead, please bring your service sheet with you.

COMMUNION HYMN:
Holy Wisdom, Lamp of Learning *Sit*

**Holy Wisdom, lamp of learning
bless the light that reason lends.
Teach us judgment as we kindle
sparks of thought your Spirit sends.
Sanctify our search for knowledge
and the truth that sets us free.
Come, illumine mind and spirit
joined in deepest unity.**

**Vine of truth, in you we flourish;
by your grace we learn and grow.
May the word of Christ among us
shape our life, our search to know.
Joined to Christ in living, dying,
may we help the church convey
witness to the saving gospel,
bearing fruit of faith today.**

**Holy God, the hope of nations,
tune us towards Your righteous will,
as the symphony of ages
claims our best, our finest skill.
Shape our search for peace and justice
through prophetic deed and word.
Christ, conduct us, set our rhythm,
that God's praise be ever heard.**

COMMUNION HYMN:
Give Me Oil In My Lamp

**Give me oil in my lamp, keep me burning.
Give me oil in my lamp, I pray.
Give me oil in my lamp, keep me burning,
Keep me burning till the break of day.**

***Sing hosanna, sing hosanna,
Sing hosanna to the King of Kings!
Sing hosanna, sing hosanna,
Sing hosanna to the King!***

Give me joy in my heart, keep me singing.
Give me joy in my heart, I pray.
Give me joy in my heart, keep me singing,
Keep me singing till the break of day.

Chorus

Give me love in my heart, keep me serving.
Give me love in my heart, I pray.
Give me love in my heart, keep me serving,
Keep me serving till the break of day.

Chorus

Give me peace in my heart, keep me resting.
Give me peace in my heart, I pray.
Give me peace in my heart, keep me resting,
Keep me resting till the break of day.

Chorus

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION *Stand*

God of peace,
whose Son Jesus Christ proclaimed the kingdom
and restored the broken to wholeness of life:
look with compassion on the anguish of the world,
and by your healing power
make whole both people and nations;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen

BLESSING & DISMISSAL *Stand*

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

✠May almighty God bless you,
the Father,
and the Son,
and the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Go in the peace of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

RECESSIONAL HYMN:
41 Wake, O Wake! With Tidings Thrilling