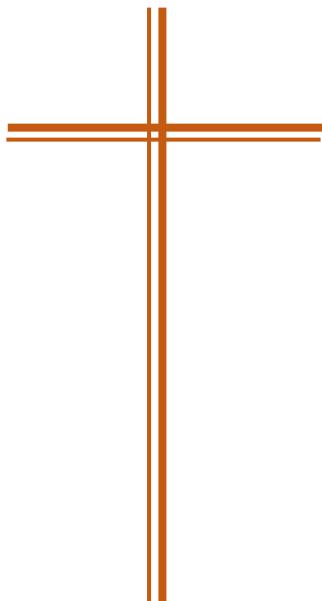




Remembering with HOPE & LIGHT



An Advent service to remember
our loved ones who have died.

Sunday 7th December 2025 - 6pm

***We hold in loving
memory before God***

Allan Anderson
Annie & Fred Armstrong
Carole Armstrong
Robert Astley

Celia Badman
Colin Badman
Michael Bagnall
Michelle Bagnall
Thomas & Mary Barton
Marion Beadle
Allan Beaumont
James (Jim) William Bell
Jimmy & Betty Bell
Graham Beresford
Jean Boggon
Louise Brown
Alan Burton
Grace & Richard Burton
The Bushell family
Doris Mary Butler
Ronald Butler

Geoff Cartridge
Molly & Stanley
Cartridge
Bert & Maggie Clemmet
Catherine Clemmet
Philip Coker
Bob Cooper
Anthony Cox
Stan Craig
Stanley Newton Craig
Clive Craister
Les Crowther

Belle Danks
Mary Davies
Tom Davies
David Dodds
Elsie & Billy Durham
Poppy Victoria Eagle
Marilyn Ellison

Mary Ann Ellison
Geoff England
John & Elizabeth Evans
Thomas & Evelyn Evans

Robert Felton
Polly & Fred Ferry
Jim Fiddy
Ann Garbutt
Dave Garbutt
Michelle Garbutt
Barbara Gardner
Joseph Gardner
The Gawthorpe family
Annie & Jack Gilmore
Jim Gollan
Nancy & Cecil Graham
Alyson Gregory
George Grieves

George Hall
Joe & Olive Harding
Elizabeth Hardy
James Hardy
Clive Harrison
The Harrison family
Kenneth Holbrook
Mavis Holbrook
Samuel Holbrook
Tim & Peggy Hourigan

James Irwin
Nora Irwin

Enid & Bill Jordan
Lawrence Jordan
Bill & Betty Judson

Terence Keegan Snr.
Terry Keegan Jnr.
Billy Kemp
William Knox

Charles Lamb
Eva & Walter Lamb
Jean Stuart Layton
Isabella Lees
Norman Lees
Bill Lilley
Howard Linsley
Lorney & Myra Linsley
Alan Longstaff
Eleanor Longstaff
Nancy & James Lowe

Charlie MacDonald
Irene MacDonald
John & Jean Marais
Alexander Nicol
Marshall
Jack & Gina Marshall
Neil Alexander Marshall
Haven Martin
Gillian Martinez
Betty & Jim Meynell
Bryan Meynell
Ena & Gordon Meynell
Ethel & Harry Meynell
Harry Meynell
Bill & Edith Miller
Doris Mitchinson
Frederick (Fred) Moon
Margaret Moon
Alwyn Moyle
Bob Moyle

Maureen McGinnis
Colin & Dorothy
McIntyre
David McIntyre
Evelyn & Bill
McLachlan

Christopher Naylor
Ena Naylor
Beryl Nesbitt
Barry Nicholl

Philip Nicklin	Joyce Scarr	Beryl Turner
Audrey Olds	Thomas Scarr	Margaret Tweedy
Joan Orrell	Clara & Les Scott	Isabelle Ward
Phoebe Rose Orrell	Mary Ann Scott	James & Hannah Ward
	Ronald Slack	Lawrence Whiteman
Lilian Paterson	Albert Smith	Ian Williams
Jean & Bill Patterson	Chris & Stan Smith	Gary Wilson
David Taylor Pluse	Dorothy Smith	Robert Wilson
Ivy Pluse	Joan Smith	Stuart Winship
Honor Potts	Reg & Ella Smith	John Winter
	George Snowball Snr.	June Winter
Katie, Harry, Margaret &	Oswald Snowdon	William & Ann
Joan Ramshaw	Mary & Jack Sowerby	Witherspoon
Denise Rand	Janet (Terry) Stanton	Nicola Wood
Keith Rand	Jim & Jenny Stenger	Sandra Wood
Norma Ransome	Christina Straughan	Tom & Ena Wood
Jack Reay		Denis Fenny Wright
Molly Reay	Norman, Ena & Karen	Dorothy Wright
Kimberley Revell	Teasdale	Edna Wright
Carole Rigby	Andrew Thomson	George Robert Fenny
James Rigby	Enid Thompson	Wright
Euphemia Ritson	Julie Anne Thompson	Lizzie & Jack Wright
William (Bill) Ritson	John, Alan & Marian	Robert Fenny Wright
George & Nancy Roberts	Thompson	Rolly Wright
James Ruff Snr	Richard & Evelyn	
James Ruff Jnr	Thompson	All those who have no
Muriel Ruff	Derek Turnbull	one to remember them.
Fred & Joan Rutter	Harry & Phyllis Turnbull	
Avtar Sangha	Ian Turnbull	
	Kate Turnbull	

Welcome and Introduction

The service begins in candlelight. The choir will sing a chant from the back of church. Please remain seated.

Leader We now stand to sing our opening hymn, O little town of Bethlehem

**O little town of Bethlehem
How still we see thee lie.
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
The everlasting light;
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee tonight.**

**O morning stars together
Proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the King
And peace to all on earth.
For Christ is born of Mary;
And, gathered all above,
While mortals sleep the angels keep
Their watch of wondering love.**

**How silently, how silently
The wondrous gift is given.
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessing of his heaven.
No ear may hear his coming
But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive him, still
The dear Christ enters in.**

**O holy child of Bethlehem,
Descend to us we pray.
Cast out our sin and enter in
Be born in us today!
We hear the Christmas angels
The great, glad tidings tell.
O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord, Immanuel!**

Gathering

Leader We have come together
to remember before God
at this season of Advent and Christmas
those we have loved and who have died.
We have come to offer to God
our hurts and our tears;
our memories and our thanksgivings;
our prayers and our praises.

We have come to God who has come to us in Jesus and in whom God shares our sadness and our joy.

Together we come into God's presence to renew our trust and confidence in the one who alone can bring life out of death and who gives to the world the light of hope and the joy of eternal life.

The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light.

As we light this candle we hold before you, O God, the sadness in our hearts - the times of longing and the times of despair.

All Lord of Light fill our hearts with hope.

Leader As we light this candle we hold before you, O God, the disturbance in our hearts – the moments of disappointment and the moments of regret.

All Lord of Light fill our hearts with forgiveness.

Leader As we light this candle we hold before you, O God, the thankfulness in our hearts – the memories of love and the memories of joy.

All Lord of Light fill our hearts with joy.

Leader We light these candles as a sign that when all seems dark, there is still light, however small or dim it may seem.

The choir will now sing the anthem “*O Nata Lux.*” by Richard Judson

O nata lux de lumine, Jesu redemptor saeculi,
Dignare clemens supplicum laudes precesque sumere.
Qui carne quondam contagi dignatus es pro perditis
Nos membra confer effici Tui beati corporis.

*O Light born of Light, Jesus, redeemer of the world,
Mercifully deign to accept the praises and
prayers of your suppliants.
O you who once deigned to be hidden in
flesh on behalf of the lost,
grant us to be made members of your
blessed body.*

Brokenness

Leader Although Christmas is a time of joy and of celebration it can also be a time when we

are more aware of the brokenness in our own lives and in the life of the world.

In the midst of celebration, we feel the sadness of loved ones we miss.

Lord Jesus, you came as a baby,
as a helpless little child
who relied on a human family to care for you.

You cried because you were hungry,
Because you were homeless,
Because you were a stranger,
Far away from home.

You still cry with hunger, Lord,
In the voices of many that are starving;
Your tears still flow:
For the homeless,
The lonely,
The forgotten.
You still rely on human families to care for you.

And so this Christmas, Lord, we pray together:

All **Help us to be the kind of people
Who look for you in the world,
and joyfully discover you as we care for
one another.**

Amen.

The choir will now sing the song “*Jesus, Tender Shepherd*”. (For Ivy) by Richard Judson

Leader Lord,
In the beginning;
When all was very dark, you said:
Let there be light,
and there was light and life throughout the
universe.
And when the human race was exhausted,
tired and weary,
in the darkness of anxiety,
confusion and sin,
into that darkness you came
as light in Jesus Christ.
God became a human being among us all.

Once again it is dark.
Not just dark at midnight,
but dark in ourselves:
dark with doubt, dark with fear and
uncertainty,
dark with confusing and conflicting voices
in our ears, dark with sorrow and
brokenness.

All **Come, Light of Life,
lighten the darkness in our lives with your
mighty word of love.**

Lighten our hearts with the joy of your promised coming.

Lighten our world with the hope that faith in you brings.

Amen.

Leader We now stand to sing the great Advent hymn of hope “*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.*”

**O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.**

**O come, O come, Thou Lord of might,
who to Thy tribes, on Sinai’s height
in ancient times didst give the law
in cloud and majesty and awe.
Rejoice, rejoice Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.**

**O come, Thou rod of Jesse, free
Thine own from Satan’s tyranny;
from depths of hell Thy people save,
and give them victory o’er the grave.
Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.**

**O come, Thou dayspring, come and cheer
our spirits by Thine advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadow's put to flight.
Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.**

**O come, Thou key of David, come
and open wide our heavenly home;
make safe the way that leads on high,
and close the path to misery.
Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.**

Hope

Leader The reason we have hope as Christians is because God is with us. ‘Emmanuel’ is the Bible’s word meaning *God with us*. It is a name for Jesus; and it is how we understand what God was doing in Jesus. At Christmas we celebrate God coming among us in human form, to share life with us; to be with us in our despair and joy, our struggle and hope. God came to be with us so that we could be with God.

Bible Reading: John 1: 1–5

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

Address

The choir will now sing: “May the Glory of the Lord Endure Forever”

Prayers

Leader Let us pray.

God who braves our rejection and hurt,
Who holds us in acceptance and love.

All **Come, God be with us:**

God who whispers in our ears
That each of us are beloved children.

All **Come God who is for us:**

God who cradles us in His arms that never
grow weary;
Whose lap has room for all.

All **Come God who cares for us:**

God who watches in the long silence of the
night,
That we might rest in peace.

All Come God watch over us:

God who steadies us when we falter,
Who lifts us up when we fall.

All Come God be with us:

God who picks up all the faded dreams we
drop along the way,
And patchworks them into hope.

All Come, God sustain us:

Jesus, our wounded healer,
by your body, broken on the cross,
reveal your wholeness in our lives
and in all whom we hold before you this
night.

Through our lives, reveal your wholeness in
the world, and in your risen life, glorified
forever.

May we all find and share with our loved
ones the wholeness for which we were
made, now and in eternity.

All Amen.

Leader And as our saviour has taught us so we
pray:

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 the evil one.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.

Leader We now stand to sing the hymn “*Lo, he
comes with clouds descending.*”

Lo! he comes with clouds descending,
Once for favoured sinners slain!
Thousand, thousand saints attending,
Swell the triumph of his train.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
God appears on Earth to reign.

**Every eye shall now behold him,
Robed in dreadful majesty;
Those who set at naught and sold him,
Pierced and nailed him to a tree,
Deeply wailing, Deeply wailing,
Deeply wailing,
Shall the true Messiah see.**

**The dear tokens of his passion
Still his dazzling body bears,
Cause of endless exultation
To his ransomed worshipers;
With what rapture, With what rapture,
With what rapture
Gaze we on those glorious scars.**

**Yea! Amen! let all adore thee
High on thine eternal throne!
Saviour, take the power and glory,
Claim the kingdom for thine own.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thou shalt reign, and thou alone.**

Light

Leader We remember that Jesus is the Light of the World. He overcomes all darkness and dispels all fear.
In him is light and life,

and in his love all people, living and departed, are held and cherished.

Let us pray

God our Father,
at this season when we await the coming
Saviour and those who live in darkness are
seeing a great light,
help us, who greet again the birth of Christ
with joy, to live in the light of your Son
and to share the good news of your love.
We ask this through Jesus Christ,
the light who has come into the world.

All Amen.

Leader We say together

**All Lord Jesus Christ, Light of light,
you have come among us.
Help us who live by your light
to shine as lights in your world.
Glory to God in the highest. Amen.**

Leader We now light the cross to remember with thanksgiving all who have died whom we have loved. Each light that has been woven around this cross represents someone we love who has died.

Silence

Loving God,
let these lights
be a symbol of our love
for our loved ones departed.
let them shine in our hearts
on the darkest days.
Let them be a beacon of Radiant hope.
Surround us, and all who we love,
in your light,
the eternal light of love,
which can never fade.
Help us to walk in your light
and become a beacon of love and grace
so that others see the light of Christ
shining brightly.

All Amen.

Leader Come, Light of Life,
Lighten the darkness in our lives with your
mighty word of love.
Lighten our hearts with the joy of your
promised coming.
Lighten our world with the hope that faith in
you brings.

As we remember the call of Christ in our own lives, the call to turn and follow his way that leads to abundant light-filled life – so we entrust ourselves to Christ for our future, our hope, our eternity.

For Christ's death was not the end; His resurrection revealed God's loving intention for all that God has made. In him, all grace and glory are revealed and his name praised through all eternity.

The Choir will now sing Psalm 150

Please stand

The Blessing

Leader May the God of hope and light
fill your hearts and lives
with love, comfort and joy,
and the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always.

All Amen.

Leader We stand to sing our final hymn “*Hark the Herald Angels Sing*”.

**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 the angelic hosts proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! the herald angels sing,
Glory to the newborn King**

**Christ, by highest heaven adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come,
offspring of the Virgin's womb:
veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
hail the incarnate Deity,
pleased as man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
Glory to the newborn King**

**Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by,
born that man no more may die,**

**born to raise us from the earth,
born to give us second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
Glory to the newborn King**

Leader Go in the light of Christ

All **Thanks be to God**

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New Choral Music For Church Choirs, Richard Judson

We very much hope that you have valued this time of prayer and worship. As you leave, please consider leaving a donation for two important local charities we are supporting this year:



St. Benedict's Hospice
& Centre for Specialist
Palliative Care



St Benedict's Hospice in Sunderland offers free care, advice and support for patients, and their families, who have a life-limiting illness.

Washington Mind is affiliated to Mind, the largest mental health charity in England. Washington Mind offers counselling and support in our community, promoting recovery and improving mental health and wellbeing for all.



Welcome to

Christmas

at Holy Trinity Church

Sunday 21st December - 6pm
Carols by Candlelight
with the Holy Trinity Church Choir

Christmas Eve - 4pm & 5.15pm
Crib & Christingle Service

Christmas Day – 10am
Christmas Communion Service
in church and online – all welcome!

To find out more visit our website:
www.holytrinitywashington.org.uk