

Three Churches Eucharist

for the Second Sunday of Advent

Sunday, 5th December, 11am

Greyfriars Kirk, Augustine United Church
and St. Columba's by the Castle Scottish Episcopal Church

Today's service will be from the Scottish Episcopal tradition.

Presiding: Rev David Paton-Williams,
together with Rev Richard Frazer and Rev Fiona Bennett
Preacher: Jenny Paton-Williams, *Preaching*
Organist: Iain Thompson;
Mass setting: Richard Proulx 'Missa Emmanuel'

Welcome

Whoever you are and wherever you are in your journey in faith, you are welcome here. If you are visiting or new to us, we rejoice that you have found your way here this morning.

We believe that God affirms us all, regardless of our age, gender identity, sexual orientation, background or ethnicity and we welcome everyone who wishes to worship and share Communion with us.

This service is being shared on Youtube with other members of our congregations who cannot be with us today.

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Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Words of Welcome

HYMN (Music: CH4 687)

Hills of the north rejoice,
River and mountain-spring;
Hark to the advent voice,
Valley and lowland sing;
Christ comes in righteousness and love,
He brings salvation from above.

Isles of the southern seas,
Sing to the listening earth,
Carry on every breeze
Hope of a world's new birth.
In Christ shall all be made anew;
His word is sure His promise true.

Lands of the East arise,
He is your brightest morn;
Greet Him with joyous eyes,
Praise shall His path adorn.
The God whom you have longed to know
In Christ draws near and calls you now.

Shores of the utmost west,
Lands of the setting sun,
Welcome the heavenly guest
In whom the dawn has come;
He brings a never-ending light.
Who triumphed o'er our darkest night.
Shout as you journey home.
Songs be in every mouth;

Lo from the north they come,
From east and west and south.
In Jesus all shall find their rest;
In Him the universe be blest.

Opening up the theme

We light the first two Advent Candles

SONG

The holly and the ivy
are dancing in a ring,
round the berry-bright red candles
and the hope the Christ light brings.

And two is for God's prophets
and for the light they shine.
They are candles in the darkness,
signs of hope in every time.

The holly and the ivy
are dancing in a ring,
round the berry-bright red candles
and the hope the Christ light brings.

**All: Almighty 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.**

Cantor: Lord have mercy.

All: Lord have mercy.

Cantor: Christ have mercy.

All: **Christ have mercy.**

Cantor: Lord have mercy.

All: **Lord have mercy.**

Almighty God, who sent your servant John the Baptist to prepare your people to welcome the Messiah, inspire us, the ministers and stewards of your truth, to turn our hearts towards you, that when the Christ shall come again as our judge, we may stand with confidence before him, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

First reading: Philippians 1 v3-11 read by a member of Augustine United

At the end: Hear the word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God

Hymn: (CH4 694)

Brother, sister, let me serve you,
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant too.

We are pilgrims on a journey,
fellow travellers on the road;
we are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.

I will hold the Christ-light for you
in the night-time of your fear;

I will hold my hands out to you,
speak the peace you long to hear.

I will weep while you are weeping;
when you laugh I'll laugh with you.
I will share your joy or sorrow
'till we've seen this journey through.

When we sing to God in heaven
we shall find such harmony,
born of all we've known together
of Christ's love and agony.

Sister, brother, let me serve you,
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant too.

Gospel: Luke 3 v1-6 read by a member of Greyfriars

*When it is announced: **Glory to Christ our Saviour***

At end: Give thanks to the Lord for his glorious Gospel.

All: Praise to Christ our Lord

Sermon by Jenny Paton-Williams

Affirmation of our Congregations

Intercessions led by a member of St Columba's

God is love and we are God's children. There is no room for fear in love. We love because God loved us first. Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith.

Silence

All: Loving God, we confess to you and to our fellow members in the Body of Christ that we have sinned in thought, word and deed, and in what we have failed to do. We are truly sorry. Forgive us our sins, and deliver us from the power of evil. For the sake of your Son who died for us, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

God, who is both power and love, forgive us and free us from our sins, heal and strengthen us by the Holy Spirit and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

We meet in Christ's name

All: Let us share his peace.

HYMN: (CH4 334 – Tune: CH4 234 O Waly Waly)

On Jordan's bank, the Baptist's cry
announces that the Lord is nigh;
awake, and hearken, for he brings
glad tidings of the King of kings!

Then cleansed be every heart from sin;
make straight the way for God within;
prepare we in our hearts a home
where such a mighty Guest may come.

For you are our salvation, Lord,
our refuge, and our great reward.

without your grace we waste away,
like flowers that wither and decay.

Stretch out your hand, to heal our sore,
and make us rise to fall no more;
once more upon your people shine,
and fill the world with love divine.

All praise to you, eternal Son,
whose advent has our freedom won,
whom, with the Father, we adore,
and Holy Spirit, evermore

Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

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 God thanks and praise.

Worship and praise belong to you, O God,
in every place and at all times.

All: You made us, all the people of the world and everything that is.

You give us the daylight. Your Word lights up our minds.
Jesus, your promised Son, was born among us to be light in our darkness.

All: Your Spirit lives in us so that we can look at the world with your eyes.

One day we will be with you in heaven, but already we laugh
with the saints and angels and sing their song:

Cantor: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and God of might.

All: **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and God of might.**

Cantor: Heaven and earth are full of your glory, Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

All: **Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.**

Cantor: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

All: **Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.**

O God, you never forget us or turn away from us, even when we fail you. You sent your Son Jesus who gave his life for us. He healed those who were sick, cared for those who were poor and cried with those who were sad. He forgave sinners and taught us to forgive.

All: For all your love we give you thanks in the way that Jesus showed us.

On the night before he died, while he was having supper with his friends, he took bread and offered you thanks. He broke the bread, gave it to them, saying:

“Take, eat. This is my Body: it is broken for you.”

After supper he took the cup, he offered you thanks, and gave it to them saying:

“Drink this, all of you. This is my Blood of the new covenant; it is poured out for you, and for all, that sins may be forgiven. Do this in remembrance of me.”

All: So, as we do what he told us, we open our hearts to him; we remember how he died and rose again to live now in us.

Together with him we offer you these gifts:

in them we give you ourselves.

Send your Holy Spirit on us and on this bread and this wine;

that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ,
and that, sharing your life,
we may travel in your company to our journey's end.

**All: With all your people we give you thanks and praise
through the Son and in the Spirit, now and for ever. Amen**

Breaking of the Bread:

The living bread is broken for the life of the world.

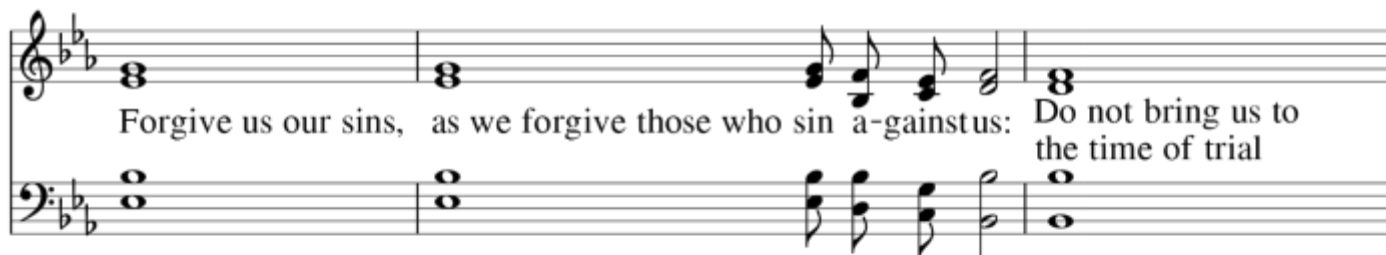
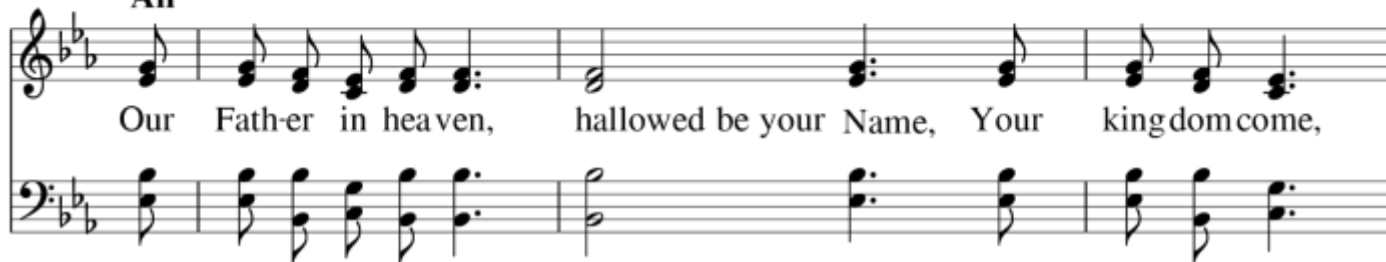
All: Lord, unite us in this sign.

Lord's Prayer (sung to a Russian chant) - *see over page*

Cantor

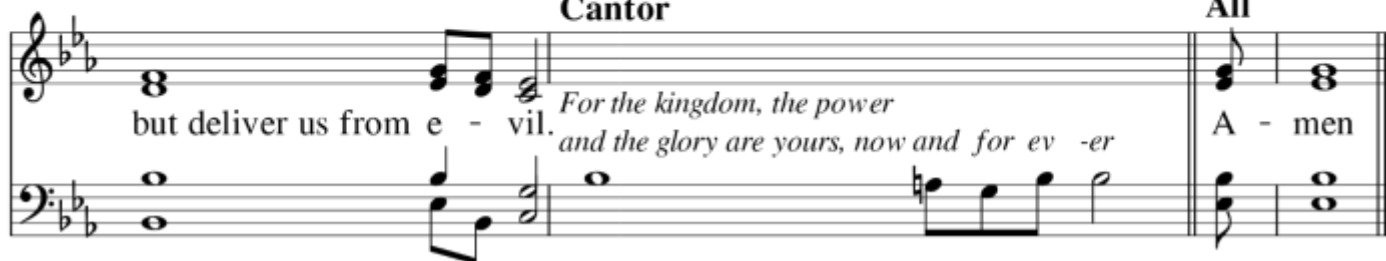


All



Cantor

All



Cantor: Jesus, true branch of Jesse's tree: you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

All: **Have mercy on us.**

Cantor: Key of David and Dayspring from on high: you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

All: **Have mercy on us.**

Cantor: Desire of nations, our Emmanuel: you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.

All: **Grant us peace.**

Because some people are worshipping online, the priest receives bread as a sign that we are all one in Christ and are all fed by him:

The Body of Christ, given for us all. **Amen.**

The bread is then shared with those in church.

Due to Covid guidelines, the priest receives wine as a sign that we all share in the love and mercy of Christ: The Blood of Christ, shed for us all. **Amen.**

HYMN: (CH4 358)

The great love of God is revealed in the Son,
who came to this earth to redeem every one.
That love, like a stream flowing clear to the sea,
makes clean every heart that from sin would be free.

It binds the whole world, every barrier it breaks,
the hills it lays low, and the mountains it shakes.
It's yours, it is ours, see how lavishly given -
the pearl of great price, and the treasure of heaven!

Give thanks to our gracious God

All: whose mercy endures for ever

All: Faithful God, we thank you for feeding us with this heavenly banquet. Help us always to hear the prophet's call to turn our hearts to you; in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

HYMN: (CH4 519)

Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heav'n to earth come down;
fix in us thy humble dwelling;
all thy faithful mercies crown!
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter every trembling heart.

Come, almighty to deliver,
let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never,
nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise, thee without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.

Finish then thy new creation;
pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee;
changed from glory into glory,
till in heav'n we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
All: In the name of Christ. Amen.

NOTICES

GREYFRIARS KIRK

For Greyfriars' notices please go to the news section of the church website where they can find a list of notices in the Community Newsletter.

AUGUSTINE UNITED CHURCH

AUC will be holding a Zoom social immediately after the Service on Sunday for all those worshipping online. Please join us – everyone is welcome!

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84952221412?pwd=YjdCOFdCZU1maDdDd2QwU3J2eGxZdz09>

Meeting ID: 849 5222 1412

Passcode: 961034

Our next Church Meeting is online on Tues 7th Dec 7.30-9pm and includes the election of Elders. All welcome. Please see last weeks' notice sheet for the Zoom link or contact Rachel on centre.manager@augustine.org.uk

The Contextual Bible Study is being held 3 times this week, online as usual – Tuesday 7th (12 noon), Wednesday 8th (7.30pm) & Thursday 8th (12 noon). Please contact Fiona on minister@augustine.org.uk for the Zoom link. This is the last week for the CBS before Christmas - they will starting back online mid Jan 2022.

The Wednesday Blether is meeting online on the 8th and 22nd Dec this month, 1-2pm. Please see last weeks' notice sheet for the Zoom link or contact Rachel on centre.manager@augustine.org.uk

Christmas services @ AUC

Dec 19th, 1.15-1.45pm, Service of the Longest Night (online & in building) quiet space to remember those we miss at Christmas time, led by Kai Millar.

Dec 25th, **10.30am** Christmas Day All Age Celebration with a sticky tale (online and in building)

Dec 26th, 11am, Service ONLINE ONLY. Preacher is Laurence Wareing.

Jan 2nd, 11am worship in building and online. Preacher is Fiona Bennett and communion will be part of the service.

ST COLUMBA'S BY THE CASTLE

Quiet Advent

Mondays in Advent at 3pm in church, 20 minutes of calm, candlelight, silence, poetry and readings. Everyone most welcome. A time to de-stress from the busyness of the period and discover a deeper connection with the season of Advent.

Post COP 26 - celebration or wake? Tuesday 7th December from 8pm to 9pm. Now COP26 is over, what are the real life problems of managing change facing politicians? With Ian Murray MP, joined on the panel by Sarah Boyack, MSP, and Claire Miller, Edinburgh City Councillor. Please register in advance:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_3xsaTbp4ST2A4OhAZNQmzw

Amnesty International's Greetings Card Campaign,
Write4Rights is running as usual this year until the end of
December and it covers International Human Rights Day on
10th Dec. www.amnesty.org.uk/write-rights-2021-get-started.

Christmas Gifts for Castlecliffe Hostel

Donations can be made online. St Columba's Bank Details: sort code
830608; account number 21700927 - please use the reference
"Castlecliffe Gifts 2021" by Sunday 19th please.

Carols for the Community in the Grassmarket - Wednesday 15th
December, 6-7pm around the tree with local residents and visitors,
with mulled wine and mince pies.

Carols for Christian Aid Castle Terrace Farmers Market, Saturday
December 18th from 10.15-12.30pm. Hot drinks and cake at the
Rectory flat opposite whenever you want.

Congregational Christmas Cards

The "What's On" notice board in the hall can be used sending cards
to others in the congregation - to save money and resources.