

Good Shepherd with St. Peter's



**Advent Service Booklet**  
For services in the season of Advent

*All the words you need for this service are in this booklet. Please join in the parts in bold. The service leader will invite you to stand and sit.*

## **Welcome and Advent Candle**

*The service begins with an informal welcome from the service leader and the appropriate candle/s are lit.*

### **The Greeting**

The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness and let us put on the armour of light.

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

*An opening hymn is sung here*

### **Prayer of Preparation**

**Almighty God,  
to whom all hearts are open,  
all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets  
are hidden:  
cleans 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.**

## **Confession**

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.

Lord Jesus, you came to gather the nations into the peace of your kingdom:

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

You come in word and sacrament to strengthen us in holiness:

Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

You will come in glory with salvation for your people:

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

May the God of love and power forgive us and free us from our sins, heal and strengthen us by his Spirit, and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

*The Collect (prayer for the day) is usually said here.*

*The children may leave the service at this point to go to their own activities. The service leader will tell people where to go.*

### **Bible Reading**

*At the end the reader will say:*

This is the word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*A hymn is usually sung here*

### **Gospel Reading**

*When the Gospel reading is announced the reader will say:*

Alleluia, alleluia.

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

**Alleluia.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord  
Jesus Christ according to N.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At the end the reader will say:*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you O Christ.**

### **Sermon**

*After the sermon there may be opportunity for quiet reflection.*

### **Affirmation of Faith**

We say together in faith:

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

We believe in God the Son,  
who was slain:  
**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:  
**the Spirit and the Bride say,  
'Come!'  
Even so come, Lord Jesus!  
Amen.**

### **Prayers of Intercession**

*At the end of the prayers, please  
join in with these words:*

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

## The Peace

God will speak peace to his people, to those who turn to him in their hearts.

The peace of the Lord  
be always with you  
**and also with you.**

*We greet one another, and offer one another a sign of peace.*

*A hymn is usually sung here. During this hymn an offering may be taken for those who wish to give to the work of the church. To find out more about giving, you can pick up a leaflet or visit:*

*[www.goodpeter.org.uk/giving](http://www.goodpeter.org.uk/giving)*

## The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here.  
**His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**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 saying:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth  
are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in  
the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

Lord God, you are the most holy one, enthroned in splendour and light, yet in the coming of your Son Jesus Christ you reveal the power of your love made perfect in our human weakness.

Embracing our humanity, Jesus showed us the way of salvation; loving us to the end, he gave himself to death for us;

dying for his own, he set us free from the bonds of sin, that we might rise and reign with him in glory.

On the night he gave up himself for us all he took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying:

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.

**Amen. Lord we believe.**

Therefore we proclaim the death that he suffered on the cross, we celebrate his resurrection, his bursting from the tomb, we rejoice that he reigns at your right hand on high, and we long for his coming in glory.

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

As we recall the one, perfect sacrifice of our redemption, Father, by your Holy Spirit let these gifts of your creation be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ; form us into the likeness of Christ and make us a perfect offering in your sight.

Look with favour on your people and in your mercy hear the cry of our hearts. Bless the earth, heal the sick, let the oppressed go free and fill your Church with power from on high.

**Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

Gather your people from the ends of the earth to feast with all your saints at the table in your kingdom, where the new creation is brought to perfection in Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

## **Lord's Prayer**

As our Saviour taught us,  
so we pray:

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be Your name,  
Your kingdom come,  
Your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today  
our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are Yours  
now and for ever.  
Amen**

## **Breaking of the Bread**

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

*The following response may be sung:*

**Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the  
world, have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the  
world, have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the  
world, grant us peace.**

Jesus is the Lamb of God who  
takes away the sin of the world.  
Blessed 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.**

*Communion is shared. You will be  
invited to come forward to receive.*

## **Prayer after communion**

**We give you thanks, O Lord,  
for these heavenly gifts;  
kindle in us the fire of your  
Spirit that when your Christ  
comes again we may shine  
as lights before his face;  
who is alive and reigns  
now and for ever.**

*News and notices are shared. You  
can find out more about what's  
happening by picking up our notice  
sheet or visiting:*

*[www.goodpeter.org.uk](http://www.goodpeter.org.uk)*

*A final hymn will be sung*

## **Blessing**

With love and compassion,  
**come, Lord Jesus.**

With judgement and mercy,  
**come, Lord Jesus.**

In power and glory,  
**come, Lord Jesus.**

In wisdom and truth,  
**come, Lord Jesus.**

And the blessing of God  
Almighty, the Father, the Son and  
the Holy Spirit be among you and  
remain with you always.

**Amen**

As we await our coming Saviour,  
Go in peace to love  
and serve the Lord.

**In the name of Christ.**

**Amen.**

*You're warmly invited to stay for tea  
and coffee after the service*