THE FOURTH SUNDAY

OF

ADVENT

CHORAL EUCHARIST

19TH DECEMBER 2021, 11AM

ST BRIDE'S
CHURCH

Opening Sentence

Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, and she exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb!'

Hymn

Of the Father's love begotten,
ere the worlds began to be,
he is Alpha and Omega,
he the source, the ending he,
of the things that are, that have been,
and that future years shall see,
evermore and evermore!

O that birth forever blessèd,
when the Virgin, full of grace,
by the Holy Ghost conceiving,
bare the Saviour of our race;
and the babe, the world's Redeemer,
first revealed his sacred face,
evermore and evermore!

O ye heights of heaven, adore him;
angel hosts, his praises sing;
powers, dominions, bow before him,
and extol our God and King!
Let no tongue on earth be silent,
every voice in concert sing,
evermore and evermore!

Tune: Divinum Mysterium
Words: Prudentius 348-c. Tr J M Neale 1818-66

The minister greets the people

Minister The Lord be with you,
All **and also with you.**

Welcome

The lighting of the fourth Advent Candle

We light these Advent Candles to remind us
of those who prepared for the coming of Christ:
the Patriarchs, the Prophets, John the Baptist,
and the Virgin Mary.
As we remember them, Lord God,
help us to prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ,
and to open our hearts to receive him.

Advent IV

God our Father, the Angel Gabriel told the Virgin
Mary that she was to be the mother of your Son,
and though fearful she responded with joy.
Help us heed your call to bring love and healing
into the lives of others.
We ask this through Jesus Christ,
the Light of the World

All **Blessed be God for ever.**

The Holly and The Ivy

Choir *The holly and the ivy, when they are both full grown,*
of all the trees that are in the wood,
the holly bears the crown:

Refrain:
The rising of the sun and the running of the deer,
the playing of the merry organ,
sweet singing in the choir.

The holly bears a blossom, as white as any flower,
and Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ, to be our sweet Saviour:
Refrain…

The holly bears a berry, as red as any blood,
and Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ, to do poor sinners good:
Refrain…

The holly bears a prickle, as sharp as any thorn,
and Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ
on Christmas Day in the morn:
Refrain…

Prayer of Preparation

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.

Prayer of Penitence

Minister *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.

All **Almighty God, our heavenly Father,**
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.

We are truly sorry
and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you
in newness of life to the glory of your name.
Amen.

Kyrie
Missa Bell' Amfitrit' altera – Orlandus Lassus

Choir

Kyrie eleison.	Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christe eleison.	Christ, have mercy upon us.
Kyrie eleison.	Lord, have mercy upon us.

Minister 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.
All **Amen.**

Collect

Minister *God our redeemer,*
who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary
to be the mother of your Son:
grant that, as she looked for his coming
as our saviour,
so we may be ready to greet him
when he comes again as our judge;
who is alive and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
All **Amen.**

First Reading
Micah 5: 2-5a
read by Matthew Morley

The Lord says to his people:

But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days.

Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in travail has brought forth; then the rest of his brethren shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth.

And this shall be peace.

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

Canticle
Benedicite – Robert Ashfield

Choir

O all ye works of the Lord, bless ye the Lord :
praise him, and magnify him for ever.
O ye angels of the Lord, bless ye the Lord :
praise him, and magnify him for ever.
O ye heavens; O ye waters that be above the firmament;
O all ye powers of the Lord; O ye sun and moon;
O ye stars of heaven; O ye showers and dew;
O ye winds of God; O ye fire and heat;
O ye winter and summer; O ye dews and frosts;
O ye frost and cold; O ye ice and snow;
O ye nights and days; O ye light and darkness;
O ye lightnings and clouds;
O let the earth bless the Lord;
O ye mountains and hills;
O all ye green things upon the earth;
O ye wells; O ye seas and floods;
O ye whales, and all that move in the waters;
O all ye fowls of the air; O all ye beasts and cattle;
O ye children of men; O let Israel bless the Lord;
O ye priests of the Lord; O ye servants of the Lord;
O ye spirits and souls of the righteous;
O ye holy and humble men of heart;
O Ananias, Azarias and Misael, bless ye the Lord :
praise him, and magnify him for ever.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost :
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.

Second Reading
Hebrews 10: 5-10
read by Robin Turner

When Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings thou hast not desired, but a body hast thou prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings thou hast taken no pleasure. Then I said, 'Lo, I have come to do thy will, O God,' as it is written of me in the roll of the book."

When Christ said above, "Thou hast neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), then he added, "Lo, I have come to do thy will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

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

Hymn

For Mary, Mother of the Lord,
God's holy name be praised,
who first the Son of God adored
as on her child she gazed.

Brave, holy Virgin, she believed,
though hard the task assigned,
and by the Holy Ghost conceived
the Saviour of mankind.

The busy world had got no space
or time for God on earth;
a cattle manger was the place
that Mary gave him birth.

She gave her body as God's shrine,
her heart to piercing pain,
she knew the cost of love divine
when Jesus Christ was slain.

Dear Mary, from your lowliness
and home in Galilee,
there comes a joy and holiness
to every family.

Hail, Mary, you are full of grace,
above all women blest;
and blest in your Son, whom your embrace
in birth and death confessed.

Tune: St Botolph by G Slater 1896-1979
Words: Latin, Tr J R Peacey 1896-1971

Gospel Reading

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

Luke 1: 39-45
read by The Revd Dr Jeff Lake, *Associate Priest of St Bride's*

Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a city of Judah, and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the babe leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and she exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! And why is this granted me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For behold, when the voice of your greeting came to my ears, the babe in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her from the Lord."

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

Sermon
The Revd Dr Jeff Lake, *Associate Priest of St Bride's*

Creed

All **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.

Prayers of Intercession

led by Julie Glaser

These responses may be used

Lord, for the years,
All **we give you thanks.**

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

The Peace

Minister *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.**

Preparation of the Table

Hymn

The Angel Gabriel from heaven came,
his wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame;
'All hail,' said he, 'thou lowly maiden Mary,
most highly favoured lady.'
Gloria!

'For known a blessèd Mother thou shalt be,
all generations laud and honour thee,
thy son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold;
most highly favoured lady.'
Gloria!

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head,
'To me be as it pleaseth God,' she said,
'My soul shall laud and magnify his holy name':
most highly favoured lady.
Gloria!

Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ, was born
in Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn,
and Christian folk throughout the world will ever say
'Most highly favoured lady.'
Gloria!

Tune: Basque carol arr. E. Pettman. 1865-1943
Words: S Baring-Gould 1834-1924

Minister Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.
Through your goodness we have this bread to offer,
which earth has given and human hands have made.
It will become for us the bread of life.
All **Blessed be God for ever.**

Minister Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.
Through your goodness we have this wine to offer,
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.
It will become our spiritual drink.
All **Blessed be God for ever.**

Eucharistic Prayer

Minister The Lord be with you
All **and also with you.**

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

Minister Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Minister Let us pray.
It is indeed right,
it is our duty and our joy,
at all times and in all places
to give you thanks and praise,
holy Father, heavenly King,
almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

And now we give you thanks
because you sent him to redeem us from sin and death
and to make us inheritors of everlasting life;
that when he shall come again in power
and great triumph to judge the world,
we may with joy behold his appearing,
and in confidence may stand before him.

Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and singing:

Sanctus and Benedictus

Missa Bell' Amfitrit' altera – Orlandus Lassus

Choir

Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus	Holy, holy, holy, Lord,
Dominus Deus Sabaoth,	God of power and might,
pleni sunt caeli et terra	heaven and earth
gloria tua.	are full of your glory.
Hosanna in excelsis.	Hosanna in the highest.
Benedictus qui venit	Blessed is he who comes
in nomine Domini.	in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in excelsis.	Hosanna in the highest.

Prayer of Consecration

Minister Accept our praises, heavenly Father,
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,
and as we follow his example and obey his command,
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us his body and his blood;

Who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
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.

Therefore, heavenly Father,
we remember his offering of himself
made once for all upon the cross;
we proclaim his mighty resurrection
and glorious ascension;
we look for the coming of his kingdom,
and with this bread and this cup
we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Minister Great is the mystery of faith:
All **Christ has died:**
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.

Minister Accept through him, our great high priest,
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts
in the presence of your divine majesty,
renew us by your Spirit,
inspire us with your love,
and unite us in the body of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,
we worship you, Father almighty,
in songs of everlasting praise.

All **Blessing and honour and glory and power**
be yours for ever and ever.
Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Minister Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

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

Breaking of the Bread

Minister We break this bread to share in the body of Christ:
All **Though we are many, we are one body,**
because we all share in one bread.

Giving of Communion

Minister Draw near with faith.
Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ
which he gave for you,
and his blood which he shed for you.
Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you,
and feed on him in your hearts
by faith with thanksgiving.

All **We do not presume**
to come to this your table, merciful Lord,
trusting in our own righteousness,
but in your manifold and great mercies.
We are not worthy so much as to
gather up the crumbs under your table.
But you are the same Lord
whose nature is always to have mercy.
Grant us therefore, gracious Lord,
so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ
and to drink his blood,
that our sinful bodies
may be made clean by his body
and our souls washed
through his most precious blood,
and that we may evermore dwell in him,
and he in us.
Amen.

Anthem
A maiden most gentle – Andrew Carter

A maiden most gentle and tender we sing:
of Mary the mother of Jesus our King.

Ave, ave, ave Maria,
ave, ave, ave Maria.

How bless'd is the birth of her heavenly child,
who came to redeem us in Mary so mild.

Ave, ave, ave Maria,
ave, ave, ave Maria.

The archangel Gabriel foretold by his call
the Lord of creation, and Saviour of all.

Ave, ave, ave Maria,
ave, ave, ave Maria.

Three kings came to worship with gifts rich and rare,
and marvelled in awe at the babe in her care.

Ave, ave, ave Maria,
ave, ave, ave Maria.

Rejoice and be glad at this Christmas we pray;
sing praise to the Saviour, sing endless 'Ave'.

Ave, ave, ave Maria,
ave, ave, ave Maria.

Tune: Traditional French Tune arr. Andrew Carter b 1939
Words: Andrew Carter

Prayers after Communion

The minister leads the post communion prayer for the day

Minister Let us pray.

Minister *Heavenly Father,*
who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary
to be the mother of the promised saviour:
fill us your servants with your grace,
that in all things we may embrace your holy will
and with her rejoice in your salvation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

All **Almighty God,**
we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory.
Amen.

Hymn

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord:
unnumbered blessings, give my spirit voice;
tender to me the promise of his word;
in God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his name:
make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;
his mercy sure, from age to age the same;
his holy name, the Lord, the Mighty One.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might:
powers and dominions lay their glory by;
proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,
the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.

Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word:
firm is his promise, and his mercy sure.
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord
to children's children and for evermore.

Tune: Woodlands by W Greatorex 1877-1949
Words: T Dudley-Smith 1926

Blessing

Minister *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,
rest upon you and remain with you,
now and always.

All **Amen.**

Dismissal

Minister Go in the peace of Christ.
All **Thanks be to God.**

Organ Voluntary

Chorale Improvisation, 'Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme' (Awake, we are called by a voice) Op 65 – Sigfrid Karg-Elert

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IN CHURCH AND ONLINE

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS



ADVENT CAROLS
SUN 28TH NOV 5:30PM

CEREMONY OF CAROLS
SUN 12TH DEC 5:30PM

NINE LESSONS & CAROLS
SUN 19TH DEC 5:30PM

FLEET ST CAROLS
WED 22ND DEC 12 & 5PM

SING CHOIRS OF ANGELS
FRI 24TH DEC 4:30PM

MIDNIGHT MASS
FRI 24TH DEC 11:30PM

CHRISTMAS DAY FAMILY COMMUNION SERVICE
SAT 25TH DEC 11AM

So we can manage numbers and keep you up to date, please register if you can at stbrides.com/advent or scan the code

ST BRIDE'S CHURCH

SCAN ME

Thank You

We would like to offer our heartfelt thanks to all who have continued to support us during this crisis, both through regular giving and occasional gifts.

This financial support remains vital to our on-going ministry. Although our normal services have now resumed, our ability to raise funds to maintain our ministry and building is still impacted.

The singers, organist, and Director of Music are all freelance professional musicians who have been significantly affected during the pandemic, and your donations have allowed us to help them financially through these difficult times.

We shall continue to offer our online worship - even though this requires additional investment - because no service from St Bride's would be complete without the wonderful music which our choir provides.

If you would like to make a donation to support the work of St Bride's, please do so at:
www.justgiving.com/stbrideschurchfleetstreet

Alternatively, in the UK:
text 5STBRIDES to 70470 to donate £5
text 10STBRIDES to 70470 to donate £10
text 20STBRIDES to 70470 to donate £20

ST BRIDE'S CHURCH