



Saint Matthew's Church
Big Lamp ~ Summerhill Street
Newcastle

Text of the Mass for Advent Sunday, (30th November) 2025

As the priest enters the church, the following is sung:

WAKE, O wake! with tidings thrilling
The watchmen all the air are filling,
Arise, Jerusalem, arise!
Midnight strikes! no more delaying,
'The hour has come!' we hear them saying.
Where are ye all, ye virgins wise?
The Bridegroom comes in sight,
Raise high your torches bright!
Alleluya!
The wedding song
Swells loud and strong:
Go forth and join the festal throng.

Sion hears the watchmen shouting,
Her heart leaps up with joy undoubting,
She stands and waits with eager eyes;
See her Friend from heaven descending,
Adorned with truth and grace unending!
Her light burns clear, her star doth rise.
Now come, thou precious Crown,
Lord Jesu, God's own Son!
Hosanna!
Let us prepare
To follow there,
Where in thy supper we may share.

(continued over the page)

Blessed are You, Sovereign Lord, God of our ancestors, to You be glory and praise for ever. You called the Patriarchs to live by the light of faith and to journey in the hope of Your promised fulfilment. May we be obedient to Your call and be ready and watchful to receive Your Christ, a lamp to our feet and a light to our path; for You are our Light and our Salvation, now and unto the ages of ages:

Blessing and honour and glory and power be Yours for ever and ever.
Amen.

Every soul in thee rejoices;
From men and from angelic voices
Be glory given to thee alone!
Now the gates of pearl receive us,
Thy presence never more shall leave us,
We stand with Angels round thy throne.
Earth cannot give below
The bliss thou dost bestow.
Alleluya!
Grant us to raise,
To length of days,
The triumph-chorus of thy praise.

Words: Philipp Nicolai 1556 – 1608
Tr FC Burkitt 1864 - 1935
Music: Wachet Auf
Melody by Philipp Nicolai
Harmony by JS Bach 1685 - 1750

The Lord be with you.
And with thy spirit.

When the Lord comes, He will bring to light things now hidden in darkness, and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Therefore, in the Light of Christ, let us confess our sins.

For the times we have been slow or failed to acknowledge Christ's authority for our lives: Kyrie eleison.

Kyrie eleison.

For the times when we have hidden our discipleship of Christ: Christe eleison.

Christe eleison.

For the times we have been unprepared to serve our Lord: Kyrie eleison.

Kyrie eleison

Thou shalt purge me, O Lord, with hyssop, and I shall be clean: thou shalt wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. *Ps.* Have mercy upon me, O God: after thy great goodness. 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. Thou shalt purge me, O Lord, with hyssop, and I shall be clean: thou shalt wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

*During the **Introit**, the Altar, the symbol of God's Presence, may be honoured with incense.*

To You, O God, I lift up my soul, I trust in You; let me never come to shame: Do not let my enemies laugh at me. No one who waits for You is ever put to shame. Make me to know Your ways, O Lord: teach me Your paths. Lead me in Your Truth and teach me: for You are the God of my salvation: for You I have hoped all the day long. 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.

To You, O Lord &c

Let us pray:

God of majesty and power, amid the clamour of our violence Your Word resounds; upon a world made dark by sin the Sun of Justice casts His dawning rays. Keep Your household watchful and aware of the hour in which we live. Hasten the advent of that day when the sounds of war will be for ever stilled, the darkness of evil scattered and all Your children gathered into one. We ask this through Him, Whose coming is certain, Whose day draws near; Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, Who is alive and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, God, throughout all ages world without end.

[Amen.](#)

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

The word which Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; and all the nations shall flow to it, and many peoples shall come, and say: "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall decide for many peoples; and they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD.

This is the Word of the Lord.

[Thanks be to God.](#)

I was glad when they said to me, ♦ ‘Let us go to the house of the Lord.’

And now our feet are standing ♦ within your gates, O Jerusalem; Jerusalem, built as a city ♦ that is at unity in itself.

Thither the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, ♦ as is decreed for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the Lord.

For there are set the thrones of judgement, ♦ the thrones of the house of David.

O pray for the peace of Jerusalem: ♦ ‘May they prosper who love you.

‘Peace be within your walls ♦ and tranquillity within your palaces.’ For my kindred and companions’ sake, ♦ I will pray that peace be with you.

For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, ♦ I will seek to do you good.

A Reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Church in Rome.

You know what hour it is, how it is full time now for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed; the night is far gone, the day is at hand. Let us then cast off the works of darkness and put on the armour of light; let us conduct ourselves becomingly as in the day, not in revelling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarrelling and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel book is carried to the Lectern:

Alleluia, alleluia! Let us see, O Lord, Your mercy: and give us Your saving help. Alleluia!

Christ's Presence in the words of the Gospel may be honoured with incense.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

Jesus said to His disciples, "As were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, and they did not know until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of man. Then two men will be in the field; one is taken and one is left. Two women will be grinding at the mill; one is taken and one is left. Watch therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But know this, that if the householder had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have watched and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready; for the Son of man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

A homily may follow.

We believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
Maker of Heaven and earth,
and of all things visible and invisible.
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds.
God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,
begotten not made;
being of one substance with the Father,
by Whom all things were made;

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Who for us men and for our salvation
came down from Heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost
of the Virgin Mary, and was made man.
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried,
and the third day He rose again
according to the Scriptures,
and ascended into Heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of the Father.
And He shall come again in glory
to judge both the quick and the dead;
Whose Kingdom shall have no end.
And we believe in the Holy Ghost,
the Lord, the Giver of life,
Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son,
Who with the Father and the Son together
is worshipped and glorified,
Who spake by the prophets.
And we believe
one Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church,
We acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins.
And we look for the resurrection of the dead,
+ and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Through the Birth of our Lord Jesus Christ, we are called to a new way of life; let us pray during this season of Advent that He will renew His Presence in His Church and in the world:

As we stand in God's house, let us offer our prayer for the Church:

[Petitions]

Lord of time and eternity, may Your peace reign in the Church that we may learn Your ways
and walk in Your paths: Lord, in Your mercy ... [Hear our prayer](#).

(continued over the page)

As we stand in God's house, let us offer our prayer for the world:

[Petitions]

Lord of time and eternity, may Your peace reign in the world, that nation shall not lift sword against nation, but all may enjoy the fruits of Your blessing: ... Lord, in Your mercy ... [Hear our prayer](#).

As we stand in God's house, let us offer our prayer for the people we meet:

[Petitions]

Lord of time and eternity, may Your peace reign within our communities, that we may live decently and seek what is good: ... Lord, in Your mercy ... [Hear our prayer](#).

As we stand in God's house, let us offer our prayer for all who suffer:

[Petitions]

Lord of time and eternity, may Your peace reign in the lives of all who suffer, that they may see Your mercy and know Your saving help: ... Lord, in Your mercy ... [Hear our prayer](#).

As we stand in God's house, let us offer our prayer for those who have died:

[Petitions]

Lord of time and eternity, may Your peace reign in the souls who have died, that they may enter within the gates of the heavenly Jerusalem: ... Lord, in Your mercy ... [Hear our prayer](#).

As we stand in God's house, let us offer our private prayers: Lord, in Your mercy ... [Hear our prayer](#).

In union with our Lady, Saint Matthew, Saint Philip, Saint Andrew, Saint Augustine and all the saints, we ask that Your Son, Who is the peace between us, reconciling all creation, may strengthen us that our lives may be totally committed to His service: the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

O Lord hear my prayer, O Lord hear my prayer, when I call, answer me.
O Lord hear my prayer, O Lord hear my prayer. Come and listen to me.

Our Saviour Christ is the Prince of Peace: of the increase of His government and of peace there shall be no end:

The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

And with thy spirit.

As the bread and wine are brought to the Altar and prepared for the Mass, the following is sung:

Unto You, O Lord, have I lifted up my soul; O God I put my trust in You, let me never be put to shame: do not allow my enemies to laugh at me; for none of those who are awaiting You will be disappointed.

Let us here who represent Cherubim guards around God's throne, As they cry out their thrice holy hymn, Praising the life-giving Trinity, Lay aside all earthly care. Borne by the power of angels' wings To His people now comes the King of kings. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The preparation of the Altar continues; incense may be used to honour the place where Christ will become present.

O come, O come, Emmanuel!
Redeem Thy captive people Israel,
That into exile drear is gone
Far from the face of God's dear Son.
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to Thee, O Israel.*

(continued over the page)

O come, Thou Wisdom from on high!
Who madest all in earth and sky,
Creating man from dust and clay:
To us reveal Salvation's way.
Rejoice &c

O come, O come, Adonai,
Who in Thy glorious majesty
From Sinai's mountain, clothed in awe,
Gavest Thy folk the ancient Law.
Rejoice &c

O come, Thou Root of Jesse! Draw
The quarry from the lion's claw;
From those dread caverns of the grave,
From nether hell, Thy people save.
Rejoice &c

O come, Thou Lord of David's Key!
The royal door fling wide and free;
Safeguard for us the heavenward road
And bar the way to death's abode:
Rejoice &c

O come, O come, Thou dayspring bright!
Pour on our souls Thy healing light;
Dispel the long night's lingering gloom
And pierce the shadows of the tomb.
Rejoice &c

(continued over the page)

O come, Desire of nations! Show
Thy kingly reign on earth below;
Thou Corner-stone, uniting all,
Restore the ruin of our fall.
Rejoice &c

Words: Cologne 1710
Tr TA Lacey 1853 - 1931
Music: Veni Emmanuel
Melody adapted from a French Missal
By Thomas Helmore 1811 - 90

At the end:

Thine, O Lord, is the greatness, the power and the glory and the victory
and the majesty. All that is in Heaven and earth is Thine:
All things come of Thee, O Lord, and of Thine own do we give Thee.

God of love and power, Your Word stirs within us the expectation of
the coming of Your Son. Accept our sacrifice this day, and sustain us
with Your promise of eternal life; in and through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The priest begins the great prayer of thanksgiving:

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Lift up your hearts;

We lift them up unto the Lord.

Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

It is meet and right so to do.

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 hosts.

Heaven and earth are full of Thy glory.

Glory be to Thee, O Lord most high.

+ Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

We praise and bless you, loving Father,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;
and as we obey his command,
send your Holy Spirit,
that broken bread and wine outpoured
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his Apostles
and, taking bread, he praised you.
He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

The priest holds up the consecrated Host for the people to see.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:
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.

The priest holds up the chalice of consecrated wine for the people to see.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice
made once for all upon the cross.
Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,
we proclaim his death and resurrection
until he comes in glory.

Dying You destroyed our death, rising You restored our life; Lord
Jesus, come in glory.

(continued over the page)

Lord of all life,
help us to work together for that day
when your kingdom comes
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.
Look with favour on your people,
gather us in your loving arms
and bring us with [*N and*] all the saints
to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Jesus Christ, our Lord,
By Whom and with Whom and in Whom,
Amen,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
Amen,
all honour and glory are Yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever.
Amen.

Let us pray for the coming of the Kingdom in the words our Saviour
gave us:
Our Father,
Who art in Heaven,
hallowed by 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.

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.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us Thy peace.

The priest holds up the consecrated elements and invites people to receive Holy Communion:

+ Behold the Lamb of God; behold Him, Who takes away the sin of the world; happy are they who are called to His Supper.

Lord, I am not worthy to receive You; but only say the Word and my soul will be healed.

The Lord will shower His gifts: and our land shall yield its fruit.

Holy Communion follows.

Bles-sed Jesu, Mary's Son,
For mankind to earth Thou camest,
But the saving battle won,
Now at God's right hand Thou reignest:
On Thy people pour Thy blessing,
Gathered here, Thy Name confessing.

By this sacramental sign,
Token of Thy bitter Passion,
Through these gifts of bread and wine
Thine own image in us fashion:
By this food Thy Grace doth send us
From all ills of soul defend us.

(continued over the page)

In this Mystery of Grace
Which we celebrate before Thee,
Come, O Saviour, show Thy face
To the faithful who adore Thee:
All our sins by Thee forgiven,
Grant us here the joys of Heaven.

Words: GB Timms b 1910

Music: Liebster Jesu

Melody by JR Ahle 1625 - 73

Harmony by JS Bach 1685 - 1750

After Holy Communion:

Watch at all times: praying at all times to stand with confidence before
the Son of Man.

Let us pray:

O Lord our God, make us watchful and keep us faithful as we await the
coming of Your Son our Lord; that, when He shall appear, He may not
find us sleeping in sin, but active in His service and joyful in His praise;
the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Notices may follow.

Christ the Sun of righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness
from before your path and make you ready to greet Him when He
comes in glory; and the + blessing of God almighty, the Father, the
Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

The Mass is ended. Go in the Peace of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

The Angel of Lord brought the tidings to Mary;
and she conceived by the Holy Ghost.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee:

Blessed art thou amongst women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb,
Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of
our death. Amen.

Behold the handmaid of the Lord;

be it unto my according to Thy Word.

Hail Mary &c

The Word was made flesh;

and dwelt among us.

Hail Mary &c

Pray for us, O holy Mother of God;

that we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray.

THE COLLECT OF THE ANGELUS

Amen.

Let us pray:

Pour forth Your Grace into our hearts, we beseech You O Lord, that
as we have known the Incarnation of Your Son, Jesus Christ, by the
message of an angel, so by His Cross and Passion, we may be brought
to the glory of His Resurrection; in and through the same Jesus Christ
our Lord.

Amen.

1. O quickly come, dread Judge of all,
For, awful though Thine advent be,
All shadows from the Truth will fall,
And falsehood die, in sight of Thee:
O quickly come; for doubt and fear
Like clouds dissolve when Thou art near.

(continued over the page)

2. O quickly come, great King of all;
Reign all around us, and within;
Let sin no more our souls enthrall,
Let pain and sorrow die with sin:
O quickly come; for Thou alone
Canst make Thy scattered people come.

3. O quickly come, true Life of all,
For death is mighty all around;
On every home his shadows fall,
On every heart his mark is found:
O quickly come; for grief and pain
Can never cloud Thy glorious reign.

4. O quickly come, sure Light of all,
For gloomy night broods o'er our way,
And weakly souls begin to fall
With weary watching for the day:
O quickly come; for round Thy throne
No eye is blind, no night is known.

Words: Lawrence Tuttiel 1825 - 97

Music: Surrey

Henry Carey c1687 - 1743

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