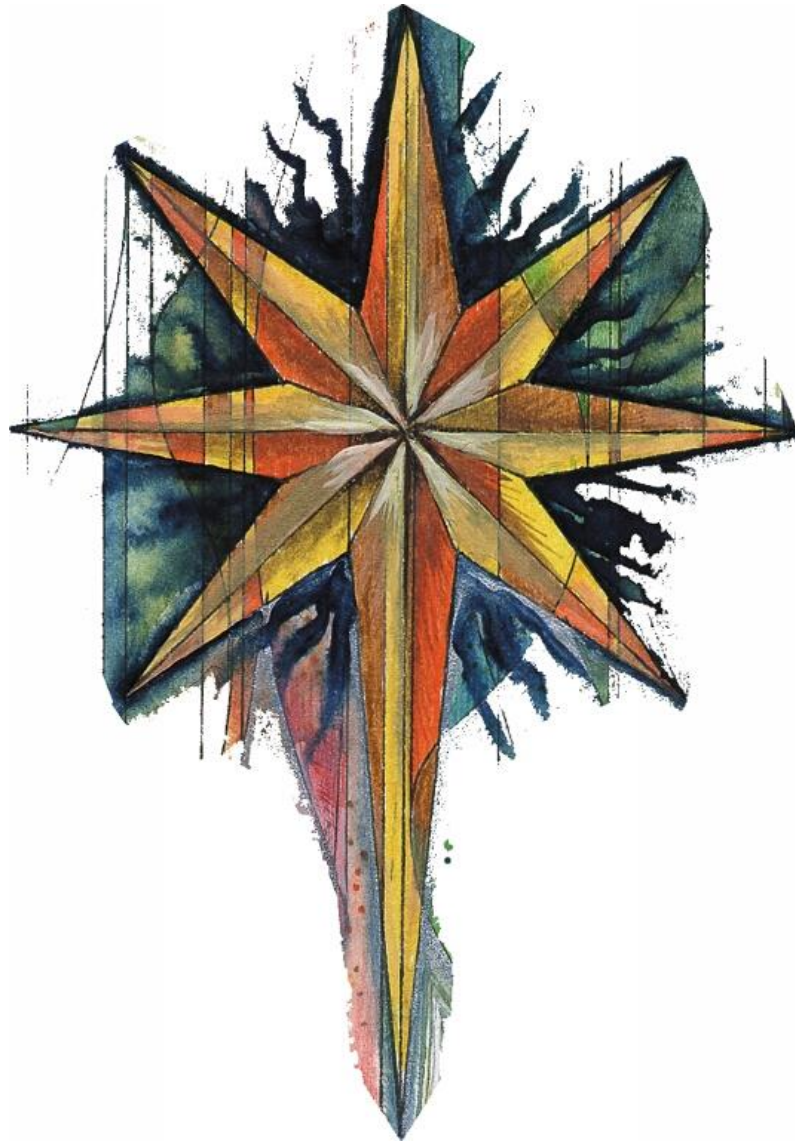


**St Mary Magdalene, Geddington  
and  
St Mary the Virgin, Weekley**



**Holy Communion  
for Advent**



## The Advent Wreath

There are several traditions about the meaning of each candle on the Advent wreath. The scheme that best accord with the service we use here in St. Mary's is:

Advent 1	The Patriarchs
Advent 2	The Prophets
Advent 3	John the Baptist
Advent 4	The Virgin Mary
Christmas Day	The Christ

Each of the four Sundays reminds us of those who prepared for the coming of Christ. 'The Patriarchs' can naturally focus on Abraham, our father in faith, and David, the ancestor in whose city Jesus was born. 'The Prophets' gives an opportunity to reflect on the way the birth of the Messiah was 'foretold'. The stories of John, who proclaimed the Saviour, and Mary, who bore him in her womb, culminate in the coming of the awaited Christ into the world.

Welcome

Please Sit

Grace, mercy and peace  
from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ  
be with you.  
**and also with you.**

This is the day that the Lord has made  
**Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

*Seeking the light of Christ, we light the Advent Wreath  
and the choir sings a verse for each candle that has been lit:*

*'Jesus is coming'  
the church is glad to sing  
and let the Advent candles  
brightly burn in a ring.*

1. The first is for God's  
promise to put the wrong  
things right and bring to  
earth's darkness the hope  
of love and light.

2. The second for the  
prophets, who said that  
Christ would come with  
good news for many and  
angry words for some.

3. The third is for the  
Baptist,  
who cried, 'Prepare the  
way.  
Be ready for Jesus,  
both this and every day.'

4. The fourth is for the  
Virgin, who mothered  
God's own son and sang  
how God's justice was  
meant for everyone.

## *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.

Heavenly Father,  
you have created a universe of light;  
forgive us when we return to darkness.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus,  
you are the light of the world;  
cleanse and heal our blinded sight.  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

Holy Spirit,  
you give us light in our hearts;  
renew us in faith and love.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

May almighty God have mercy on you,  
forgive you your sins,  
and bring you to new life. **Amen**

## *The Collect for Advent*

### *Bible Reading(s)*

This is the Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

### *Gospel Reading*

*Please Stand*

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 ....

**Glory to you, O Lord**

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

### *Sermon*

### *The Creed*

*Please Stand*

Let us affirm our common faith in Jesus Christ.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,  
source of all being and life,  
the one for whom we exist?

**I believe and trust in God the Father.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,  
who took our human nature,  
died for us and rose again?

**I believe and trust in God the Son.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,  
who gives life to the people of God  
and makes Christ known in the world?

**I believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit.**

This is the faith of the Church.

**This is our faith.**

**We believe and trust in one God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

*Prayers of Intercession*

*Please Sit*

*The Peace*

*Please Stand*

May the God of peace make you completely holy,  
ready for the coming of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

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

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*Preparation of the Table*

As the grain once scattered in the fields  
and the grapes once dispersed on the hillside  
are now reunited on this table in bread and wine,  
so, Lord, may your whole Church  
soon be gathered together from the corners of the earth  
into your kingdom. **Amen.**

## *The Eucharistic Prayer*

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

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 singing,

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he, O blessed is he who  
comes 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 friends  
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.

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.

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.

Jesus Christ is Lord.

**Lord, by your cross and resurrection,**

**You have set us free.**

**You are the Saviour of the world.**



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 St Mary Magdalene, St Mary the Virgin,  
and all the saints to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,  
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### *The 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*

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.**

## *The Sharing of Communion*

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.**

God's holy gifts  
for God's holy people.

**Jesus Christ is holy,  
Jesus Christ is Lord,  
To the glory of God the Father.**

*Those who may be watching the service at home,  
can say this prayer during the distribution*

## *Spiritual Communion*

**Lord Jesus Christ,  
since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,  
I humbly pray that you would  
come spiritually to my soul.**

**Come, Lord Jesus, come and cleanse me,  
heal me, strengthen me, and unite me to you,  
now and for evermore. Amen**

## *Prayer after Communion*

**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;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## *Notices*

### *The Blessing*

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 be with you  
and remain with you always. **Amen**

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



The Service is from Common Worship © Archbishop's Council. The song 'Jesus is coming': Words and music © 1992 The Iona Community (adapted EJW 2014). CCLI 2181696