

Welcome to Penicuik: St Mungo's Parish Church online



ADVENT SUNDAY **Sunday 28th November 2021**

This act of worship has been prepared to allow us to spend some time with God, knowing that others are sharing in it.

We thank all the team involved in creating and distributing this service, and praise God for his unchanging character and unfailing love.

This order of service is for you to use as you are able: some of you may wish simply to read it, whether silently or aloud. Others may wish to listen, and even join in with the singing: just click on the links. Full service video <https://youtu.be/Z1z6OC38qJI>
If you want to join in the whole service, follow the link which you'll find on our website: www.stmungos.freeuk.com . And if you would like to listen to just the sermon and a prayer, dial **01968 700121**. There will be about 20 seconds' silence, after which the recording should start.

INTROIT: O come, O come, Emmanuel

Watch video <https://youtu.be/djey6DnKiHU>

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.

O come, Thou, Dayspring from on high,
and cause Thy light on us to rise.
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night
and death's dark shadow put to flight.
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel*

O come, O come, true prophet of the Lord,
and turn the key to heaven's door.
Be Thou our comforter and guide
and lead us to the Father's side.
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall by His word our darkness dispel.*

O come, our great High Priest, and intercede--
Thy sacrifice, our only plea.
The judgment we no longer fear--
Thy precious blood has brought us near.
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
has banished every fear of hell.*

O Come, Thou King of nations, bring
an end to all our suffering.
Bid every pain and sorrow cease
and reign now as our Prince of Peace.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel

shall come again with us to dwell.

Original Latin (vv 1-2) translated by John M. Neale (1851); Music: Veni Emmanuel.

*Added words (vv 3-5) Steve Cook & Bob Kauflin. © 2014 Sovereign Grace Praise (BMI)/Sovereign Grace
Worship (ASCAP). Sovereign Grace Music; Adm. Integrity Music; Video: 20schemes Music*

WELCOME to St Mungo's. We're glad you can join us.

Today we are celebrating Holy Communion.

If you are joining us from home

and would like to put aside some bread and wine

(or something which would represent them),

please retain them until the appropriate part of the service

and consume them reverently and thankfully.

If you would rather not participate,

you are equally welcome to listen

and enjoy spiritual communion with Christ

and 'feed on him in your heart by faith with thanksgiving'.

HYMN: The Candle Song (Like a candle flame)

Watch video <https://youtu.be/teZaQUKix24>

Like a candle flame,

flickering small in our darkness,

uncreated light

shines through infant eyes.

God is with us, alleluia!

God is with us, alleluia!

Come to save us, alleluia!

Alleluia!

Stars and angels sing,

yet the earth sleeps in shadows.

Can this tiny spark

set a world on fire?

God is with us, alleluia!

God is with us, alleluia!

Come to save us, alleluia!

Alleluia!

Yet his light shall shine
from our lives, Spirit blazing,
as we touch the flame
of his holy fire.

God is with us, alleluia!

Come to save us, alleluia!

God is with us, alleluia!

Alleluia!

Graham Kendrick © 1988 Make Way Music, www.grahamkendrick.co.uk

PRAYER

Father God,
we praise you once more in this season of Advent,
for the mood of expectation, the message of hope,
the call to prepare ourselves in confidence and trust.

We praise you for the way you've spoken,
in the fulfilment of ancient prophecies,
in promises yet to be realised,
and in the living presence of Christ
made known through his Holy Spirit.

Touch our lives again
as we remember the coming of Jesus,
and as we anticipate his coming again.
Give us wisdom as we seek to serve him better here and now.

We thank you that in your reckoning
the night is nearly over, and the day is near.
Help us as people of the Light to throw off the deeds of darkness,
and put on the armour of light.

Renew our hope in you and strengthen our faith.
Help us to trust that you hold the future in your hand.
Deepen our confidence in your love and purpose,
despite all that seems to work against it,
sometimes despite our own fears and worries.

May we be ready to remember Christ's birth
in the glad assurance that as he came so he shall come again.

We ask this in his name. **Amen.**

Adapted from a prayer by Nick Fawcett

LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE: HOPE

The prophet Isaiah says:

‘The people walking in darkness see a bright light;
light shines on those who live in a land of deep darkness...

For a child has been born to us,

a son has been given to us.’ *[Isaiah 9]*

Let’s pray:

You are the God of hope,
the God who makes unbreakable promises to us in Jesus.

Lord, we name before you in the quiet of our hearts
those we know are going through times of darkness.

We ask, gracious God, that you may bring them light,
hope, love and direction. In Jesus’ name, **Amen**.

INTRODUCTION TO THE READINGS

Psalm 36 at first appears to be all about the ‘wicked’: the way sin speaks to the hearts of those who have no time for God and all the troubling things they get involved in.

But midway, the psalm changes direction: it erupts into exuberant praise of the God that David knows: a God of goodness, fairness, faithfulness and generosity. This leads up to a picture of God’s life and light flowing out to all in a refreshing stream of goodness and truth:

The fountain of life flows from you.

Your light lets us see light.

The poet’s celebration of God’s loving, self-giving nature enables him to speak with confidence about God’s enduring love for those who respond to his grace and about the final destiny of those who have no time for God.

The Gospel as told by John also speaks of the life and light of God. It’s a light which the darkness of our human world can neither understand nor overcome. And, John says, this light came into the world in a human life, in Jesus.

BIBLE READINGS

Reader: **Gordon MacDonald**

Psalm 36 (Easy-to-Read Version)

To the director: A song of David, the Lord’s servant.

Deep in the hearts of the wicked a voice tells them to do wrong.

They have no respect for God.

They lie to themselves.

They don’t see their own faults,
so they are not sorry for what they do.

Their words are wicked lies.

They have stopped doing anything wise or good.

They make wicked plans in bed at night.

They choose a way of life that does no good.

And they never say no to anything evil.

Lord, your faithful love reaches to the sky.

Your faithfulness is as high as the clouds.

Your goodness is higher than the highest mountains.

Your fairness is deeper than the deepest ocean.

Lord, you protect people and animals.

Nothing is more precious than your loving kindness.

All people can find protection close to you.

They get strength from all the good things in your house.

You let them drink from your wonderful river.

The fountain of life flows from you.

Your light lets us see light.

Continue to love those who really know you,

and do good to those who are true to you.

Don't let proud people trap me.

Don't let the wicked force me to run away.

Put this on their grave markers:

"Here fell the wicked.

They were crushed.

They will never stand up again."

Easy-to-Read Version (ERV) Copyright © 2006 by Bible League International

John 1:1-11 (New English Translation)

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was fully God. The Word was with God in the beginning. All things were created by him, and apart from him not one thing was created that has been created. In him was life, and the life was the light of mankind. And the light shines on in the darkness, but the darkness has not mastered it.

A man came, sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify about the light, so that everyone might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify about the light. The true light, who gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was created by him, but the world did not recognize him. He came to what was his own, but his own people did not receive him.

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SHORT ADDRESS

HYMN: Creator God

Watch video <https://youtu.be/ATqwNcJ8srU>

Creator God, who shaped the earth and heavens,
your glory shines in all that you have made;
you spoke the word, who broke into the darkness—
all earth replies: 'Majestic is your name!'

And who am I, though made below the angels,
that you, my King, are mindful of my ways?
As moon and stars sing out their joyful chorus
I lift my voice to join with them in praise.

Redeeming God, creation's song fell silent
as on the cross the Light was pierced with dark.
The word of life to death now hangs surrendered,
the one who spoke out stars now breathes his last.

And who am I, the lowliest of sinners,
that you would pay the price my sin deserves?
My maker scarred for those who marred his likeness,
and from his wounds flows mercy unreserved.

O living God! You broke the tomb in glory—
death could not hold the one who authored life!
His radiant light has shattered through our darkness
and in our hearts, his risen life now shines.

And who are we, that you would call us children
and raise us up from death to life with you
where we will sing the New Creation anthem:
'O praise the one who's making all things new!'

And so we wait in eager expectation,
and join the song as all creation groans:
'Lord, haste the Day decay is slain by glory,
the Day you call your sons and daughters home.'

Words/Music: © Ben Slee 2017 CCLI #7089057; Recorded live by 20schemes Music

HOLY COMMUNION: THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

This is real love—not that we loved God, but that he loved us
and sent his Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins.

1 John 4:10

This is the Lord's Table.

and Christ our Saviour invites us to share the feast which he has prepared.
The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you.

Great and wonderful are your works, O God.
We thank you for your Son Jesus Christ,
who lived our human life and knew our joys and sorrows.
He showed your love; he healed the sick;
he was a friend to sinners.

In obedience to you, he took up his cross
and died in love for us and all the world.
You raised him from the dead to live and reign for ever,
the friend of sinners still.

Heavenly Father, send your Holy Spirit
to bless us and your gifts of bread and wine to us,
that in communion with Christ our Lord
we may receive his life
and remain his glad and faithful people
until we feast with him in glory.

As we share in the body and blood of Christ,
may we become a living sacrifice,
dedicated and fit for your acceptance;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Let's join together in the family prayer of the Church:

**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 debts,
as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory, for ever. Amen.**

THE SHARING

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

We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

(the bread is broken)

We take this wine to share in the Blood of Christ.

(the cup is raised)

We believe that he who lived,
died and rose again for us will meet us here.

Jesus said: 'This is my body. It's given for you.
Do this to remember me.' *(we eat the bread)*

Jesus said: 'This cup is the new relationship with God
made possible because of my death.
Drink it, all of you, to remember me.' *(we drink the cup)*

THE PEACE *(using British Sign Language)*

The peace of the Lord Jesus be with you all.

HYMN: We wait with great expectancy *(Tune: God rest ye merry)*

Watch video at: <https://youtu.be/4Ke18fFDNmU>

We wait with great expectancy
to see your Kingdom come.
We trust your word to be fulfilled
and pray your will be done.
So in our world of ache and loss
we're calling out, as one:

*Come Lord Jesus,
we hunger and we yearn
for your return.
Come Lord Jesus,
oh, we pray for your return.*

You came to us so long ago
and you will come again.
We long for heaven on the earth,
an end to grief and pain.
Lord, may our lives anticipate
and usher in your reign.

*Come Lord Jesus,
we long to know you here,
come and draw near.
Come Lord Jesus,
oh, we long to know you here.*

So lead us in your patience, Lord,
and help us match your pace,
to walk the straight and narrow road
in rhythms of your grace,
and may this Advent way of life
all hurriedness replace.

*Come Lord Jesus,
and teach us how to wait,
you are not late.
Come Lord Jesus,
help us worship as we wait.*

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Created for the Worship in the Waiting series by engageworship: www.engageworship.org

THE BLESSING

May the blessing of God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you. **Amen.**

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**Next Sunday (December 5th)
KIP Service:
Finale: Holy Habits
(led by the Rev Graham Astles)**