

*The Collegiate Church of the Holy Cross and Mother of
Him who hung thereon, Crediton*

THE ADVENT PROCESSION



----- Order of Service -----

WELCOME

Please read the following before the service commences

Welcome to the church of the Holy Cross, Crediton.

The service begins with the church in semi-darkness, symbolising our wait for Christ, the light of the world. Please stand as the bell is rung. The procession moves to the West End. Please turn to face the West as the procession passes. After the Greeting, the Matin Responsory will be sung, during which the candles held by the congregation will be lit. Please help light the candles of those around you. The lighting of the candles, starting at the West, symbolises the spread of Christ's light, and the message of the Gospels.

Please join in all the responses written in **bold** type. The hymns are printed here or found in the green hymnals. The service will proceed without announcement.

Organ Music before the Service:

Prelude and fugue in E minor BWV 555
Herr Christ, der ein'ge Gottessohn BWV 601
Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland BWV 661
Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme BWV 645
J. S. Bach (1685–1750)

Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen
J. Brahms (1833–1897)

THE ADVENT PROCESSION

Order of Service

The clergy process to the West End. Please stand as the bell is rung.

THE GREETING

Priest: In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

All: **Amen.**

Priest: Grace, mercy and peace
from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ
who was, who is and who is to come,
be with you all

All: **and with thy spirit.**

Please remain standing as the choir sing the Matin Responsory during which the candles shall be lit.

Choir: I look from afar:
And lo, I see the power of God coming,
And a cloud covering the whole earth.
Go ye out to meet him and say:
Tell us, art thou he that should come to reign over thy people
Israel?
High and low, rich and poor, one with another,
Go ye out to meet him and say:
Hear, O thou shepherd of Israel,
Thou that leadest Joseph like a sheep.
Tell us, art thou he that should come?
Stir up thy strength, O Lord,
And come to reign over thy people Israel.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

The words are translated from an early mediaeval Advent Sunday Responsory for the Office of Matins (Sarum Breviary). The music is adapted from a setting of the Magnificat by Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (c. 1525–1594).

COLLECT

Priest: Let us pray:
Almighty God,
before the judgement seat of whose Son,
the Lord Christ, we must all appear;
keep us steadfast and faithful in His service,
and enable us so to judge ourselves in this life,
that we may not be condemned
on the day of His appearing;
who lives and reigns with thee in the unity of the
Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

All: **Amen.**

All turn to face East as the congregation and choir sing the hymn and the candlelit Procession moves to the Nave Dais, gathering around the Advent Wreath.

O come, O come, Emmanuel!
Redeem thy captive 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.*

2. **O come, thou Branch of Jesse! Draw
The quarry from the lion's claw;
From those dread caverns of the grave,
From nether hell, thy people save.**
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

3. **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! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

There is then a pause as the head of the Procession gathers around the Advent Wreath in the middle of the Nave Dais for the blessing of light.

BLESSING OF LIGHT

A candle on the Advent Wreath is lit, marking the first Sunday of Advent.

Priest: The light and peace of Jesus Christ be with you

All: **And with thy spirit.**

Priest: Blessed art thou, Sovereign God,
our light and our salvation,
eternal creator of day and night,
to thee be glory and praise for ever.
Now, as darkness is falling,
hear the prayer of thy faithful people.
As we look for thy coming in glory,
wash away our transgressions,
cleanse us by thy refining fire
and make us temples of thy Holy Spirit.
By the light of Christ,
dispel the darkness of our hearts
and make us ready to enter thy kingdom,
where songs of praise for ever sound.
Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

All: **Blessed be God forever.**

After a short organ introduction, we continue to sing the hymn as the choir and clergy move to their stalls.

4. **O come, thou Lord of David's Key!
The royal door fling wide and free;
Safeguard for us the heavenward road,
And bar the war to death's abode.**

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

5. **O come, O come, Adonai,
Who in thy glorious majesty
From Sinai's mountain, clothed in awe,
Gavest thy folk the ancient law.**

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

Based on the ancient Advent Antiphons

Tune: Veni Emmanuel

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Please be seated.

O Sapientia

Choir: O Wisdom, which camest out of the mouth of the most High, and reachest from one end to another, mightily and sweetly ordering all things: Come and teach us the way of prudence.

1st Reading Isaiah 7: 10–14.

Choir: Adam Lay ybounden,
Bounden in a bond;
Four thousand winter
Thought he not too long.

And all was for an apple,
An apple that he took,
As clerkes finden
Written in their book.

Ne had the apple taken been,
The apple taken been,
Ne had never our lady
A-been heavené queen.

Blessed be the time
That apple taken was
Therefore we moun singen,
Deo gracias!

Anonymous (15th Century).
Music by Boris Ord (1897–1961)

O Adonai

Choir: O Adonai and Leader of the house of Israel, who appearedst in the Bush to Moses in a flame of fire, and gavest him the law in Sinai: Come and deliver us with an outstretched arm.

2nd Reading Exodus 3.1–6

HYMN **No. 15:** The Lord will come and not be slow (*Please stand to sing.*)

Please be seated.

O Radix Jesse

Choir: O Root of Jesse, which standest for an ensign of the people, at whom kings shall shut their mouths, to whom the Gentiles shall seek: Come and deliver us, and tarry not.

3rd Reading Isaiah 11:1–10

Choir: Of one that is so fair and bright
 Velut maris stella
Brighter than the day is night,
 Parens et puella:
I cry to thee, thou see to me,
Lady, pray thy son for me,
 Tam pia
That I may come to thee.
 Maria!

All this world was forlorn,
 Eva peccatrice
Till our Lord was y-born,
 De te genetrice.
With ave it went away
Darkest night, and comes the day
 Salutis;
The well springeth out of thee.
 Virtutis.

Lady, flow'r of ev'ry thing,
 Rosa spine spina
Thou bare Jesu heaven's king,
 Gratia divina:
Of all thou bear'st the prize,
Lady, queen of paradise
 Electa:
Maid mild, mother
 Effecta.

Anonymous, c. 1300.
Music by Benjamin Britten (1913–1976)

Please stand to sing. During the hymn the collection is taken.

HYMN **No. 6:** Hark the glad sound, the Saviour comes.

Please be seated.

O Clavis David

Choir: O Key of David, and Sceptre of the house of Israel; that openest
and no man shuttest; and shuttest, and no man openeth; Come, and
bring the prisoner out of the prison house, and him that sittest in
darkness, and the shadow of death.

4th Reading Isaiah 22.20–23

Choir: This is the truth sent from above,
The truth of God, the God of love,
Therefore don't turn me from your door,
But hearken all both rich and poor.

The first thing which I do relate
Is that God did man create;
The next thing which to you I'll tell
Woman was made with man to dwell.

Thus we were heirs to endless woes,
Till God the Lord did interpose;
And so a promise soon did run
That he would redeem us by his Son.

And at that season of the year
Our blest Redeemer did appear;
He here did live, and here did preach,
And many thousands he did teach.

Thus he in love to us behaved,
To show us how we must be saved;
And if you want to know the way,
Be pleased to hear what he did say.

Traditional carol, arranged by Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958)

O Oriens

Choir: O Day-Spring, Brightness of Light everlasting, and Sun of righteousness: Come, and enlighten him that sitteth in darkness, and the shadow of death.

5th Reading Luke 1: 5–14, 57–58, 67 & 76–79.

HYMN No. 3: Come, thou long expected Jesus.

Choir: Peace be to you and grace from him
Who freed us from our sins,
Who loved us all and shed his blood
That we might saved be.

Sing holy, holy to our Lord,
The Lord, almighty God,
Who was and is and is to come;
Sing holy, holy Lord!

Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell therein,
Rejoice on earth, ye saints below,
For Christ is coming,
Is coming soon,
For Christ is coming soon!

E'en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come,
And night shall be no more;
They need no light nor lamp nor sun,
For Christ will be their All!

*Revelation Ch. 22, adapted by Ruth Manz
Music by Paul Manz (b. 1919)*

O Rex gentium

Choir: O King of the Nations, and their Desire; the Cornerstone, who makest both one: Come, and save mankind, whom thou formedst of clay.

6th Reading Jeremiah 30.7–11

Please stand for the Gospel Procession.

O Emmanuel

Choir: O Emmanuel, our King and Lawgiver, the Desire of all nations, and their Salvation: Come and save us, O Lord our God.

When the Gospel is announced, the reader says or sings:

Priest: The Lord be with you

All: **And with thy spirit.**

Priest: Hear the Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according Matthew.

All: **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

Gospel: Luke 1: 46–55.

At the end

Priest: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

Please remain standing.

O Virgo Virginum

Choir: O Virgin of Virgins, how shall this be? For neither before thee was any like thee, nor shall there be any after. Daughters of Jerusalem, why marvel ye at me? The thing which ye behold is a divine mystery.

Please remain standing as the choir sings the Magnificat.

Choir: My soul + doth magnify the Lord; and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.

For he hath regarded: the lowliness of his handmaiden.

For behold from henceforth: all generations shall call me blessed.

For he that is mighty hath magnified me; and holy is his name.

And his mercy is on them that fear him: throughout all generations.

He hath showed strength in his arm: he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat; and hath exalted the humble and meek.
He hath filled the hungry with good things: and the rich he hath sent empty away.
He, remembering his mercy hath his servant Israel: as he promised to our forefathers Abraham and his seed 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.

From the Evening Service in G major by Sir Charles Villiers Stanford (1852–1924)

Please remain standing to sing the hymn, during which the choir and clergy move to the High Altar.

HYMN **No.16:** Wake, O wake! With tidings thrilling.

THE ADVENT COLLECTS

Priest: Let us pray. Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, now and ever.

All: **Amen.**

Priest: O Lord, raise up we pray thee thy power, and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness, we are sore let and hindered in running the race that is set before us, thy bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through the satisfaction of thy Son our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost be honour and glory, world without end.

All: **Amen.**

Priest: As our Saviour taught us, we make bold to say:

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.**

THE RESPONSES

Cantor: Behold, the desire of all nations shall come
Choir: And the house of the Lord shall be filled with glory
Cantor: Lift up your heads O ye gates, and be ye lift up ye everlasting
doors, and the King of Glory shall come in
Choir: And the house of the Lord shall be filled with glory
Cantor: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
Choir: And the house of the Lord shall be filled with glory.

Music by Christopher Gower

THE BLESSING

Priest: Open wide, O Lord, the gates of heaven, and visit thy people in
peace; send forth thy Spirit from on high that their hearts may be
uplifted unto thee. O Lord who for us was born of a virgin, make
holy thy people, and bless thine heritage.

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy
Ghost, be among you and abide with you now and for ever.

All: **Amen.**

Please stand to sing the last hymn as the choir and clergy depart.

HYMN No.9: Lo! He comes with clouds descending

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Toccatà Giocosa op. 36, No. 2 *William Matthias (1934–1992)*