

Holy Trinity
Headington Quarry



The Third Sunday of Advent

15th December 2024

Welcome to Holy Trinity Headington Quarry—the ‘village’ church in the city. Wherever you are on your walk with God, we hope you will feel welcome here. If you have questions or need help with anything, please speak to one of the welcomers at the door. It’s easy to worry about what to do in church, but the most important thing is that you find time to be with God. The words of the service are in this booklet—please join in the responses in **bold**.

Advent is a time of waiting, watching and joyful preparation. It anticipates the coming of Christ from three different perspectives: as the Christ-child in Bethlehem, in our hearts daily, and in glory at the end of time. The season offers the opportunity to share in the ancient longing for the coming of the Messiah, and to be alert for Christ’s Coming among us.

As we keep this time of watching and waiting, may we become more deeply aware of the presence of Christ in the quietness and in the darkness—and may the Holy Spirit prompt us to a loving awareness of the presence of Christ in unexpected places and situations.

A prayer as you prepare for worship:

O gracious and holy Father, give us wisdom to perceive you,
intelligence to understand you, diligence to seek you,
patience to wait for you, eyes to behold you
a heart to meditate on you, and a life to proclaim you;
through the power of the Spirit of
Jesus Christ our Lord.

(St Benedict, 480-543)

Words of welcome

Words of welcome. After we light the Advent wreath, children are welcome to join the Forest Sunday school taking place.

Hymn 30

Come thou long-expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us;
let us find our rest in thee.

Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver;
born a child and yet a king;
born to reign in us for ever;
now thy gracious kingdom bring.

By thy own eternal Spirit,
rule in all our hearts alone:
by thy all-sufficient merit,
raise us to thy glorious throne.

Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

The president says

In the name of the Father
and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit
Amen

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Lighting of the Advent Candles

On each Sunday of Advent, we light a new candle on the Advent Wreath.

Advent 3: John the Baptist

**John the Baptist by his preaching
and by water poured,
brought to those who heard his teaching
news of hope restored:
'Keep your vision strong and steady,
and be ready for our Lord'.**

After the candle is lit:

The people who walked in darkness
Have seen a great light
Jesus is the light of the world
A light no darkness can ever put out.

Prayers of Penitence

The deacon introduces the prayers of penitence

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.

Silence is kept.

**Most merciful God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
we confess that we have sinned
in thought, word and deed.
We have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
In your mercy
forgive what we have been,
help us to amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be;
that we may do justly,
love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God.
Amen.**

Kyrie

Andante

10 Organ

mp Lord have mer-cy, Lord have mer-cy. *mf* Christ have

mp mer-cy, Christ have mer-cy. Lord have mer-cy, Lord have mer-cy.

The musical score is written for organ and voice. It begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a 3/4 time signature. The tempo is marked 'Andante'. The organ part starts at measure 10. The vocal line includes lyrics: 'Lord have mer-cy, Lord have mer-cy. Christ have mer-cy, Christ have mer-cy. Lord have mer-cy, Lord have mer-cy.' Dynamic markings include *mp* (mezzo-piano) and *mf* (mezzo-forte).

The president says

The almighty and merciful Lord
grant you pardon and forgiveness of all your sins
time for amendment of life,
and the grace and strength of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The Collect

Let us pray:

O Lord Jesus Christ,
who at your first coming sent your messenger
to prepare your way before you:
grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries
may likewise so prepare and make ready your way
by turning the hearts of the disobedient
to the wisdom of the just,
that at your second coming to judge the world
we may be found an acceptable people in your sight;
for you are alive and reign with the Father
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

Please sit

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading: Zephaniah 3.14-end

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion;
shout, O Israel!
Rejoice and exult with all your heart,
O daughter Jerusalem!

The LORD has taken away the judgements against you,
he has turned away your enemies.
The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst;
you shall fear disaster no more.
On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:
Do not fear, O Zion;
do not let your hands grow weak.
The LORD, your God, is in your midst,
a warrior who gives victory;
he will rejoice over you with gladness,
he will renew you in his love;
he will exult over you with loud singing
as on a day of festival.
I will remove disaster from you,
so that you will not bear reproach for it.
I will deal with all your oppressors
at that time.
And I will save the lame
and gather the outcast,
and I will change their shame into praise
and renown in all the earth.
At that time I will bring you home,
at the time when I gather you;
for I will make you renowned and praised
among all the peoples of the earth,
when I restore your fortunes
before your eyes, says the LORD.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Gospel Reading

Please stand. We repeat the chant as the gospel book is carried forwards:

Within our darkest night you kindle a fire that never dies away.

The gospel is announced

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel reading: Luke 3. 7-18

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.'

And the crowds asked him, 'What then should we do?' In reply he said to them, 'Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.' Even tax-collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, 'Teacher, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.' Soldiers also asked him, 'And we, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.'

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ

Sermon

Revd Emily Hockliffe Essex

The Nicene Creed

Please stand

Let us declare our faith in our coming Lord

**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

Please sit or kneel.

These responses may be used

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

We pray for those who are sick or in particular need:

Grace, Josie, Kitty Datta, Atmadeep Novo Datta, Bob Southgate, Benjie, Caroline Winwood, Enid Owens, Pam, Madeline Tarrant, Veronika, Kenneth Sanders, Janet, Mollie Wilson, Maureen, Helen Day, Hunter Merritt.

Those who have died recently:

Joan Miles, Benedict Alexis, Arthur Miller, Robert Twycross.

Those whose anniversary of death falls at this time:

Tim Brighouse, John Whitwick, Lillian Collier, Susie Webster, Frances Arnold, Elizabeth Rivington, Phyl Harvey, Jane Smith.

And at the end

Merciful Father,

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

The Peace

Please stand

In the tender compassion of our God,
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
to shine on 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
and also with you.

A minister says

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Hymn 489

From heaven you came, helpless babe,
entered our world, your glory veiled;
not to be served, but to serve,
and give your life that we might live.

*This is our God, the Servant King,
he calls us now to follow him
to bring our lives as a daily offering
of worship to the Servant King.*

There in the garden of tears,
my heavy load he chose to bear;
his heart with sorrow was torn,
'Yet not my will but yours,' he said.

Come, see his hands and his feet,
the scars that speak of sacrifice,
hands that flung stars into space
to cruel nails surrendered.

So let us learn how to serve,
and in our lives enthrone him;
each other's needs to prefer,
for it is Christ we're serving.

Graham Kendrick (b. 1950)

Taking of the Bread and Wine

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

Please sit or stand as you are most comfortable

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 long ago
and opened 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:

Sanctus and Benedictus

Moderato

The musical score is written on a single staff in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. It begins with a *Moderato* tempo marking. The first line of music is marked *mp* and contains the lyrics "Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord, God of". The second line is marked *mf* and contains "power and might. Heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in the". The third line is marked *mf* and contains "high - est. Bles-sed is he, O bles-sed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.". The fourth line is marked *ff* and contains "Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est." The score ends with a double bar line.

10 Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord, God of

19 power and might. Heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in the

high - est. Bles-sed is he, O bles-sed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

28 Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

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. *(Bells are rung)*

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. *(Bells are rung)*

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.

Deacon: Christ is the bread of life:

Acclamation

Moderato *mp*

When we eat this bread and drink this cup we pro-claim your

10 *mf* *ff*

death, Lord Je - sus, un - til you come in glo - ry, un - til you come in glo - ry.

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 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

Please sit or kneel

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.**

Agnus Dei

Slowly

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the_ world, have
 mer- cy_ on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the_ world, have mer - cy_ on
 us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world, grant_ us peace.

Invitation to Communion

God's holy gifts
 for God's holy people.
Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

This is God's table and all are welcome. Please follow the directions of the stewards. We will form two lines to receive communion – the bread is distributed from the chancel step, and the wine is distributed from the lady chapel step. Please return to your pew via the north aisle. Stewards will be on hand to direct you!

If you are wearing a mask, it is most practical if you remove it before receiving communion. Please do not dip your wafer into the chalice. Please note that there is no obligation to take the chalice and it is fine still to receive communion in one kind only (the bread).

If you do not wish to receive communion and would prefer a blessing instead, please do come forwards as well.

Hymn 434ii

Christ bids us break the bread
 and share the cup he gave,
 in token of the blood he shed
 for those he died to save.

It was for us he came,
 to bear, by human birth,
 a crown of thorn, a cross of shame,
 for every child of earth.

The Saviour crucified
in glory rose again:
we here remember him who died,
ascended now to reign.

Our hearts his word obey,
in thankfulness and love:
we feed on Christ by faith today
and feast with him above.

O Christ, once lifted up
that we might be forgiven,
we take the bread and drink the cup
and share the life of heaven.

Timothy Dudley-Smith (1926-2024)

Prayer after Communion

We give you thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts;
kindle in us the fire of your Spirit
that when your Christ comes again
we may shine as lights before his face;
who is alive and reigns now and for ever.
Amen.

**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.**

The Sending Out

Hymn 37

Hark what a sound, and too divine for hearing,
stirs on the earth and trembles in the air!
Is it the thunder of the Lord's appearing?
Is it the music of his people's prayer?

Surely he cometh, and a thousand voices
shout to the saints, and to the deaf are dumb;
surely he cometh, and the earth rejoices,
glad in his coming who hath sworn: I come!

This hath he done, and shall we not adore him?
This shall he do, and can we still despair?
Come, let us quickly fling ourselves before him,
cast at his feet he burden of our care.

Through life and death, through sorrow and through sinning,
he shall suffice me, for hath sufficed:
Christ is the end, for Christ was the beginning,
Christ is the beginning, for the end is Christ.

Frederic William Henry Myers (1843-1901)

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 among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

The Dismissal

A minister says

As we await our coming Saviour,
go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

Organ Voluntary: Carillon – Louis Vierne (1870 – 1937)

Please do join us for refreshments at the back of church or in the warmer meeting room after the Service. Please take this booklet away with you, and recycle it when you have finished with it. We no longer pass the collection plate around during the service, but you are welcome to use the collection plate at the back of church, or the contactless machine, if you would like to make a donation to support the work of our church. If you would like to sign up to regular monthly giving, please visit www.hthq.uk/giving-to-the-church for more information.

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Notices: 15th December

Sunday December 15th : The Third Sunday of Advent

8am Holy Communion

President: Revd Emily Hockliffe Essex

10am Parish Eucharist with Forest Sunday School

President: Revd Prof Rob Gilbert

Preacher: Revd Emily Hockliffe Essex

Organist: Andrew Patterson

Midweek Services

Morning Prayer: 9am Tuesday and Thursday in the Lady Chapel

Midweek Communion: Wednesdays at 10am

Sunday December 22nd : The Fourth Sunday of Advent with Nativity and Carol Services

8am Holy Communion

10am All-Age Nativity Service – ***please dress up in any festive way you like including Christmas jumpers, and come join in with the Nativity story – anyone donning a costume is encouraged to arrive early.***

6pm Christmas Carol Service (also live-streamed on YouTube)

If anyone can donate Mince pies for refreshments after the service please see Linda or Margaret.

Please note: Morning Prayer will break over Christmas after Thursday 19 December, resuming on Tuesday 7 January.

Christmas at Holy Trinity 2024:

Carol Singing Pilgrimages

Wednesday 18 December & Friday 20 December beginning at 4.30pm

All-age Nativity Service

Sunday 22 December at 10am

Christmas Carol Service

Sunday 22 December at 6pm

Christingle Services

Christmas Eve at 2.30pm & 4pm

Midnight Mass

Christmas Eve at 11.30pm

Christmas Day

8am Said Communion

10am Family Eucharist

Join us for some festive gingerbread cookie decorating Today at 3 - 5pm at the coach house.

All our welcome. Any small donation towards costs is welcome.

frances.farrar23@gmail.com

Carol Singing on 18th and/or 20th December. All are welcome, but we would particularly appreciate some strong singers to lead us. All are very well known carols and we'll be stopping off at the houses of those who may not be able to get out to services with us this Christmas.

We will set off at **4.30pm** and finish with mulled wine/hot chocolate at 6pm. On Wednesday **18 Dec** we'll be leaving from URC Collinwood Road and journeying through Risinghurst; on **Friday 20 Dec** we'll be leaving from Holy Trinity Church and looping through Wood Farm.

Please let Helen know if you're able to join for either or both of these evenings. And do spread the word to anyone you think might like to come – all ages welcome. office@hthq.uk

A prayer for the vacancy:

God of vision and hope,
we thank you for all who have ministered here
throughout the history of this church.
In this time of vacancy,
may we continue to grow in love,
share in responsibility,
and seek your vision for our future,
in the name of Jesus Christ, our shepherd and our guide.
Amen.

Tots provision: Community Café From the new year, we will be offering a Community Café space from 9.30am-11.30am on Tuesday mornings, making use of the new facilities in church. All are welcome, and most especially families with young children, as the meeting room will be set up for tots to play. **If you would like to volunteer**, we would be very grateful to hear from you regarding Tuesday mornings or the possibility of an afternoon slot around school pick-up time. Contact Emily for more info.

Save the date The Bishop of Oxford formally license Laura to her new post at Balliol College Chapel on Sunday **January 19th at 5.30pm**. All are welcome to attend the service of Choral Evensong. We ask for God's blessing upon Laura and we pray for her ministry in her new calling.

The Lion, Witch and the Wardrobe is coming to Aylesbury waterside theatre in 2025 I have the last few seats available for Saturday 11 October 2025 at 2pm seats are £28 each please let me know if you are interested by 22nd December as the booking needs confirming and paying for early January frances.farrar23@gmail.com

HTHQ 175 Talking History the HTHQ175 committee have put together a programme of talks celebrating Holy Trinity's 175th Anniversary year:
Wednesday 8 January C.S. Lewis's Oxford Prof Simon Horobin
Further dates to be announced.
The evening begins with refreshments at 6.45pm, the talk beginning at 7pm, and discussions close at 7.45pm. All are welcome in church.

This week's Eco Tips: Relieve the pressure of the festive season by batch-cooking in advance, saving energy, time, and fuel; maximizing astute use of the freezer - thereby avoiding last-minute preparations, or panic when supplies in shops have run out. *Hilary Rollin, Eco Group*

Eco Resources Autumn/Winter 2024

If you are looking for information on ECO matters, you might like to follow the link below for ideas on book titles, links to Zoom sessions (live and recorded), talks etc. Hilary Rollin, Eco Church Group
Go to: <https://www.hthq.uk/eco-church-resources/>

Pastoral care team Are you in need of support or would you like to talk to someone? We rely on you to let us know of anyone who is ill, or in hospital or who might welcome a visit. Please contact any of the clergy (numbers on back page) or Helen Day, Janet Masters, or Anne Tarassenko.

Holy Trinity Headington Quarry
*An open door between heaven and earth,
showing God's love to all.*

As the Anglican parish in Headington Quarry, Risinghurst and Wood Farm, we are here for every local resident. Our church is open every day. We hope that you will find God's peace as you come to pray or just sit and rest awhile. If you have questions about the Christian faith or would like to find out more about church life, please get in touch:

Contact us

Vicar: Vacancy

Associate Priest: Revd Prof Rob Gilbert
associatepriest@hthq.uk

Curate: Revd Emily Hockliffe Essex
curate@hthq.uk 07979 931889

Parish Office: office@hthq.uk 01865 762931

Churchwardens: wardens@hthq.uk

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