



THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS  
UPON ME, BECAUSE HE HAS  
ANOINTED ME TO BRING

GOOD NEWS  
TO THE  
POOR...

RELEASE  
TO THE

CAPTIVES...  
RECOVERY  
OF SIGHT  
TO THE BLIND

Welcome to the  
Parish Church of St Mark  
*Serving Broomhill & Broomhall*  
Living Thinking Loving Faith

## *Advent 4*

Sunday 21 December 2025  
at 10.00 am

# Gathering

Introit: **A Great and Mighty Wonder** by St Germanus (634-734),  
trans JM Neale, (1818 - 1866) Music: harmonized by Praetorius (1571 - 1621)

*A great and mighty wonder, a full and holy cure! The Virgin bears the  
infant with virgin honour pure: Repeat the hymn again! To God on high  
be glory, and peace on earth shall reign.*

*The Word becomes incarnate, and yet remains on high; and cherubim  
sing anthems to shepherds from the sky: Repeat the hymn again! To  
God on high be glory, and peace on earth shall reign.*

*While thus they sing your monarch, those bright angelic bands, rejoice,  
ye vales and mountains, ye oceans clap your hands: Repeat the hymn  
again! To God on high be glory, and peace on earth shall reign.*

*Since all he comes to ransom by all be he adored, the infant born in  
Bethl'em, the Saviour and the Lord: Repeat the hymn again! To God on  
high be glory, and peace on earth shall reign.*

# Welcome

The President is Revd Shan Rush

The Deacon is Revd Dr Michael Bayley

The Preacher is Revd Dr Michael Bayley

## Welcome

Please do not take photos or videos during the service.

# Advent Carol

Bang the drum and sing the chorus.

Fa la la la la la...

Advent joy is now before us.

Fa la la...

For our God by incarnation,

Fa la la...

comes to birth for every nation.

Fa la la...

Shout hurrah for Joe the builder:  
Fa la la la la la la...  
though the dreams from God bewilder,  
Fa la la...  
he with love beyond all telling  
Fa la la...  
took the virgin to his dwelling.  
Fa la la...

Now our Advent Candle's burning,  
Fa la la...  
and our hearts so full of yearning  
Fa la la...  
long to see the light of glory  
Fa la la...  
shine on us from Jesus' story.  
Fa la la...

*Nick Jowett*  
*Tune: Deck the Hall*

# Prayers of Approach

May God be with you:  
**and also with you.**

People of God: awake!

The day is coming when we shall see God face to face.

God calls us out of darkness to walk in the light of eternity.

We are God's children.

**Make us one in the hope of Christ  
today and for ever.**

**Amen.**



# Prayers of Penitence

As we look for signs of the coming of Christ,  
we acknowledge our part in the sin of the world.

*Time of silence.*

*We sing the Bridget setting of the Kyrie by John Bell*

(b.1949)

# We sing

The musical score is written for a Cantor and a Congregation in 4/4 time, using a single treble clef staff with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are in Latin: "Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Chris - te e - lei - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i son." The Cantor's part is marked with a melisma line (a line with a wavy line) over the final notes of each phrase. The Congregation's part is marked with a straight line over the final notes of each phrase.

*Cantor* *Congregation*

*Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.*

*Cantor* *Congregation*

*Chris - te e - lei - son. Chris - te e - lei - son.*

*Cantor* *Congregation*

*Ky - ri - e e - le - i Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.*

When we fail to see you  
in the needs of our neighbours:  
**forgive us, O God.**

When we are complicit  
in the exploitation of the earth's resources:  
**have mercy, O God.**

When we despair and lose hope  
that we can help bring about change in your world:  
**forgive us, O God.**

When we fail to act with justice  
and when what we do impacts adversely on others:  
**have mercy, O God.**

When we think we have done enough  
**forgive us, O God.**

# We sing

The musical score is written for a Cantor and a Congregation in 4/4 time. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are in Latin: 'Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Chris - te e - lei - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i son.'

**Cantor**      **Congregation**

*Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.*      *Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.*

**Cantor**      **Congregation**

*Chris - te e - lei - son.*      *Chris - te e - lei - son.*

**Cantor**      **Congregation**

*Ky - ri - e e - le - i*      *Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.*

God who took our human nature  
forgive you for all you have said,  
done and failed to do,  
and fit you for eternal life now and forever.  
**Amen.**

# The Collect

Ever present God,  
At this dark time of year,  
we long for the light of your presence.  
For courage, we pray.  
For the fulfilment of your promises, we wait.  
For change and justice, we act.  
Strengthen our hearts, that we may be steadfast in faith,  
constant in love, and active in hope. **Amen.**

# Attending

First Reading: Isaiah 7. 10-16

Page 646 Old Testament, NRSVA

*Read By Alice Newitt*

*At the end the reader says:*

How do these words speak to us today?

*After the reading we share a time of quiet*



# Gradual Hymn

Long ago, prophets knew  
Christ would come, born a Jew,  
come to make all things new,  
bear his people's burden,  
freely love and pardon.

Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring!  
Sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!  
Jesus comes! Jesus comes!  
We will make him welcome!

God in time, God in man,  
this is God's timeless plan:  
he will come, as a man,  
born himself of woman,  
God divinely human.

Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring!  
Sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!  
Jesus comes! Jesus comes!  
We will make him welcome!

Mary, hail! Though afraid,  
she believed, she obeyed.  
In her womb, God is laid:  
till the time expected,  
nurtured and protected.

Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring!  
Sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!  
Jesus comes! Jesus comes!  
We will make him welcome!

Journey ends! Where afar  
Bethl'em shines, like a star,  
stable door stands ajar.  
Unborn Son of Mary,  
Saviour, do not tarry!

Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring!  
Sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!  
Jesus comes! Jesus comes!  
We will make him welcome!

*Text: Fred Pratt Green (1903 - 2000)*

*Music: Medieval melody arr. Gustav Holst (1874 - 1934)*

*Tune: Personent Hodie*

# Gospel Matthew 1. 18 - end

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to Matthew  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At the end:*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

# Sermon

Preacher: Revd Dr Michael Bayley

*Time to reflect.*

# Affirmation of Faith

**We believe that God is present  
in the darkness before dawn;  
where fear and courage join hands,  
and the sun rises over barbed wire.  
We believe in a God  
who sits down in our midst,  
sharing our humanity.**

**We affirm a faith that takes us beyond  
the safe place, into action, into vulnerability  
and into the streets.**

**We commit ourselves to work for change  
to stand with those on the edge;  
to choose life and be used by the Spirit  
for God's new community of hope.**

**Maranatha, come Lord Jesus.**

*Inspired by an affirmation from the Iona Community*



# Prayers of the People

## Led by David Ryder

May we hear your call to engage with the world,  
**May we become the change we want to see.**

*At the end*  
**Amen**

# Greeting of Peace

In the tender mercy of our God,  
the dawn from on high will break upon us,  
to give light to those who sit in darkness  
and the shadow of death,  
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.  
We meet in Christ's name and share his peace.

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

*We share a sign of Christ's peace.*

# Offertory Hymn

Hail to the Lord's Anointed,  
Great David's greater Son!  
Hail, in the time appointed,  
His reign on earth begun!  
He comes to break oppression,  
To set the captive free,  
To take away transgression,  
And rule in equity.

He comes with succour speedy  
To those who suffer wrong;  
To help the poor and needy,  
And bid the weak be strong;  
To give them songs for sighing,  
Their darkness turn to light,  
Whose souls, condemned and dying,  
Were precious in his sight.

He shall come down like showers  
Upon the fruitful earth;  
And love, joy, hope, like flowers,  
Spring in his path to birth;  
Before him, on the mountains,  
Shall peace the herald go;  
And righteousness, in fountains,  
From hill to valley flow.

Kings shall fall down before him,  
And gold and incense bring;  
All nations shall adore him,  
His praise all people sing;  
To him shall prayer unceasing  
And daily vows ascend;  
His kingdom still increasing,  
A kingdom without end.

O'er every foe victorious,  
He on his throne shall rest;  
From age to age more glorious,  
All-blessing and all-blest.  
The tide of time shall never  
His covenant remove;  
His name shall stand for ever,  
that name to us is Love.

*Text: James Montgomery (1771 - 1854),*

*Music: Melody by Johann Crüger, harmonised by William Henry Monk (1823 -1889)*

*Tune: Crüger*

# Abiding

## Preparation

Blessed are you, O God;  
through your goodness we have this bread and wine to offer,  
which earth has given and human hands have made.  
May they be for us the foretaste of your kingdom.

**Blessed be God for ever.**



# The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Let us pray

May God be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to God.**

Let us give thanks to our gracious God.

**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

God of our longing,  
God of our hoping,  
it is good and right to praise you.



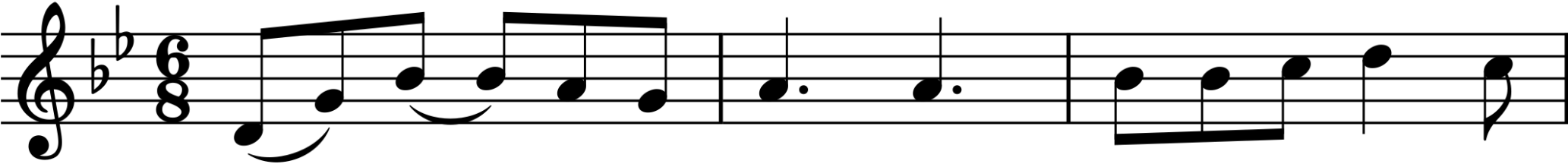
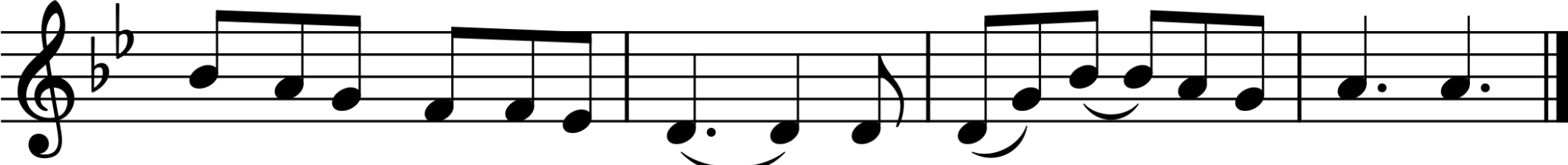
From the time of our forebears  
you have journeyed with those who seek you  
in openness and trust.

You inspired prophets to pursue justice,  
to challenge the mighty  
and liberate the oppressed.

Through John the baptiser  
you taught us to lament our wrongdoings  
and return to the way of forgiveness.

In Mary, the mother of faith,  
you draw us into your passion  
and reveal your peace.

With them, and with all who wait on you in hope,  
it is good and right to praise you, and so we sing:

<i>Organ</i>	Congregation
	
	Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of truth and love.
	
	Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry, Ho -
	
	-san - nah in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
	
	comes in the name of the Lord, Ho - san-nah in the high - est.

Above all, we give you thanks  
for revealing your salvation in Jesus Christ.  
In him, we see the person you long for us to be,  
through him, we feed on your wisdom and truth,  
with him, we embrace your kingdom causes.

And now, in obedience to his command,  
it is our duty and our joy,  
to remember the night he gave himself up  
and was handed over to death.

In the company of his friends,  
Jesus took bread,  
blessed it in God's holy name,  
broke it and gave it to them, saying,  
This is my body, which is given for you.  
Do this to remember me.

Later, he took a cup of wine,  
gave thanks, and offered it to them, saying,  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
Do this to remember me.

God of our longing,  
God of our hoping,  
breathe your life-giving Spirit  
into this bread and wine  
that all who partake of this communion  
may feed on Christ and taste his sacred hunger  
for a world renewed by your promises  
and fulfilled through your love.  
**Amen.**

*Ian Wallis*

# Lord's Prayer & Communion

**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.**



*The bread is broken*

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

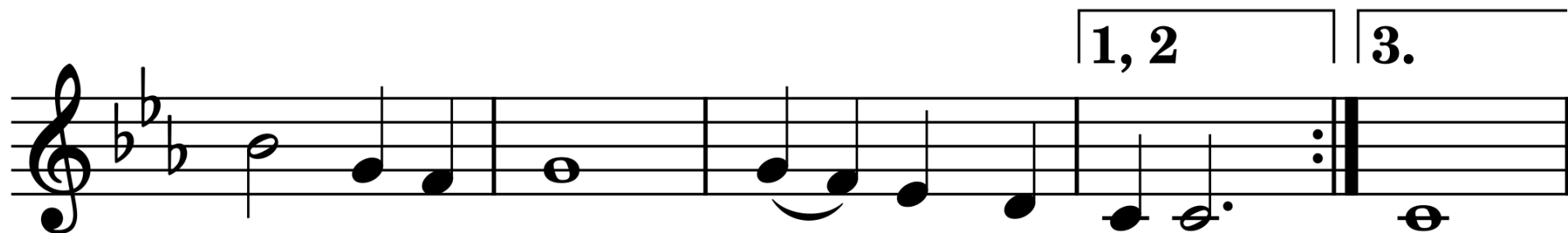
**Though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.**

*Cantor*
Congregation

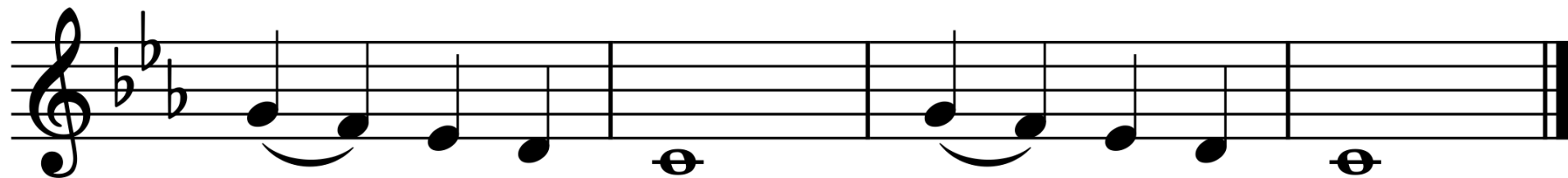


*Lamb of God you*

Lamb of God you take a-way the  
 Lamb of God you take a-way the  
 Lamb of God you take a-way the



sins of the world, have mer-cy on us  
 sins of the world, have mer-cy on us  
 sins of the world, grant us your peace.



Grant us your peace.

Grant us your peace

*Words of invitation follow*

Come, all who are weary and heavy-laden;  
come, all who are dancing with joy;  
come to the table  
where sorrow and celebration belong together.

Wait for the Lord whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord: keep watch, take heart.

*Text and music: Jacques Berthier (1923<sub>48</sub> - 94)*

# The Choir sing **Remember Bethlehem**

Jake Thackray (1938 - 2002), arr. Andrew Sanderson

*It was ever so cold. She was far away from home. She was not very old. She was only a poor little country girl. So long ago. It seems so far away; so far away. But even so I know your nightingales remember her still. Your pussy-willow and your daffodil, Even your stony old hills Remember Bethlehem. She was awfully weak For the journey'd been hard. She had nowhere to sleep; She lay down in a small dark farmyard. So long ago. It seems so far away; so far away. But even so I know your lowly hedgehog knows what it means. Fish that twitch in your greeny streams, Even your shaggy old trees Remember Bethlehem. When she looked at the child The very first time I suppose that she smiled, And it's my guess that Mary cried a little. So long ago. It seems so far away, so far away. But even so I've got the flesh and the blood to remember them by: Him in my mind, and her in my eye; Every reason why I Remember Bethlehem.*

# Prayer of Commitment

**Grant us grace, O God,  
to see through your eyes of compassion,  
to speak your words of justice and peace,  
to embody your forgiveness  
that what we hope for,  
long for, strive for,  
may come a little closer,  
bringing healing in its wings;  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord.  
Amen.**

# Announcements

*To support the ministry of this church please use the card reader at the back of church or visit the website for more options.*

*Thank you.*

# Blessing

May the God who brings heaven close to earth  
give truth to our judgement  
and flame to our longing  
that our hearts might be ready  
to be born again in love;  
And the blessing of God,  
creator, saviour, spirit of peace  
rest upon you, and all whom you love,  
both living and departed, now and always.

**Amen.**

*Steven Shakespeare<sup>52</sup>*



# Final Hymn

Hills of the north, rejoice, echoing songs arise,  
hail with united voice him who made earth and skies:  
he comes in righteousness and love,  
he brings salvation from above.

Isles of the southern seas sing to the list'ning earth,  
carry on ev'ry breeze hope of a world's new birth:  
in Christ shall all be made anew,  
his word is sure, his promise true.

Lands of the east, arise, he is your brightest morn,  
greet him with joyous eyes, praise shall his path adorn:  
the God whom you have longed to know  
in Christ draws near, and calls you now.

Shores of the utmost west, lands of the setting sun,  
welcome the heav'nly guest in whom the dawn has come:  
he brings a never-ending light  
who triumphed o'er our darkest night.

Shout, as you journey on, songs be in ev'ry mouth,  
lo, from the north they come, from east and west and south:  
in Jesus all shall find their rest,  
in him the longing earth be blest.

*Text: Charles Edward Oakley (1832 - 1865) adapted*

*Music: Martin Shaw (1875 - 1958)*

*Tune: Little Cornard*

# Commission

God of our longing,  
God of our hoping:  
**Eagerly we seek you.**

Go in peace to prepare God's way:  
**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

# Voluntary

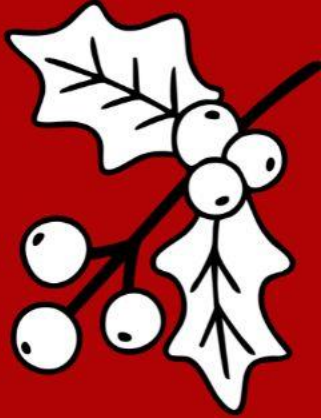
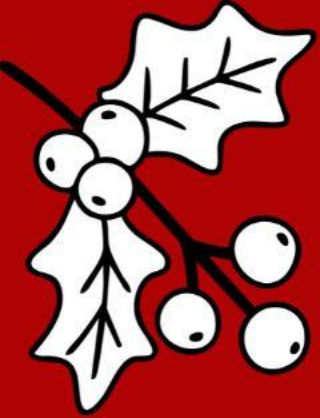
## **Veni Creator Spiritus**

Cecilia McDowell (b. 1951)

## Friendship Time

*Refreshments are served at the end of the service,  
please stay if you can.*

*For those on Zoom, we hold a breakout group after the voluntary  
to which you are welcome.*



# Carol Service Tonight at 6pm

Carols and readings  
with St Marks choir and the Steel City Choristers







## **Christmas Eve 4.30pm**

Nativity Service with hot chocolate from 4pm.

## **Christmas Eve 11.30pm**

Candlelit service of carols, reflection, prayer, and Communion.

## **Christmas Day**

- \* 8am BCP Communion
- \* 10am Festive All Age Communion Service.
  - \* also online via Zoom.



# Taize Service

7pm Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> December

Bring and share food beforehand





# **Epiphany Pizza Party**

Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> January,  
after the morning service.  
Bring a pizza with you  
to be cooked at church,  
by the team of volunteers.

