

# St. Mary's Hadlow Holy Communion Advent Sunday

## Welcome and Notices

### Opening Hymn

In the name of the + Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

*All* **Amen.**

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

*All* **and also with you.**

### Lighting the Advent Candles

We light this candle for ourselves and all God's people,  
struggling to be bearers of hope in a troubled world.

*All* **God as we wait for your promise  
Give light, give hope.**



*The Children may be blessed and sent to their clubs.*

### Prayer of Preparation

*All* **Almighty God,  
to whom all hearts are open,  
all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hidden:  
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love you,  
and worthily magnify your holy name;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## Prayers of Penitence

### Invitation to 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.

*All* **Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
we have sinned against you  
and against our neighbour  
in thought and word and deed,  
through negligence,  
through weakness,  
through our own deliberate fault.  
We are truly sorry  
and repent of all our sins.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
who died for us,  
forgive us all that is past  
and grant that we may serve you  
in newness of life  
to the glory of your name.  
Amen.**

Almighty God,  
who forgives all who truly repent,  
have mercy upon you,  
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,  
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,  
and keep you in life eternal;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All* **Amen.**

## The Collect

*The president introduces a period of silent prayer with the words  
"Let us pray".*

Almighty God,  
give us grace to cast away the works of darkness  
and to put on the armour of light,  
now in the time of this mortal life,  
in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility;  
that on the last day, when he shall come again in his  
glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead,  
we may rise to the life immortal;  
through him who is alive and reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever.

*All* **Amen.**

*We sit for the first reading*

## The First Reading

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

This is the word of the Lord.

*All* **Thanks be to God.**

## The Gradual Hymn

## The Gospel Reading

Alleluia, alleluia.

Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,  
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.

All **Alleluia**

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

All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Luke 21:25-36

“There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

Then he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

“Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All **Praise to you, O Christ.**

The Sermon

*Please sit*

## The Nicene Creed

*All* 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 of 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 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

*The response to Lord in your Mercy is*

**All Hear our Prayer.**

*And at the end:*

Merciful Father,

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

## The Liturgy of the Sacrament

### The Peace

God will speak peace to his people,  
to those who turn to him in their hearts.

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

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*All may exchange a sign of peace.*



## Preparation of the Table Taking of the Bread and Wine

### The Offertory Hymn

*We sing a hymn during which the gifts of the people are gathered and presented. The table is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it.*

## The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you.

*All* **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

*All* **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*All* **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 the 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:

*All* **Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
Heaven and Earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
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.

*All* **Christ has died;  
Christ is risen;  
Christ will come again.**

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 John the Baptist, St Mary 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,

*All* **Amen.**



## The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray.

*All* **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 forever. Amen.**

## Breaking of the Bread

*The president breaks the consecrated bread.*

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

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



## Agnus Dei

*All* **Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world,  
grant us peace.**

## Giving of Communion

*All* **We do not presume  
to come to this your table, merciful Lord,  
trusting in our own righteousness,  
but in your manifold and great mercies.  
We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs  
under your table.  
But you are the same Lord  
whose nature is always to have mercy.  
Grant us therefore, gracious Lord,  
so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ  
and to drink his blood,  
that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body  
and our souls washed through his most precious blood,  
and that we may evermore dwell in him and he in us.  
Amen.**

### **Spiritual Communion for those not receiving today**

*All* **Send your Holy Spirit upon us that,  
though separated by distance,  
we may still, through faith,  
be partakers in the benefits of Christ's offering  
of his body and his blood.  
This we ask, through the same Jesus Christ our Saviour.  
Amen.**

Draw near with faith.  
Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
which he gave for you,  
and his blood which he shed for you.  
Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you,  
and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

*The president and the people receive communion.*

*During the distribution hymns and anthems may be sung.*

*Any consecrated bread or wine, which is not required, is consumed at the end of the distribution or after the service.*

## 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.

*All* **Generous God, you have fed us either physically or spiritually at your heavenly table. Kindle us with the fire of your Holy Spirit that, at the coming of Christ we may shine like lights before his face; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit in glory for ever. Amen.**

*Please Stand*

**The Closing Hymn.**

## The Dismissal

### The Blessing

May Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon us,  
scatter the darkness from before our path,  
and make us 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.

*All* **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*All* **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

