www.holytrinitystirling.org

# Holy Trinity Church

Albert Place, Stirling, FK8 2RG

Scottish Charity: SC016471

**Open**
**inclusive**
**inspiring**
**friendly**
**deep**

Rector: The Revd Canon Christoph Wutscher · Tel: 01786 359821 · rector@holytrinitystirling.org

## Sunday 2nd December 2023 — 10.30 a.m. Sung Eucharist
## ADVENT 1

**Celebrant:** The Rector
**Readings:** Bill Wheeler
**Sidespeople:** Helen Kemp & Carol Kendall

*Offerings at Holy Trinity – No Collection is taken during services. If you wish to make an Offering, please use one of the baskets at the back of the Church before or after the service. Gift Aid donation envelopes and a Card Reader for debit or credit cards are also both available. Contributions go towards the Ministry and running costs or to any special collections announced. All are gratefully received. Registered Scottish Charity SC016471.*

## PREPARATION

### Organ Prelude

### Opening Hymn

1 Eternal, living Word of God,
the light that fills the universe,
the Saviour of the world, who came
in answer to creation's cry.

2 The Son of God, so humbly born,
a servant bearing all our sin,
fulfilling all the Father's will
in human form, Redeemer, King.

3 The tree of Jesse springs anew:
make straight the way, O Lamb of God,
that we in joy may live on earth,
aflame with your incarnate love.

4 By your blest Spirit's power and grace,
illuminate the Church, your bride,
that ever hopeful she may greet
the day when you will come again.

5 Then shall the whole created world
the triumph of salvation know;
made one in Christ, let all give praise
to God, unceasing Trinity.

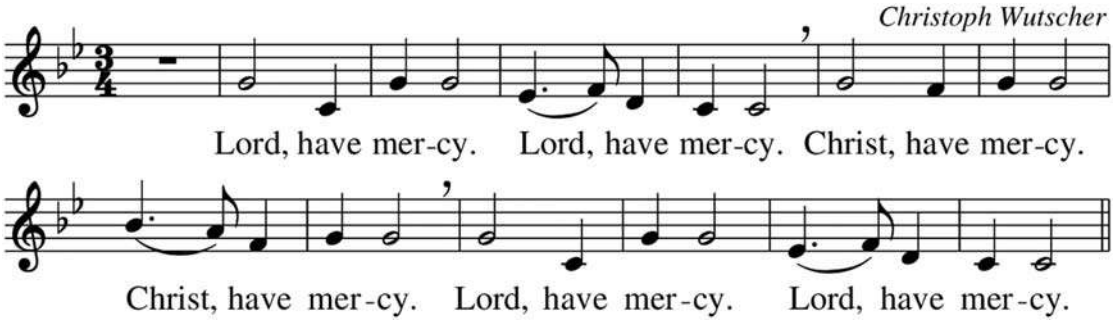
From: Verbum supernum prodiens a Patre (10th century)
© Panel of Monastic Musicians

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

### Collect for Purity

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.

## Kyrie




## Collect

Stir up your power, Lord, and come: that, with you as our protector, we may be rescued from our sins; and with you as our deliverer, we may be set free; for you live and reign with God the Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. Amen.

# THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

## First Reading: Isaiah 64.1-9 (*please sit*)

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence— 2 as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil— to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! 3 When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. 4 From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. 5 You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. 6 We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. 7 There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. 8 Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. 9 Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD, and do not remember iniquity for ever. Now consider, we are all your people.

## Gradual Hymn

1 The Lord will come and not be slow,
his footsteps cannot err;
before him righteousness shall go,
his royal harbinger.

2 Truth from the earth, like to a flower,
shall bud and blossom then;
and justice, from her heavenly bower,
look down on mortal men.

3 Rise, God, and judge the earth in might,
this wicked earth redress;
for thou art God who shall by right
the nations all possess.

4 The nations all whom thou hast made
shall come, and all shall frame
to bow them low before thee, Lord,
and glorify thy name.

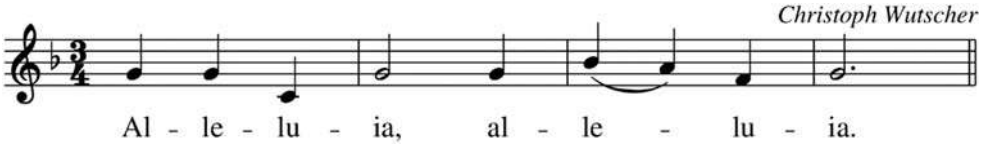
5 For great thou art, and wonders great
by thy strong hand are done:
thou in thy everlasting seat
remainest God alone.

from Psalms 82, 85. 86
John Milton (1608-1674)

## Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1.3-9

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. [4] I give thanks to my God always for
you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, [5] for in every way you have been
enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind— [6] just as the testimony of Christ has been
strengthened among you— [7] so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of
our Lord Jesus Christ. [8] He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our
Lord Jesus Christ. [9] God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

## Gospel Acclamation (*please stand*)




## Gospel: Mark 13.24-37 (*please stand*) *When it is announced:* Glory to Christ our Saviour.

Jesus said: 'But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its
light, [25] and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. [26] Then they
will see "the Son of Man coming in clouds" with great power and glory. [27] Then he will send out the angels,
and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. [28] 'From the fig
tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer
is near. [29] So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. [30] Truly
I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. [31] Heaven and earth will
pass away, but my words will not pass away. [32] 'But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels
in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. [33] Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will
come. [34] It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his
work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. [35] Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know
when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, [36] or else
he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. [37] And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.'

Give thanks to the Lord for this glorious Gospel. Praise to Christ our Lord.

## Sermon: Camayo Hyde

## Nicene Creed (*please stand*)

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 substance with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and was made human.
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.
With the Father and the Son, he is worshipped and glorified.
He 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.

Intercessions led by Andrew Pont (*please sit or kneel*)

## Confession and Absolution

God is love and we are God's children, there is no room for fear in love.
We love because God loved us first. Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith.

*Silence*

God our Father, we confess to you
and to our fellow members in the Body of Christ
that we have sinned in thought, word and deed,
and in what we have failed to do. We are truly sorry.
Forgive us our sins, and deliver us from the power of evil.
For the sake of your Son who died for us, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

God, who is both power and love, forgive us and free us from our sins,
heal and strengthen us by the Holy Spirit and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Peace (*please stand*) We meet in Christ's name. Let us share his peace.

## THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

### Offertory Hymn (*please stand*)

1 Into the darkness of this world,
into the shadows of the night,
into this loveless place you came,
lightened our burden, eased our pain,
and made these hearts your home.
Into the darkness once again,
O come, Lord Jesus, come.

*Come with your love to make us whole.*
*Come with your light to lead us on,*
*driving the darkness far from our souls:*
*O come, Lord Jesus, come.*

2 Into the longing of our souls,
into these heavy hearts of stone,
shine on us now your piercing light,
order our lives and souls aright,
by grace and love unknown,
until in you our hearts unite –
O come, Lord Jesus, come.

*Come with your love to make us whole…*

3 O Holy Child, Emmanuel,
Hope of the ages, God with us,
visit again this broken place,
till all the earth declare your praise
and your great mercies own.
Now let your love be born in us –
O come, Lord Jesus, come.

*Come in your glory, take your place,*
*Jesus the Name above all names,*
*We long to see you face to face:*
*O come, Lord Jesus, come.*

Maggi Dawn
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## Offertory Prayer (*please stand*)

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 this earth into your kingdom. Amen.

## The Eucharistic Prayer

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 our thanks and praise.

Worship and praise belong to you, God our maker. Out of nothing, you called all worlds to be, and still you draw the universe to its fulfilment. Dawn and evening celebrate your glory till time shall be no more. In Christ your Son the life of heaven and earth were joined, sealing the promise of a new creation, given, yet still to come. Taught by your Spirit, we who bear your threefold likeness look for the City of Peace in whose light we are transfigured and the earth transformed. As children of your redeeming purpose who await with eager longing the fulfilment of all things in the coming of your Son, we offer you our praise, with angels and archangels and the whole company of heaven singing the hymn of your unending glory:

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. (*please sit*)

Glory and thanksgiving be to you, most loving Father. In Jesus you showed us yourself. Our hope is built on him, the first, the last, the living one. Obedient, even to accepting death, he opened the gate of glory and calls us now to share the life of heaven. Before he was given up to suffering and death, alight with the vision of a feast that heralded a kingdom yet to come, at supper with his disciples he took bread and offered you thanks. He broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying: "Take, eat. This is my Body: it is broken for you." After supper, he took the cup, he offered you thanks, and gave it to them saying: "Drink this, all of you. This is my Blood of the new covenant; it is poured out for you, and for all, that sins may be forgiven. Do this in remembrance of me."

We now obey your Son's command.
We recall his blessed passion and death,
his glorious resurrection and ascension;
and we look for the coming of his Kingdom.
Made one with him, we offer you these gifts
and with them ourselves, a single, holy, living sacrifice.

Hear us, most merciful Father, and send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this bread and this wine, that, overshadowed by his life-giving power, they may be the Body and Blood of your Son, and we may be kindled with the fire of your love and renewed for the service of your Kingdom.

Help us, who are baptised
into the fellowship of Christ's Body
to live and work to your praise and glory;
may we grow together in unity and love
until at last, in your new creation,
we enter into our heritage
in the company of the Virgin Mary,
the apostles, and prophets,
and of all our brothers and sisters living and departed.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be to you, Lord of all ages, world without end. Amen.

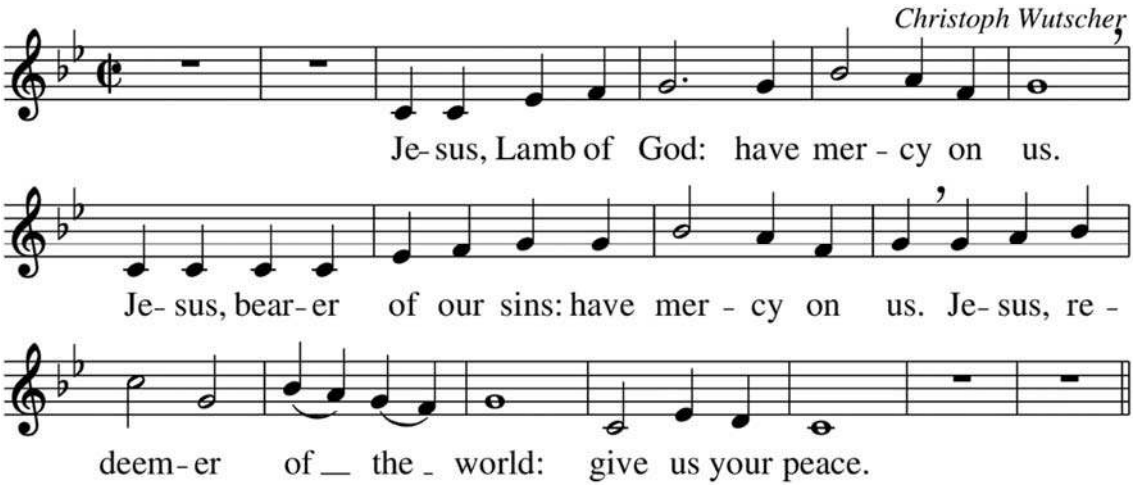
## The Breaking of the Bread

The living bread is broken for the life of the world. Lord, unite us in this sign.

## The Lord's Prayer

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.
Do not bring us to the time of trial but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.

## Agnus Dei




**Communion** *is administered in both kinds at the bottom of the chancel steps. Hand sanitiser is provided. It is perfectly acceptable to only receive the bread, should you so wish. Please do not intinct (dip the bread into the wine) as this is not considered to be a hygienic practice. The communicant may respond with* **Amen** *when receiving the bread and wine.*

## Communion Chant

Jacques Bertier
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# THANKSGIVING AND SENDING OUT

## Post Communion Prayer

Loving God, your steadfast purpose is the completion of all things in your Son. May we who have received the pledges of the kingdom, live by faith, walk in hope and be renewed in love, until the world reflects your glory and you are all in all; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## Final Hymn (*please stand*)

1 Lo, he comes with clouds descending,
once for favoured sinners slain;
thousand thousand saints attending
swell the triumph of his train:
Alleluia!
God appears on earth to reign.

2 Every eye shall now behold him
robed in dreadful majesty;
those who set at naught and sold him,
pierced and nailed him to the tree,
deeply wailing,
shall the true Messiah see.

3 Those dear tokens of his passion
still his dazzling body bears,
cause of endless exultation
to his ransomed worshippers:
with what rapture
gaze we on those glorious scars!

4 Yea, Amen, let all adore thee,
high on thine eternal throne;
Saviour, take the power and glory,
claim the kingdom for thine own:
Alleluia!
Thou shalt reign, and thou alone.

Charles Wesley

## The Blessing & Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

## Organ Postlude

# NOTICES

**Monday 4th December**
10 – 11.30 a.m. **HT Tots Café**

**Tuesday 5th December**
7.30 – 9.30 p.m. **Young Adults Group**
(at Joan Lyon's place this week: contact youngadultsgroup021@gmail.com for more information)

**Wednesday 6th December**
10.30 a.m. **Advent Study Group** (Session 1)

**Thursday 7th December**
11 a.m. **Holy Communion**
8 p.m. **Advent Study Group** (Session 1)

**Friday 8th December**
10.30 a.m. **Funeral Edna Ravey**
(bright colours encouraged)

| **Sunday 10th December** | **Readings** |
|---|---|
| ADVENT 2 | Isaiah 40.1-11; 2 Peter 3.8-15a; |
| 10.30 a.m. **Sung Eucharist** | Mark 1.1-8 |

**Monday 11th December**
12 noon **Funeral John Campbell**

**Advent Study Groups 2023**
This year, we will be discussing Barbara Brown Taylor's **Learning to Walk in the Dark**. We ordered 20 copies of the book, please feel free to pick up a copy at the back of the church. Donations to HT are appreciated. Two groups will meet for three weeks in December: Wednesday mornings at 10.30 a.m. (6th, 13th & 20th December) and Thursday evenings at 8 p.m. (7th, 14th & 21st December). Sign-up sheets at the back of church.

**Start Up Stirling Christmas Appeal**
In the run up to Christmas we are all particularly aware of the need to provide for those less fortunate. Start Up Stirling suggests we take part in a **Reverse Advent Calendar**, donating something each day. The more we can collect the more people we can help. Leave your donations in the church and Cate Watson will take them up to the warehouse. HT will also give **half of the cash donations for Tea & Coffee** in the church hall to **Shelter Scotland** to help combat homelessness, so consider paying for an extra cuppa! You can find out more by visiting the Start Up Stirling website: Supporting Our Community - Start Up Stirling (en-GB)