

HOLY TRINITY  
HEADINGTON QUARRY



*Fourth Sunday of Advent*

*20<sup>th</sup> December 2020*

## **The Gathering**

*Welcome and parish prayer. Please remain seated*

### **Hymn**

O come, O come, Emmanuel  
And ransom captive Israel  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appear  
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come  
to thee, O Israel*

O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free  
thine own from Satan's tyranny;  
from depths of hell thy people save,  
and give them victory o'er the grave:  
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come  
to thee, O Israel.*

O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer  
our spirits by thine advent here;  
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
and death's dark shadows put to flight:  
*Rejoice! ...*

O come, O come, thou Lord of Might,  
who to thy tribes, on Sinai's height,  
in ancient times didst give the law  
in cloud and majesty and awe:  
*Rejoice! ...*

### **The Greeting**

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

**Amen.**

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

Now is the time to wake out of sleep,  
for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed.

### **Lighting the Advent Wreath**

**God our Father,  
the angel Gabriel told the Virgin Mary  
that she was to be the mother of your Son.  
Though Mary was afraid,  
she responded to your call with joy.  
Help us to share like her in your great work  
of bringing your love and healing to our world.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ,  
the light who is coming into the world.  
Amen.**

### **Prayers of Penitence**

A voice cries out in the wilderness,  
'Make straight the way of the Lord.'  
So let us listen,  
and turn to the Lord in penitence and faith.

*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.**

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.

*Silence is kept*

God our redeemer,  
who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary  
to be the mother of your Son:  
grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour,  
so we may be ready to greet him  
when he comes again as our judge;  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

## ***The Liturgy of the Word***

### **First Reading: Romans 16.25-end**

Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith— to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory for ever! Amen.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God**

### **Gradual – Gabriel’s Message**

The angel Gabriel from heaven came,  
his wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame:  
'From God, all hail,' the angel said to Mary,  
'most highly favoured lady!'  
Gloria!

For now a blessed mother thou shalt be,  
All generations laud and honor thee,  
Thy Son shall be Emanuel, by seers foretold  
Most highly favoured lady!  
Gloria!

Of her, Emmanuel - the Christ - was born  
at Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn.  
And Christian folk throughout the world will ever say,  
'Most highly favoured lady!'  
Gloria!'

## **Gospel Reading**

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

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

### **Gospel reading: Luke 1.26-38**

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.' But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I am a

virgin?' The angel said to her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.' Then Mary said, 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.' Then the angel departed from her.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ**

**Sermon**

Revd Dr Laura Biron Scott

**The Creed**

*Please stand*

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,  
source of all being and life,  
the one for whom we exist?

**We believe and trust in God the Father.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,  
who took our human nature,  
died for us and rose again?

**We believe and trust in God the Son.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,  
who gives life to the people of God  
and makes Christ known in the world?

**We believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit**

This is the faith of the Church.

**This is our faith.**

**We believe and trust in one God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

**Amen.**

## Prayers of Intercession

In joyful expectation of his coming to our aid we pray to Jesus.

*Please sit. These responses may be used*

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

*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 mercy of our God,  
the dayspring from on high shall break upon us,  
to give light to 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.**

**Anthem** Ave Maria, Gounod

## 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

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 right to praise you, Father, Lord of all creation;  
in your love you made us for yourself.

When we turned away  
you did not reject us,  
but came to meet us in your Son.  
**You embraced us as your children  
and welcomed us to sit and eat with you.**

In Christ you shared our life  
that we might live in him and he in us.  
**He opened his arms of love upon the cross  
and made for all the perfect sacrifice for sin.**

On the night he was betrayed,  
at supper with his friends  
he took bread, and gave you thanks;  
he broke it and gave it to them, saying:  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.  
**Father, we do this in remembrance of him:  
his body is the bread of life.**

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine,  
he gave you thanks, and said:  
Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins;  
do this in remembrance of me.  
**Father, we do this in remembrance of him:  
his blood is shed for all.**



As we proclaim his death and celebrate his rising in glory,  
send your Holy Spirit that this bread and this wine  
may be to us the body and blood of your dear Son.

**As we eat and drink these holy gifts  
make us one in Christ, our risen Lord.**

With your whole Church throughout the world  
we offer you this sacrifice of praise  
and lift our voice to join the eternal song of heaven:

**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.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

Let us pray for the coming of God's reign of peace  
in the words our saviour has taught us.

**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.**

*We say*

**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**

God's holy gifts  
for God's holy people.

**Jesus Christ is holy,  
Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.**

*As the president receives the bread and wine, all who wish to receive communion join in saying 'Amen'.*

The body of Christ, keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**  
The blood of Christ, keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

*Communion will be administered in silence. Please remain seated while we bring communion to you. If you do not wish to receive communion, the priest will pray a blessing instead – please hold this service booklet to indicate this.*

### **Prayer after Communion**

Heavenly Father,  
who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary  
to be the mother of the promised saviour:  
fill us your servants with your grace,  
that in all things we may embrace your holy will  
and with her rejoice in your salvation;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

**Father of all,  
we give you thanks and praise,  
that when we were still far off  
you met us in your Son and brought us home.  
Dying and living, he declared your love,  
gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.  
May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;  
we who drink his cup bring life to others;  
we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.  
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,  
so we and all your children shall be free,  
and the whole earth live to praise your name;  
through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

## **Hymn**

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!  
Unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice;  
tender to me the promise of his word;  
in God my Savior shall my heart rejoice.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his Name!  
Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;  
his mercy sure, from age to age to same;  
his holy Name--the Lord, the Mighty One.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might!  
Powers and dominions lay their glory by.  
Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,  
the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.

Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word!  
Firm is his promise, and his mercy sure.  
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord  
to children's children and for evermore!

## ***The Sending Out***

## **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**

As we await our coming Saviour,  
go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

*Please take this service booklet away with you, and recycle it when you are finished with it. Please remember to sanitize your hands as you leave church.*

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## **Notices**

### **Christmas Services**

**Online carol service today Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December at 6pm.** Please see our website for the Zoom link, which you can join from 5.45pm onwards. Don't forget to have mince pies and mulled wine ready for afterwards! From 7pm, you can also watch the service via YouTube – the link will be on the website.

**Forest Church Christingles on 20<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> December at 3pm** These are now fully booked, but there are spare Christingle kits in the porch for you to take home if you weren't able to book a place. Do watch the national online Christingle service, available on Youtube.

**Blue Christmas Service—Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6pm.** *A quiet service of readings, carols and prayers, allowing space for grief and pain to sit alongside the light and hope that is at the true heart of Christmas.*

**First Eucharist of Christmas—6pm on Christmas Eve**, our usual midnight mass service moved to an earlier time.

**Christmas Day Communion at 9.30am and 10.45am** and online via our website.

**First Sunday of Christmas** and feast of St John the Evangelist: **Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> December at 9.30am only**

*Please book to attend the services via our website [hthq.uk](http://hthq.uk). Online services will continue to be broadcast via our website and Radio Cherwell.*

### **Community Carols**

Our outdoor community carol singing is set to take place tomorrow on **Monday 21st December at 5pm**. In collaboration with our sister churches, we are looking to sing at four different locations - Wood Farm shops, Quarry Hollow, the Crib at Corpus Christi Church and in Risinghurst - and to encourage anybody living nearby to listen and sing along from their front gardens. Laura has been in touch with those who have signed up - if you haven't heard anything, please contact her ASAP!

### **Advent Prayer Tree**

Our churchyard tree will be lit every day from 3pm to 10pm. We invite you to hang a decoration on the tree, to pray and remember someone you love during this Advent season.

### **Advent Retreat**

If you have space during this holy season of Advent, why not make time for a virtual retreat? Pray as you Go are offering a retreat led by Sister Gemma Simmonds, entitled 'God is with you'. New sessions are broadcast weekly on Mondays in December.

<https://pray-as-you-go.org/article/advent-retreat-2020>

### **Donate to HTHQ while you shop**

If you are carrying out any shopping via Amazon, please consider supporting Holy Trinity by clicking this link to our Smile Amazon page before you begin your shopping. Once you click the link, you can carry on with your Amazon shopping in the normal way, and our church will receive a donation at no cost to you:

<https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/1138600-0>

### **Building Project News**

The PCC have agreed to begin the first phase of our building project, which involves new church lighting, electrical rewiring, and related works. This is set to begin on Monday January 11<sup>th</sup> 2021 and take 8-10 weeks. The

proposed new lighting design from Light Perceptions Ltd can be viewed on the church website. Please get in touch with Laura, Helen or the churchwardens if you have any questions about the works. Please continue to pray for our fundraising efforts and for the building project as we move forwards on this journey of faith.

### **Amnesty International**

Although we cannot gather this year to write Amnesty greetings cards, we invite you to visit the Amnesty website to participate in the campaigns online: <https://www.amnesty.org.uk/write-for-rights>

### **Welcome to Placement Students**

We are delighted to welcome Ninus Khako and Ash David, from Ripon College Cuddesdon, as placement students this year. We look forward to getting to know them and supporting them on their journey towards ordination.

### **Holy Trinity Headington Quarry**

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

#### **Contact us**

**Vicar:** Revd Dr Laura Biron-Scott  
vicar@hthq.uk [01865 762835](tel:01865762835)

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

**Licensed Lay Minister:** Joan Walding LLM  
layminister@hthq.uk

**Parish Office:** office@hthq.uk 01865 762931

**Churchwardens:** wardens@hthq.uk

#### **Pastoral Care**

Please contact Laura or any member of the team if you or someone you know is in need of pastoral support:  
Helen Day, Anne Tarrasenko, Nell Slocock, Sue Saville,  
Margaret Taylor.

Website: [www.hthq.org.uk](http://www.hthq.org.uk)