



Welcome to St Margaret's Church Ifield
Loved as you are

Sunday 14th December 2025
ADVENT 3



Everyone is welcome at St Margaret's.

THE GATHERING

*As we gather before the service, we speak to God.
During the service, we let God speak to us.
After the service, we speak to each other.*

We stand and sing at the entrance of the clergy

Processional Hymn

**Ye watchers and ye holy ones,
bright Seraphs, Cherubim and Thrones,
raise the glad strain, Alleluia.
Cry out, Dominions, Princedoms, Powers,
Virtues, Archangels, Angels' choirs,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia**

**O higher than the Cherubim,
more glorious than the Seraphim,
lead their praises, Alleluia.
Thou Bearer of the eternal Word,
most gracious, magnify the Lord.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Respond, ye souls in endless rest,
ye Patriarchs and Prophets blest,
Alleluia, alleluia.
Ye holy Twelve, ye Martyrs strong,
all Saints triumphant, raise the song
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**O friends, in gladness let us sing,
supernal anthems echoing,
Alleluia, alleluia.
To God the Father, God the Son,
and God the Spirit, Three in One,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

JOHN ATHELSTAN RILEY (1858–1945)

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.

WORDS OF WELCOME

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CROWN

*The Advent Crown is a symbol of the light of Christ coming into the world
and into the darkness of our lives.*

Jesus said, 'No one more important than John the
Baptist has ever been born; yet the least in the
kingdom of heaven is greater than he.'
Amen. Come soon, Lord Jesus!

The third candle is lit and this response is used

Jesus is the light of the world.

A light no darkness can ever put out.

THE PRAYER OF PREPARATION

The priest introduces the prayer ending with

Let us confess our sins.

Lord God, we have sinned against you; we have done evil in your sight. We are sorry and repent. Have mercy on us according to your love. Wash away our wrongdoing and cleanse us from our sin. Renew a right spirit within us and restore to us the joy of your salvation, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The priest offers absolution at the end please respond

Amen.

THE KYRIE

The prayers of penitence are read please respond

Lord have mercy**Lord have mercy**

Christ have mercy.....**Christ have mercy**

Lord have mercy**Lord have mercy**

THE COLLECT

*The priest introduces a period of silent prayer with the words, 'Let us pray.'
The Collect is said, and all respond, **Amen.***

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Please sit for the readings

First Reading

Isaiah 35:1-10

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

James 5:7-10

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Please stand

The Gospel Reading

Matthew 11:2-11

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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.

Please remain standing until the preacher has introduced the Sermon

THE SERMON

We stand

THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Let us declare our faith in God

**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

Prayers for the Church, the world, and for all human need. After each petition the following response is used:

Maranatha

Come, Lord come

and at the end of the prayers:

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

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

We stand to share the peace.

The Peace

The priest introduces the Peace

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

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.
All may exchange a sign of peace.

Please remain standing to sing the offertory 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 Saviour 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 the 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!

TIMOTHY DUDLEY-SMITH (b. 1926)

based on Luke 1.46-55 (Magnificat, The Song of Mary)

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The Presentation of the Gifts

During the Offertory hymn the bread and wine and the collection are brought to the altar and the altar is prepared.

At the end of the Blessing of the Gifts please respond

Blessed be God forever

We sit or stand

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.

The priest praises God for his mighty acts and at the end we say,

**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 priest continues with the prayer which recalls the Last Supper, after the elevation the priest says, 'Great is the mystery of Faith'

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again

The prayer continues and concludes with the doxology where we respond,
Amen

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.
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 Breaking of the Bread

The Priest breaks the consecrated 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.**

**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.**

The Giving of Communion

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
But only say the word and I shall be healed.**

The priest invites everyone to come to Communion or for a blessing

Please sit and wait to be directed for Communion.

During the distribution of Communion music will be played

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The Priest prays the post-communion prayer followed by

**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.

NOTICES

THE DISMISSAL

Please stand

The priest gives the blessing
Amen.

We go into the world to walk in God's light,
to rejoice in God's love,
and to reflect God's glory.

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

Recessional Hymn

There is a higher throne
Than all this world has known,
Where faithful ones from ev'ry tongue
Will one day come.
Before the Son we stand,
Made faultless through the Lamb;
Believing hearts find promised grace—
Salvation comes.

Hear heaven's voices sing;
Their thund'rous anthem rings
Through em'rald courts and sapphire skies.
Their praises rise.

**All glory, wisdom, pow'r,
Strength, thanks, and honor are
To God our King, who reigns on high
Forevermore.**

**And there we'll find our home,
Our life before the throne;
We'll honor Him in perfect song
Where we belong.
He'll wipe each tear-stained eye
As thirst and hunger die.
The Lamb becomes our Shepherd King;
We'll reign with Him**

**Hear heaven's voices sing;
Their thund'rous anthem rings
Through em'rald courts and sapphire skies.
Their praises rise.
All glory, wisdom, pow'r,
Strength, thanks, and honor are
To God our King, who reigns on high
Forevermore... forevermore... forevermore... forevermore...**

**Hear heaven's voices sing;
Their thund'rous anthem rings
Through em'rald courts and sapphire skies.
Their praises rise
All glory, wisdom, pow'r,
Strength, thanks, and honor are
To God our King, who reigns on high
Forevermore.**

*Source: Musixmatch Songwriters: Keith Getty / Kristyn Lennox Getty
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Notices

Service next Sunday:	Parish Communion (11am)
Advent 3	Carol Service (4pm)
	and on Facebook and the parish website
	www.ifieldparish.org
