

Service of Morning Prayer. Sunday 27th
December First Sunday of Christmas and Festival
of John the Apostle.

The Gathering of God's People

*All Saints is an English speaking international
Anglican Church,
A church which is, at all times and in all seasons,
committed to being a church of
Up (worship & prayer),
In (deep community & lifelong discipleship),
and Out, (service of others & evangelism).*

Welcome! Sunday 27th December.

These are the Sundays of Christmas. We
celebrate the central truth of the Word made
flesh for our salvation. And in these days, we
remember the saints of old – Stephen who first
paid for his life for following the incarnate Lord.
And today, we remember John, who was
believed to have lived to an old age in profound
meditation upon the Word made flesh, whose
closing days included days of persecution and
exile upon Patmos. A man it is said, when he was
barely able to speak, would tell the churches
'love one another'.

In the brief silence we settle into prayer...

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



People of God: shout and sing!
Tell the good news of peace on earth.
Lord, bring us today into Christ's peace.
All God's people say:
All: Amen!

Angels dance
and the bright star shines.
All creation bows to the Lord of all.
Lord, bring us today into Christ's light.
All God's people say:
All: Amen!

One with us,
yet born to save,
he will show us the way to God.
Lord, bring us today into Christ's love.
All God's people say:
All: Amen!

People of God: shout and sing:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen!

Opening Carol: Joy to the World

We have come together, the people of God,
drawn by his Spirit, longing for his word,
to praise the holy name of the Lord,
to share his glorious news of grace,
to pray our needs
and the pain of the world,
to rejoice in his love and be sent in his peace.

Prayers of Penitence

Christ the Light of the World has come to dispel
the darkness of our hearts.
In his light let us examine ourselves
and confess our sins...

Silence

Lord of grace and truth,
we confess our unworthiness
to stand in your presence as your children.
We have sinned:
All forgive and heal us.

The Virgin Mary accepted your call
to be the mother of Jesus.
Forgive our disobedience to your will.
We have sinned:
All forgive and heal us.

Your Son our Saviour
was born in poverty in a manger.
Forgive our greed and rejection of your ways.
We have sinned:
All forgive and heal us.

The shepherds left their flocks
to go to Bethlehem.
Forgive our self-interest and lack of vision.
We have sinned:
All forgive and heal us.

The wise men followed the star
to find Jesus the King.
Forgive our reluctance to seek you.
We have sinned:
All forgive and heal us.

May God who loved the world so much
that he sent his Son to be our Saviour
forgive you your sins
and make you holy to serve him in the world,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
All Amen.

Blessed is the Lord,
All for he has heard the voice of our prayer;

therefore shall our hearts dance for joy
All and in our song will we praise our God.

Gloria in Excelsis (we stand...)
**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen**

The night has passed,
and the day lies open before us;
let us pray with one heart and mind.

Silence is kept.

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day,
so may the light of your presence,
O God, set our hearts on fire with love for you;
now and for ever.
Amen.

Proclaiming and Receiving the Word
Psalm 117 - short psalm, a huge vision...

¹ Praise the LORD, all you nations;
extol him, all you peoples.

² For great is his love towards us,
and the faithfulness of the LORD
endures for ever.
Praise the LORD.

**All Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now,
and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen.**

OT : Exodus 33:7-11a
This is the word of the Lord.
All Thanks be to God.

Carol: O little town of Bethlehem

NT Epistle: 1 John 1

Gospel: John 21:v19b-end

This is the word of the Lord.
All Thanks be to God.

Canticle: A Song of the Chosen One

(Words from Isaiah 11)

All The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him.

1 There shall come forth a shoot from the stock
of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

**2 And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,**

3 The spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

All The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him.

**4 He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide by what his ears hear,**

5 But with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth.

All The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him.

**6 The wolf shall dwell with the lamb,
and the leopard shall lie down with the goat.**

7 The calf, the lion and the fatling together,
with a little child to lead them.

**8 They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy
mountain,
for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of
the Lord
as the waters cover the sea.**

Isaiah 11.1, 2, 3b-4a, 6, 9

All The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him.

All **Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now,
and ever shall be, world without end.**

Amen.

**Sermon : we welcome again Jaap Theunisz, who
is an Anglican Reader in our Netherlands
Deanery.**

Post Sermon Carol: In the bleak midwinter

The Creed

We stand with Christians throughout the centuries, and throughout the world today, to affirm our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed.

**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.**

The Prayers of the People

Let us pray

Lord in your mercy
Hear our prayer.



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

Offertory Prayer for gifts to All Saints

Generous God,
Creator, redeemer, sustainer,
To you we present our money,
Symbol of the work you have given us to do.
Use it, use us,
In the service of your world
To the glory of your name.
Amen.

Collects

All Merciful Lord,
cast your bright beams of light
upon All Saints and upon the Church
in this world,
that, being enlightened by the teaching
of your blessed apostle and evangelist Saint John,
we may so walk in the light of your truth
that we may at last attain to the light of
everlasting life;
through Jesus Christ
your incarnate Son our Lord, Amen.

A suitable Collect prayer for the times we are in...

Merciful God,
teach us to be faithful in change and uncertainty,
that trusting in your word
and obeying your will
we may enter the unfailing joy
of Jesus Christ our Lord.
In the name of your Son. **Amen.**

Rejoicing in the presence of God here among us,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught
us.

All Our Father,
who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power, and the glory
for ever and ever. Amen.

Going out as God's People

Announcements

Prayer Ministry team. Despite all the changes with Corona, our prayer ministry team are willing to visit to pray with you. Or to pray with you via Zoom. To ask for someone, contact Ron via app or text, and he will arrange two team members to pray with you in suitable way.

Alpha.

Begins Monday 11th January.

I wanted to invite you to be part of preparing for Alpha.

To invite each of All Saints, and each person who joins us in our worship today, to pray a simple prayer today and in this coming week.

'Lord, is there someone you would like me to invite to Alpha.'

If a name comes to mind.

To reach out to that person and invite them – we are simply being obedient to the name God has – we believe – placed on our heart.

The Response is left with God – our role, simply to make the offer, the invitation.

But as we invite and as they respond, perhaps other conversations may happen.

We now see a trailer reminding of what Alpha is about...

Final Carol: The first Noel

Blessing

May the joy of the angels
the eagerness of the shepherds
the perseverance of the wise men
the obedience of Joseph and Mary,
and the peace of Christ
be yours this Christmastide ;

and the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
All Amen.

We finish with praying the grace together...

**All The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with us all this day and evermore.
Amen.**

To know more about All Saints, please visit
www.allsaintsamersfoort.nl

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Thank you for all that you have given to All Saints.
If you would like to donate, our financial details
are on our website. For any further questions,
please contact our treasurer of All Saints
(treasurer@allsaintsamersfoort.nl)

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