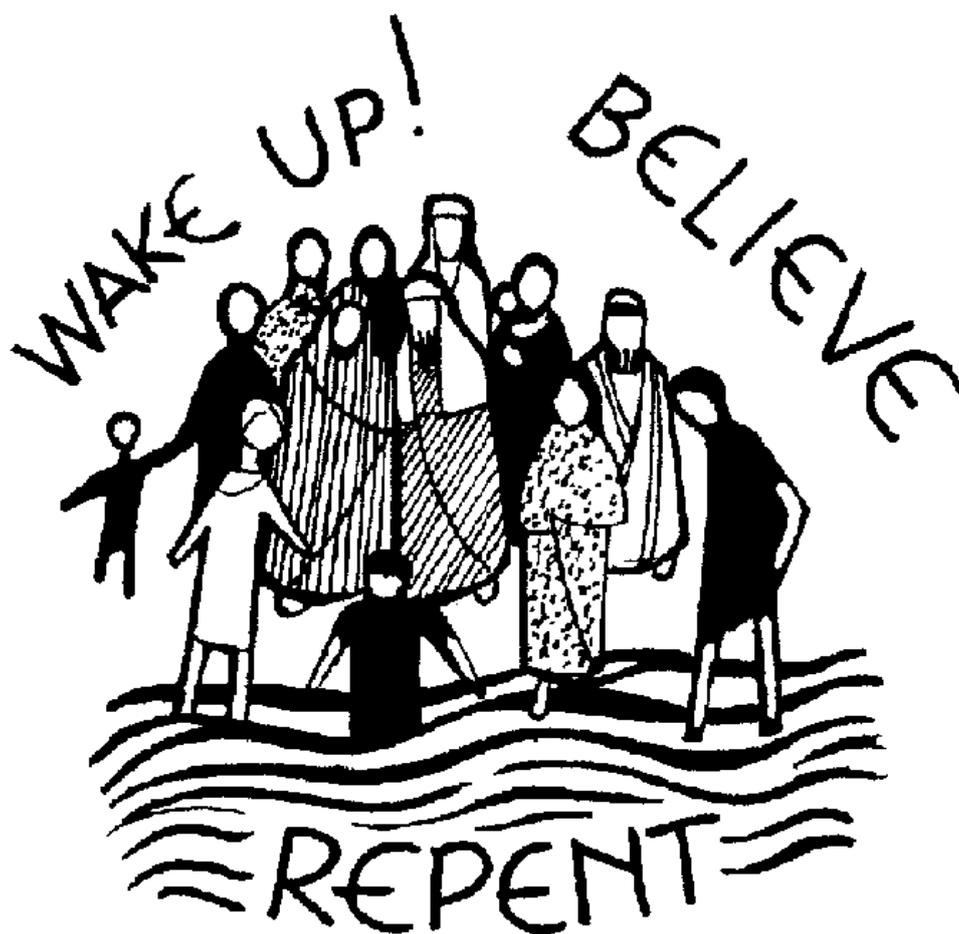


The United Benefice of
Warton and Borwick with Yealand

The Fourth Sunday of Advent



The Eucharist

(livestream Sunday 20th December)

A very warm welcome to everyone who is joining us “virtually” online via our YouTube channel.

Presiding Minister: The Revd Robin Figg, Vicar

Lighting the Advent Ring: Noeline Clarke (*recorded at home*)

First reading: Dave Scott (*recorded at home*)

Gospel reading: Jane Lever (*recorded at home*)

Sermon: Janet Thompson (*live in church*)

This is a service of Holy Communion. The term ‘Spiritual Communion’ has been used historically to describe the means of grace by which a person, prevented for some reason from sharing in a celebration of the Eucharist, nonetheless shares in the communion of Jesus Christ. The Church of which we are members is not defined by the walls of a building, but by the Body of Christ to which we belong. In making our communion spiritually we are joining with Christians everywhere to be nourished by the one who tells us, ‘I am the bread of life’.

Music before the service

I wonder as I wander – *John Jacob Niles (1892 – 1980)*

Sung by St Oswald’s Junior Choir

Believing | **Living** | **Sharing**

The Gathering

The people are welcomed.

The Greeting

The presiding minister says

We meet in the name of the living God,
who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

All Amen.

The Lord be with you.

All and also with you.

The fourth candle on the Advent Ring is lit, the candle of Love.

Prayers of Penitence

The presiding minister introduces the confession with these words

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. *cf 1 Corinthians 4.5*

When we have known what we should have said, and somehow kept silent:
Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

When we have shouted and pushed and found no time or patience to hear
the quieter voices around us:

Christ, have mercy.

All Christ, have mercy.

When we have worried, worried, worried, when we really should have
shouted for joy:

Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

The presiding minister pronounces the absolution

May the God of love and power
forgive us and free us from our sin,
heal and strengthen us by his Spirit,
and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

The Collect

The presiding minister introduces a period of silent prayer

Eternal God,
as Mary waited for the birth of your Son,
so we wait for his coming in glory;
bring us through the birth pangs of this present age
to see, with her, our great salvation
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

Reading

At the end the reader says

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading

An acclamation heralds the Gospel reading using the following words

Alleluia, alleluia.

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

cf Isaiah 40.3-5

All **Alleluia.**

When the Gospel is announced the reader says

The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

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

All Glory to you, O Lord.

At the end

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

After the sermon we keep a short time of quiet.

The Creed

Let us now declare our faith in God.

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 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

The presiding minister introduces the prayers with these words

Watchful at all times,
let us pray for strength to offer our prayers
before our Maker and Redeemer.

The prayers include the response

Lord, in your mercy,
All hear our prayer.

and end with

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

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

The presiding minister introduces the Peace with these or other suitable words

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

All and also with you.

Preparation of the Table Taking of the Bread and Wine

The table is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it.

Music during the preparation: Love one Another- from 'Blessed be the God and Father' by Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810 -1876). Sung by Martha Lawrence, Hannah Lawrence, Michaela Lawrence, Gill Hellewell, Rhian Burford and Steph Burford. Organist Keith Worsman.

At this point in our services in church we would receive a collection, the offering of our financial gifts in support of the mission & ministry of God's Church. Take a moment now to reflect prayerfully on your giving.

God of grace,
in our time of darkness
you bless us with gifts of light.
We bring our offerings to you -
our gifts at home, our gifts online -
and with them we offer our lives;
that they may be used to serve others,
and give you glory.

We make our prayer in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

Prayer over the bread and wine

The presiding minister takes 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.

All **Amen.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

The presiding minister says

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.**

The presiding minister praises God for God's mighty acts and all respond

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.**

The presiding minister recalls the Last Supper and this acclamation is used

Great is the mystery of faith:

All **Christ has died.**

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The prayer continues and leads into the doxology, to which all respond boldly

...for ever and ever.

All Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Awaiting his coming in glory,
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 presiding minister breaks the consecrated bread.

As Christ breaks bread with us.

All he enfolds our story in his story.

Agnus Dei

The Agnus Dei is said

**All Jesus, Lamb of God,
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, bearer of our sin,
have mercy on us.**

Jesus, redeemer of the world,

grant us peace.

Giving of Communion

The presiding minister says the following invitation to communion

Jesus said, 'Come to me, all who are weary and whose load is heavy; I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble-hearted; and you will find rest for your souls'. *Matthew 11.28-29*

The presiding minister receives communion.

Those sharing the service from their homes are invited to give thanks for the saving death and resurrection of Jesus and ask him to be with them now.

**Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ, for all the benefits you have given me,
for all the pains and insults you have borne for me.**

**Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,
I ask you to come spiritually into my heart.**

**O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother,
may I know you more clearly,
love you more dearly,
and follow you more nearly,
day by day. Amen.**

After the Prayer of St Richard of Chichester

Prayer after Communion

The presiding minister says the Post Communion prayer.

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.

All Amen.

The following prayer is said

**All 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.

The Dismissal

Notices

Hymn Love is his word, love is his way

Love is his word, love is his way,
feasting with all, fasting alone,
living and dying, rising again,
love, only love, is his way.
*Richer than gold is the love of my Lord:
better than splendour and wealth.*

Love is his news, love is his name,
we are his own, chosen and called,
sisters and brothers, parents and kin.
Love, only love, is his name.

Love is his name, love is his law,
hear his command, all who are his:
'Love one another, I have loved you.'
Love, only love, is his law.

Love is his law, love is his word:
love of the Lord, Father and Word,
love of the Spirit, God ever one,
love, only love, is his word.

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Blessing and Dismissal

The presiding minister pronounces the blessing using the following words

The Lord be with you.

All And also with you.

May God, the God of peace,
make you perfect and holy,
and keep you safe and blameless, in spirit, soul and body,
for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be with you and remain with you always.

All Amen.

As we await our coming Saviour,
let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All In the name of Christ. Amen.

The ministers and people depart.

Music after the service

Tell out my soul - *Timothy Dudley-Smith (born 1926) from Luke 1 vs46-55*
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