

ST HILDA'S ASHFORD



THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT AND ST. LUCIA 2022

<https://www.facebook.com/StHildaAshford/>

THE GATHERING

Introit Hymn

Now thousand Christmas candles shine
all around the globe
And thousands, thousands beaming strong
upon the deep blue sky

And over towns and lands tonight
the joyful word is spread
That Jesus Christ our Lord is born
our saviour and God

The star shines over Bethlehem
oh, let your gentle light
Shine with hope and peace tonight
in every home and house

To every heart that's sad or dull
Oh send a ray of hope
A ray that sends the love of God
in sacred Christmas time.

[Swedish text and tune by E. Köbler 1898]

The Greeting

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

All Amen

The Lord be with you

All and also with you.

Words of welcome or introduction are said; we pray with Junior Church.

The Lighting of the Advent Candle

The Fourth Candle

It symbolizes Peace with the “Angel’s Candle” reminding us of the message of the angels: “Peace on Earth, Good Will Toward Men.” It represents the peace and justice that the angels and Christ brings to the world. It also can represent purity and it is associated with Mary, Mother of Jesus.

We light four candles

Prayer of Preparation

**All 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.**

Prayers of Penitence

Let us hear our Lord’s blessing on those who follow him.

Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn,
for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek,
for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst after righteousness,
for they shall be satisfied.

Blessed are the merciful,
for they shall obtain mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart,
for they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they shall be called children of God.

Blessed are those who suffer persecution for righteousness' sake,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

When the Lord comes,
he will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness,
and will disclose the purposes of the heart.

(Silent reflection)

In the light of Christ let us confess our sins.

**O King enthroned on high,
filling the earth with your glory:
holy is your name,
Lord God almighty.
In our sinfulness we cry to you
to take our guilt away,
and to cleanse our lips to speak your word,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
who in his great mercy
has promised forgiveness of sins
to all those who with heartfelt repentance and true faith
turn to him: have mercy on you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and bring you to everlasting life,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

The Collect - *The Collect for the week is said after a moment of silence*

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

Old Testament Reading – Isaiah 17 vv 10 - 16

For you have forgotten the God of your salvation,
and have not remembered the Rock of your refuge;
therefore, though you plant pleasant plants
and set out slips of an alien god,
though you make them grow on the day that you plant
them,
and make them blossom in the morning that you sow;
yet the harvest will flee away
on a day of grief and incurable pain.

Ah, the thunder of many peoples,
they thunder like the thundering of the sea!
Ah, the roar of nations,
they roar like the roaring of mighty waters!
The nations roar like the roaring of many waters,
but he will rebuke them, and they will flee far away,
chased like chaff on the mountains before the wind
and whirling dust before the storm.
At evening time, lo, terror!
Before morning, they are no more.
This is the fate of those who despoil us,
and the lot of those who plunder us.

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

New Testament Reading – Romans 1 vv 1 - 7

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints:

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

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn

Sankta Lucia, ljusklara hägring
Sprid i din vinternatt, glans av din fågring
Drömmar med vingesus, under oss sia
Tänd dina vita ljus, Sankta Lucia
Drömmar med vingesus, under oss sia
Tänd dina vita ljus, Sankta Lucia

Kom i din vita skrud, huld med din maning
Skänk oss du julens brud, julfröjders aning
Drömmar med vingesus, under oss sia
Sprid dina vita ljus, Sankta Lucia
Drömmar med vingesus, under oss sia
Sprid dina vita ljus, Sankta Lucia

*(Hark! Through the darksome night sounds come a winging
Lo! 'tis the queen of light joyfully singing
Clad in her garment white, wearing her crown of light
Sancta Lucia
Clad in her garment white, wearing her crown of light
Sancta Lucia*

*Deep in the northern sky bright stars are beaming
Christmas is drawing nigh candles are gleaming
Clad in her garment white, wearing her crown of light
Sancta Lucia
Clad in her garment white, wearing her crown of light
Sancta Lucia)*

Gospel Reading – Matthew 1 vv 18 - 25

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

All Glory to you, O Lord.

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.' All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

'Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel',

which means, 'God is with us.' When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

The Sermon – All sit

The Creed – *All Stand*

Let us declare our faith in God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

All I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. **Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

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

The prayers end with the following:

Merciful Father

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

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

The Peace – *All 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
All and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may exchange a sign of peace.

Offertory Hymn

During this hymn a collection will be taken

**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 over the grave.**

Refrain

**O come, thou Day-spring, come and cheer
Our spirits by thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight.**

Refrain

O come, thou Key of David, come,
And open wide our heavenly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery.

Refrain

O come, O come, great Lord of might,
Who to thy tribes on Sinai's height
In ancient times once gave the law
In cloud and majesty and awe.

Refrain

*[Cologne 1710, based on the ancient Advent Antiphons
tr. J. M. Neale]*

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

As this bread was scattered
and then gathered and made one,
so may your Church be gathered into your Kingdom.

All **Glory to you, O God, for ever.**

Wisdom has built her a house;
she has mixed her wine; she has set her table.
Glory to you, O God, for ever.

All **Amen.**

Eucharistic Prayer

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.**

It is indeed right,
it is our duty and our joy,
at all times and in all places
to give you thanks and praise,
holy Father, heavenly King,
almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

For he is our great high priest,
who has loosed us from our sins
and has made us to be a royal priesthood to you,
our God and Father.

Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and singing:

**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.**

All glory be to you, our heavenly Father,
who, in your tender mercy,
gave your only Son our Saviour Jesus Christ
to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption;
who made there by his one oblation of himself once offered
a full, perfect and sufficient sacrifice, oblation and satisfaction
for the sins of the whole world;
he instituted, and in his holy gospel commanded us to continue,
a perpetual memory of his precious death until he comes again.

Hear us, merciful Father, we humbly pray,
and grant that, by the power of your Holy Spirit ☩,
we receiving these gifts of your creation, this bread and this
wine, according to your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy
institution,
in remembrance of his death and passion,
may be partakers of his most blessed body and blood;
who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
*Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.*

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:
*Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.*

Great is the mystery of faith:

All **Christ has died:**
 Christ is risen:
 Christ will come again.

Therefore, Lord and heavenly Father,
in remembrance of the precious death and passion,
the mighty resurrection and glorious ascension
of your dear Son Jesus Christ,
we offer you through him this our sacrifice of praise
and thanksgiving.

Grant that by his merits and death,
and through faith in his blood,
we and all your Church may receive forgiveness of our sins
and all other benefits of his passion.

Although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins,
to offer you any sacrifice,
yet we pray that you will accept this
the duty and service that we owe.
Do not weigh our merits, but pardon our offences,
and fill us all who share in this holy communion
with your grace and heavenly blessing;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,
for ever and ever.
Amen.

(Silent reflection)

The Lord's Prayer

Awaiting his coming in glory,
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.**

Breaking of the Bread

The president breaks the consecrated bread.

We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.

All Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God,
All 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

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

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

The president and people receive communion.

Communion Hymns

1. Ave verum corpus [W.A.Mozart]
2. Det strålar en stjärna förunderligt blid
i öster på himlen hjon står
Hon lyst över världenes oro och strid
i nära tvåtusende år
När dagen blir mörk och när snön faller vit
då kommer hon närmre då kommer hon hit
Och då vet man, att snart är det jul

Ty julen är härlig för stor och små
är glädje och ljuvaste frid
Är klappar och julgran och ringdans också
är lycka oändligen blid
Är ljus allas ögon då stråla som mest
Och stjärnorna tindra som mest
Och där ljuset är, där är jul, där är jul.

*(A star is shining so gentle, so bright
she sets to the east in the sky
She's shone over turmoil and war in the world
for almost two thousands of years
When day turns to night and when snow falling white
Then she's coming much closer she's coming to us
And then you know that Christmas is here.*

*Christmas is lovely for young and for old
Is joy and the sweetest of peace
Are presents and dancing around Christmas trees
making our season so bright
And light, shining bright
from your eyes and your heart
And the stars sparkling full in the sky
When you see that light
Then you know, Christmas comes)*

3. Gläns över sjö och strnad, stjärna ur fjärran
du som i Österland, tändes av Herran
Stjärnan från Betlehem, leder ej bort men hem
Barnen och herdarna följa dig gärna
Strålande stjärna, strålande stjärna

Natt över Judaland, natt över Sion
borta vid västerrand, slocknar Orion
Herden som sover sött, barnet som slumrar sött
vakna vid underbar korus av röster
Skåda en härligt klar stjärna i Öster

Gånga från lamm och hem, sökande Eden
stjärnan från Betlehem visar dem leden
Stjärnan från Betlehem leder ej bort men hem
Barnen och herdarna följa dig gärna
Strålande stjärna, strålande stjärna

*(Shine over lake and shore, star from afar
You who in Eastern land, were lit by the Lord
The star of Bethlehem, don't lead astray, but home
Children and shepherds so gladly follow
Star over Eastern land
Star over Bethlehem*

*Night over Judah's land, night over Zion
Far in the Eastern land, Orion is fading
Shepherds are sleeping tight, children are dreaming sweet
Suddenly waking up, by a great chorus
Look at that glowing star
bright shining in the East.*

*Leaving their flock and home, searching for Eden
Star over Bethlehem, leading the straight way
The star of Bethlehem, don't lead away, but home
Children and shepherds so gladly follow
Star over Eastern land
Star over Bethlehem)*

Taizé: **Magnificat, magnificat, magnificat anima mea dominum
Magnificat, magnificat, magnificat anima mea.**

Prayers after Communion

Silence is kept after which the Post-Communion prayer is said.

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.**

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.**

All **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.**

Notices

THE DISMISSAL

Blessing

May God the Father, judge all-merciful,
make us worthy of a place in his kingdom.

Amen.

May God the Son, coming among us in power,
reveal in our midst the promise of his glory.

Amen.

May God the Holy Spirit make us steadfast in faith,
joyful in hope and constant in love.

Amen.

And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

Our Lord says, 'I am coming soon.'

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

May the Lord, when he comes,
find us watching and waiting.

Amen

Recessional Hymn

Now thousand Christmas candles shine
all around the globe
And thousands, thousands beaming strong
upon the deep blue sky

And over towns and lands tonight
the joyful word is spread
That Jesus Christ our Lord is born
our saviour and God

The star shines over Bethlehem
oh, let your gentle light
Shine with hope and peace tonight
in every home and house

To every heart that's sad or dull
Oh send a ray of hope
A ray that sends the love of God
in sacred Christmas time.

[Swedish text and tune by E. Köbler 1898]

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SERVICE TIMES

Wednesday 21st December 11.00am

Saturday 24th December 4pm: Crib Service

Saturday 24th December 11pm: Midnight Mass

Christmas Day Sunday 25th December 10.00am

The Sunday service is livestreamed and can be viewed later our Facebook page

Please remember in your prayers this week:

THE SICK:

Lizio Cassar	Pat Kyle	Barbara Warne
Ros Clifton	Pauline Milton	Lisa
Joan Davies	Ray Nation	Nic
Vicky Hal	Roy Stone	
Melvyn Jansen I	Betty Vince	

If you would like a name added to the prayer list, please contact the Parish Office.

THE RECENTLY DEPARTED:

Mary Congdon Ray Greenwood

THOSE IN OUR MEMORIAL BOOK THIS WEEK

Norman Alfred Why	Betty May Purvis
Flo Dobbie	Joseph W Lovell
Florence Louisa Fox	Doreen Ann Beaver
Frederick Bleckwen	Eric Leonard Hine
Lucy Danielle Rose Rouse	Phoebe Eleanor Spence
Phyllis Martin	Alexander Milton

Please pray for our ALMA twin Parish, Holy Cross Murrupula

NOTICES

The Parish Office is available by phone or email. Visitors by appointment only.

Following the teaching of 'Loving thy Neighbour' - If you feel unwell, we ask that you do not attend so that we can maintain the health and safety of all who attend the services.

Community Lunch –Wednesday at 12 noon

Join us for the Community Lunch at midday

Please note there will be no lunch on 28th December or 4th January.

If you are able to come forward and help, even once a month, please do liaise with Bobbie.

Bible Study – every Wednesday

Bible Study group meet in Church at 7.30pm. All welcome.

We are currently doing an Advent study based on Charles Wesley's hymn *Come thou long-expected Jesus*.

Bible Reading Notes

To all who are currently ordering bible reading notes through me I have re-ordered for January - April, 2023 and will hopefully be distributing copies in the next couple of weeks.

If you would like to take daily bible reading as a New Year's Resolution then can I recommend you consider ordering the Bible Reading Fellowship Notes. There are 4 different editions - Guidelines, New Daylight, Day by Day with God (for women) and Bible reflections for older people. The notes are produced 3 times a year in September, January and May. If you are interested I have previous copies so you can browse before making a decision. The cost is £4.70 but I am able to get that reduced to £4.37 and £5.35 for Reflections.

If you would like to know more or would like to be included in the order please speak to me, Liz Brian.

Ambling through Acts course –Thursday 5th January

(7:30pm on the first Thursday of each month)

Everyone is very welcome to attend. There will be refreshments at the end. We finish by saying Compline (Night Prayer) together round about 9pm. I hope to see you there. Please bring a bible – ideally the NRSV, but any version will do.

St Hilda's News

Please send items for the Newsletter to kmroach45@gmail.com

Note that it makes the Editor's job much easier if you submit an item as a Word document rather than in the body of an e-mail.

Parish administrator

Our parish administrator is Laura Goodman; her hours of work are:

Monday:	3-4pm
Tuesday:	3-4pm
Wednesday:	10-11am; 2-3pm
Thursday:	3-4pm
Friday:	3.30-6.30pm

Note that any appointments in person must be booked.

Food Bank Donations

Please use the wooden chest at the rear of the Church to place any donations for the local food bank, such as tinned and dried goods and toiletries.

The Food Bank is currently short of:

- Shower gel
- Shampoo
- Kitchen & bathroom spray cleaners
- J cloths
- Small packs of washing powder and capsules
- Toilet cleaner
- Kitchen rolls and toilet rolls
- and tinned vegetarian meals such as Macaroni cheese and Vegetarian curry

Contact Information

Vicar

Fr Joseph Fernandes

vicar@sthilda.org

Vicarage 01784 254237

Parish Office 01784 253525

Mobile 07999 053433

Licensed Lay Ministers

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Rosalyn Young rosalyn@sthilda.org

Churchwarden

Bobbie Bedford

PCC Secretary

PCC Treasurer

Christopher Brown

PA to Fr Joseph

Mariane Tank pa@sthilda.org

Church Hall Bookings

Chris Davenport

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