

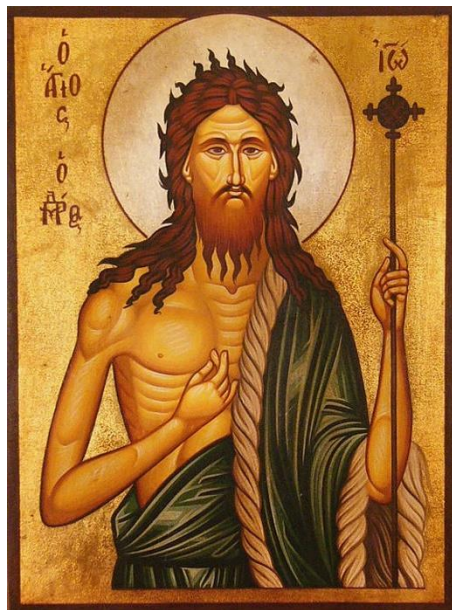
***Next Saturday Church  
7 January.***

# **Saturday Church Eucharist**

**3 December 2016**

*“Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths  
straight.”*

*Let us together prepare our hearts and minds  
that we may be ready to meet the Lord.*



## **Gathering**

The Advent Wreath

### ***We sing***

**Kindle a flame to lighten the dark  
and take all fear away.**

### ***Week 2***

People of God: be glad!  
Your God delights in you, giving you joy for  
sadness and turning the dark to light.  
Be strong in hope therefore;  
For your God comes to save.  
You are God's children.

**Lord, make us one as we walk with Christ  
today and forever. Amen**

### **Preface**

Gathered round a table  
Is where Jesus so often met people...

...gathered round the table of Matthew  
The table of Zacchaeus  
The table of Simon  
The table of Peter  
The table of Lazarus  
and Martha and Mary  
the tables of Joanna and Susannah.

Gathered round a table  
Where he could see people face to face,  
listen to their stories and share their laughter.  
And here,  
we are gathered round a table  
because this is where Jesus has promised to  
be for those who want to meet him.  
So accept this invitation  
and feel welcome at this table.  
Jesus Christ,  
who here offers us a foretaste of eternal life,  
invites you to be his guests.

## **Dismissal**

Go now you have been fed  
You have shared the living bread  
You have been grafted to the vine  
You have tasted heaven's new wine

Go now you have been blessed  
Jesus call you each his guest  
God knows you name and says you're wanted  
And in your lives God's seed is planted.

Go now and go in Christ's own peace  
And in your going do not cease  
To love yourself – you are God's treasure  
And love the world – it is God's pleasure  
And love the Lord in greatest measure  
**Amen**

Song 362

Inspired by love and anger

### **Blessing**

May you know the compassion  
of God the Father.  
May you feel the love of God the Son.  
May God the Holy Spirit inspire in you both  
awe and joy.  
And the blessing of God almighty, the Father,  
the Son and the Holy Spirit be with you and  
remain with you always.

**Amen**

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

### **Invitation**

He who was with God in the beginning  
comes to us in this bread.  
He of whom the prophets spoke  
is present to us in this cup.

**Amen**

### **The Communion**

### **The Peace**

The angels said it to startled shepherds  
and Jesus said it to frightened followers  
and now these words which come from  
heaven are shared to make us whole and  
make us one.

The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**And also with you.**

### **Confession**

"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come  
near." Let us confess our sins, and seek God's  
grace in our lives.

When we are slow to perceive the signs of  
your kingdom in our midst,  
Lord, have mercy.

**Lord have mercy.**

When we follow our own path and fail to walk  
in your way,  
Christ, have mercy.

**Christ have mercy.**

When we fail to treat others as fellow citizens  
of your kingdom,  
Lord, have mercy.

**Lord have mercy**

May almighty God have mercy upon you,  
pardon and forgive you,  
through Jesus our Saviour.

**Amen**

### **Kyrie**

**Kyrie, kyrie, kyrie eleison**

### **Story**

*(The candles are placed by the Bible.)*

St Matthew 3:1-12

*John the Baptist proclaims the coming of God's  
anointed one as a new start for those who know  
their need of forgiveness*

### **Talk**

### **Prayers**

### **Offertory Hymn**

688 take this moment

*(The candles are moved to the altar and the altar is prepared.)*

### **The Great Prayer**

The Lord be with you

**And also with you**

Lift up your hearts

**we lift them up to the Lord**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is right to praise you

For you are the One from whom we came  
and the One to whom we will return.

You conceived the universe,

wove the world together  
and hold all life in your hand.

You watch us waking or sleeping,  
you keep every tear that we shed,  
you hear every prayer we make,  
you know both our best and our worst  
and you will not let us go.

So, with rain, wind and sunshine,  
with all that moves in time with its maker,  
we praise you.

With angels and archangels,  
with the saints from long ago,  
with our loved ones  
who are gathered round your heavenly table,  
we praise you.

With your church throughout the world,  
Orthodox and Lutheran,  
Catholic and Reformed,  
with all who love Jesus and honour his name  
we praise you,  
saying the hymns of your everlasting glory:

**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.**

Yes blessed is he....

who was born among us incognito  
who grew up without privilege or status  
who walked the way to heaven by the back  
streets of this world.

who told the deepest truths in ordinary  
language,

who touched and healed,  
blessed and disturbed  
without fear or favour.

Who showed inclusive love  
in all its unconditional glory.

Who, for all this, was crucified and was  
buried.

who, for all this and for all of us, rose again;

Who, though high in heaven

Is present with us here and now.

Blessed is he in all his love and beauty.

God beyond holiness

as we do what Jesus did

let your Spirit move among us

to settle on this bread and this wine

that they may become for us

The body and blood of Christ.

Among friends gathered round a table,

Jesus took bread and when he had blessed it

He broke it and said:

"Take this and eat.

It is my body.

It is given for you.

Do this to remember me."

Then later during the meal he took a cup of  
wine and when he had given thanks he said:

"This is my blood.

In this cup is the new relationship with God

made possible because of my death

Take this all of you to remember me."

**Behold the Lamb of God**

**Behold the Lamb of God**

**He takes away the sin, the sin of the world.**

