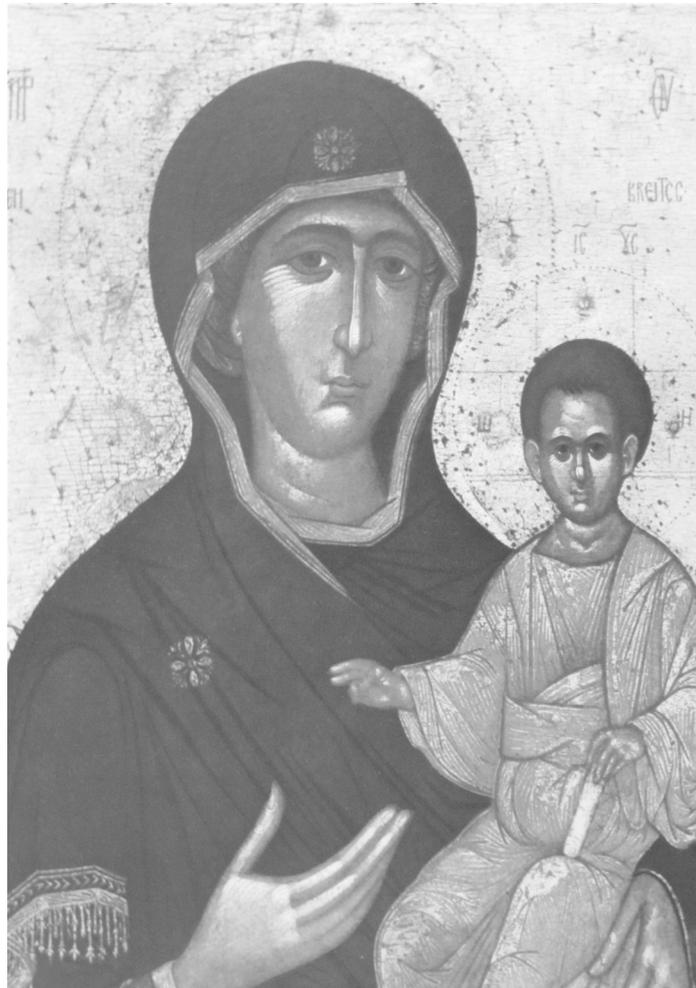


ST ANNE'S, SOHO

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

14TH DECEMBER 2025



The Eucharist



You are welcome to take this service sheet away with you.

Welcome to St Anne's Church, Soho

The Celebrant & Preacher is:

The Revd Simon Buckley

Rector of St Anne's, Soho

Organist

Annie Lydford-Holland

Soloist

Christine Cunnold

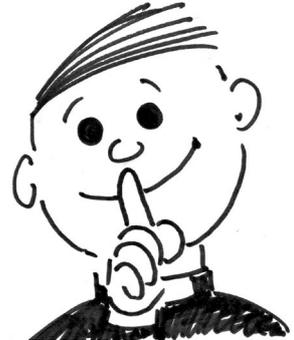
This order of service contains all you need to join in with our worship whether you are in St Anne's or joining us online –

www.stannes-soho.org.uk/worship

Worshipping in church we gather with strangers and friends, and from home we join virtually with those we see and hear on screen. But wherever we are, we join with the church throughout the world, and all the saints in Heaven, as children of God and disciples of Christ.

We invite everyone to:

- **Join us in keeping a time of quiet before the service begins.**
- Switch off your mobile phone for this hour and avoid other distractions.
- Support St Anne's via contactless giving, the collection taken during the service, or by direct debit.
- Keep this booklet for your reflection in the coming week.
- **If you are in church, please save the chatter until the organ voluntary has concluded.**



Live-streaming and Safeguarding: The camera is pointed away from the congregation during the service and switched off whilst people are receiving communion. Please do not take on any role within the service that may take you in front of the camera, if you do not consent to your image being recorded. **Filming by members of the congregation is not permitted in church.**

We pray this time together will be a blessing for all who share in it, and strengthen us to serve others in the week ahead.

Welcome

Please Stand We meet in the name of the Father and
of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

All: The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Opening Hymn

Thou didst leave thy throne and thy kingly crown
when thou camest to earth for me;
but in Bethlehem's home was there found no room
for thy holy nativity.

Refrain:

*O come to my heart, Lord Jesus
there is room in my heart for thee.*

Heaven's arches rang when the angels sang
and proclaimed thee of royal degree,
but in lowliest birth didst thou come to earth
and in deepest humility.

O come to my heart...

Though the fox found rest, and the bird its nest
in the shade of the cedar tree,
yet the world found no bed for the Saviour's head
in the desert of Galilee.

O come to my heart...

Though thou camest, Lord, with the living word
that should set all thy people free,
yet with treachery, scorn and a crown of thorn
did they bear thee to Calvary.

O come to my heart...

When the heav'ns shall ring and the angels sing
at thy coming to victory,
let thy voice call me home, saying, 'Heav'n has room,
there is room at my side for thee.'

O come to my heart...

The Advent wreath

As we light the third candle in the Advent Wreath
we remember John the Baptist,
who recognised in his cousin the Lamb of God
who takes away the sin of the world.

A candle is lit on the Advent wreath and this prayer is said:

All: Lord Jesus, light of the world,
John told the people to prepare,
for you were very near.
As Christmas grows closer day by day,
help us to be ready to welcome you now.
Amen.

Prayers of Penitence at the Advent Wreath

Let us bring into the Light of Christ
the darkness of our world
its pain and sadness,
and our own mistakes and failings.



Heavenly Father,
you have created a universe of light:
forgive us when we return to darkness.
Lord, have mercy.

All: **Kyrie...**

Lord Jesus,
you are the light of the world:
release us from life's shadows.
Christ, have mercy.

All: **Christe...**

Holy Spirit,
you give us light in our hearts:
renew us in faith and love.
Lord, have mercy.

All: **Kyrie... x2**

Absolution

Almighty God,
who in Jesus Christ has given us
a kingdom that cannot be destroyed,
forgive you your sins,
open your eyes to God's truth,
strengthen you to do God's will
and give you the joy of his kingdom,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

The Collect

God for whom we watch and wait,
you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son:
give us courage to speak the truth,
to hunger for justice,
and to suffer for the cause of right,
with Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

☞ The Liturgy of the Word ☞

First reading: James 5: 7-10

A reading from the letter to James.

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient.

Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Reader Hear the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 146: 4-9

The reading of the psalm will be underscored by the organ.

- 4 Happy are those who have the God of Jacob for their help,
whose hope is in the Lord their God;
- 5 **Who made heaven and earth,
the sea and all that is in them;
who keeps his promise for ever;**
- 6 Who gives justice to those that suffer wrong
and bread to those who hunger.
- 7 **The Lord looses those that are bound;
the Lord opens the eyes of the blind;**
- 8 The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;
the Lord loves the righteous;
- 9 **The Lord watches over the stranger in the land;
he upholds the orphan and widow;
but the way of the wicked he turns upside down.**

Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever.
Amen.

Taizé Chant

The Cantor sings this once before we sing it three times.

Canon I II



The Lord is my light, my light and sal-va-tion: in God I trust, in God I trust.

Please stand for the reading of the Gospel.

Gospel Reading

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

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

Matthew 11: 2-11

At the end of the Gospel Reading:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Advent Windows

A puppet presentation for the four Sundays of Advent

Anthem

‘Love Shone Down’

by Boyce and Stanley

We all join in with the chorus:

**Oh, and love shone down over the hills and over the valleys,
Oh, and love shone down over the world.**

The Creed

Let us declare our faith in God.

All: We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and on earth is named.

We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith,
and fills us with his love.

We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us
with power from on high.

We believe in one God;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

Fr Simon:

As we place the prayers people have written here in St Anne's this week on the altar, let us bring all our prayers for the church, our world, ourselves and those in need to God our father.

1. As we remember Abraham, we give thanks for the unity of humanity and pray for an end to the hatred which divides people from one another. We pray for that day when all people whatever their nationality or colour, are honoured as children of you O God. we pray that all our homes may be places of welcome and peace.

Lord in your mercy... **hear our prayer**

continued over...

2. As we remember the prophets, we pray for all who speak out against injustice and poverty, and who call all people back to a relationship with you- the God and Father of us all. Keep us true to our calling as Christian disciples and help us to witness to our faith through our words and deeds.

Lord in your mercy... **hear our prayer**

3. As we remember John the Baptist, we pray for the church in its ministry of leading people to Jesus and recognising him as your special Son, O God. We pray that as we prepare for Christmas we may remember who lies at the heart of this celebration, and that others may come to faith in Christ.

Lord in your mercy... **hear our prayer**

4. As we remember the Virgin Mary and her courage in accepting God's will, we for all those who are challenged by events in their lives- whether at home, in work, or in their health. May they know your strengthening presence, O God.

Lord in your mercy...**hear our prayer**

5. In a moment of silence let us remember before God the living and departed, praying for all those on our hearts and minds today
Comfort of the sorrowful, hope of the hopeless, refuge of the needy,

Lord in your mercy...**hear our prayer**

And at the end...

Merciful Father,

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

☞ The Liturgy of the Sacrament ☞

The Peace

May the God of peace make you completely holy,
ready for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All: And also with you.

*Please greet one another and,
then be seated as the altar
is prepared and the collection taken.*

Hymn

Be still, for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One, is here.

Come, bow before him now, with reverence and fear.

In him no sin is found, we stand on holy ground.

Be still, for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One, is here.

Be still, for the glory of the Lord is shining all around;
he burns with holy fire, with splendour he is crowned.

How awesome is the sight, our radiant King of light!

Be still, for the glory of the Lord is shining all around.

Be still, for the power of the Lord is moving in this place;
he comes to cleanse and heal, to minister his grace.

No work too hard for him, in faith receive from him.

Be still, for the power of the Lord is moving in this place.

The 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 and good to give you thanks and praise,
almighty God and everlasting Father,
through Jesus Christ your Son.

For when he humbled himself to come among us in human flesh,
he fulfilled the plan you formed before the foundation of the
world to open for us the way of salvation.

Confident that your promise will be fulfilled,
we now watch for the day
when Christ our Lord will come again in glory.

And so we join our voices with angels and archangels
and with all the company of heaven
to proclaim your glory,
for ever praising you and singing:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in__ the high - est.
Bless - èd__ is he who comes in the name of the Lord.__
Ho - san - na in__ the high - est, ho - san - na in__ the high - est.

We praise and bless you, loving Father,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;
and as we obey his command,
send your Holy Spirit,
that broken bread and wine outpoured
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends and,
taking bread, he praised you.
He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:
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.

Christ is the bread of life

**All: When we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus,
until you come in glory.**

Lord of all life,
help us to work together for that day
when your kingdom comes
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people,
gather us in your loving arms
and bring us with the Blessed Virgin Mary,
St Anne and all the saints
to feast at your table in heaven.
Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,
for ever and ever.



The Lord's Prayer

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

Sung by all

Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin ____ of the world:
have mer - cy on us, have mer - cy on us.

Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin ____ of the world:
have mer - cy on us, have mer - cy on us.

Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin _ of the world: grant us peace.

Giving of Communion

God's holy gifts for God's holy people.

All: Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

All are welcome to gather around the altar, as directed, to receive Communion or a blessing. If you are a visitor and usually receive Communion in your home church you are welcome to receive here.

Holy Communion may be received in the bread alone, or in bread and wine as you prefer. Please indicate clearly what you wish to receive, and wait until those standing with you have received before returning to your place.

The practice of intinction (dipping) the host is not permitted.

*During Communion Christine sings
'Come O Lord inspire us'*

*And leads us in singing the Taizé Chant
'Kindle a flame'*

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the Taizé Chant. The first staff is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody consists of quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The lyrics 'Kin - dle a flame to light - en the dark and' are written below the notes. The second staff continues the melody with quarter notes: G4, F#4, E4, D4, C4. The lyrics 'take all fear a - way.' are written below. A large oval is drawn around the final notes (C4, D4, E4, F#4, G4) of the second staff, indicating a sustained or held note.

Prayer after Communion

All: We give you thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts;
kindle in us the fire of your Spirit
that when your Christ comes again
we may shine as lights before his face;
who is alive and reigns now and for ever.
Amen.

Final Hymn

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here,
until the Son of God appear.

Refrain:

*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 vict'ry o'er the grave.

Rejoice, rejoice!...

O come, thou dayspring, come and cheer
our spirits by thine advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadows put to flight.

Rejoice, rejoice!...

O come, thou key of David, come
and open wide our heav'nly home;
make safe the way that leads on high,
and close the path to misery.

Rejoice, rejoice!...

O come, O come, thou Lord of might,
who to thy tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times didst give the Law
in cloud and majesty and awe.

Rejoice, rejoice!..

Notices

The Blessing & Dismissal

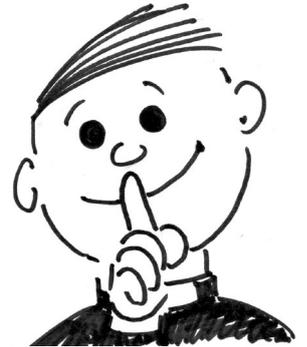
Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you,
scatter the darkness from before your path,
and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All: Amen.

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

All: In the name of Christ. Amen.

*Please sit quietly after the clergy have departed and enable
those who wish to listen to the organ voluntary to do so.
There's plenty of time to chat over coffee.*



The names of those recorded in St Anne's Book of Remembrance
and whose anniversaries fall during this month
are displayed in our entrance corridor.



NOTICES

- **Everyone is welcome to stay for refreshments** after this service.
- **Christmas Events and Services:**
 - Sunday 21st 11am - Eucharist for Advent 4
 - Sunday 21st 12:30pm - Sing Over Soho - congregational carol singing out of our windows.
 - Sunday 21st 5:30pm - Christmas Quartet - Seasonal music & refreshments with the 4 Strings Quartet in Sacred Grounds.
 - Monday 22nd 7pm - Traditional Carol Service in church.
 - Christmas Eve 5pm - Gathered at the Manger - family service
 - Christmas Day 11am - Eucharist of Christ's birth.
 - Sunday 28th 11am - Eucharist for the first Sunday after Christmas
- Weekday services as usual until Morning Prayer on Christmas Eve, there are no services on weekdays between Sundays 28th Dec and 4th Jan.
- **Pick up a copy of our free newsletter** today for a full list of Christmas services here and much more.
- **Christmas posters:** please spread the word about our Christmas services by displaying a poster on the noticeboard of your block of flats.
- Regular members of St Anne's are often away over Christmas. **Please sign up today** to help welcoming people, serving refreshments, etc. at services over the Christmas period.
- **Bible Study** continues after Morning Prayer on Wednesday at 9am in Sacred Grounds.

REGULAR SERVICES AT ST ANNE'S, SOHO

Sunday	11.00am	Sung Eucharist
Sunday	5.00pm	Holy Communion (<i>first Sunday of the month</i>)
Tuesday	8:30am	Morning Prayer
Tuesday	1:05pm	Holy Communion
Wednesday	8:30am	Morning Prayer
Wednesday	4:30pm	Evening Prayer
Thursday	8:30am	Morning Prayer

The church is open for private prayer
Monday – Friday 9am – 5:30pm (often until 8pm)

For Pastoral Care including home visits, prayers for healing and anointing, confessions, funeral services, weddings & baptisms please contact:

The Rector: The Revd Simon Buckley
rector@stannes-soho.org.uk / 07964 403368

Curate: The Revd Martha Pennel
curate@stannes-soho.org.uk / 07472 372766

Honorary Assistant Clergy: The Revd David Francis Darling

Churchwardens: Robbie Drummond and Mark Allan
churchwarden@stannes-soho.org.uk

Safeguarding Officer: Jennifer Cox
safeguarding@stannes-soho.org.uk

Operations Manager: Jake Lee
operations@stannes-soho.org.uk / 020 7437 8039

Community & Events Coordinator: Matthew Ward
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