

**The Benefice of North Creake, South Creake with
Waterden, Syderstone with Barmer, and Sculthorpe**



Benefice Sung Mass Common Worship (Order One)

**The Second Sunday of Advent
Sunday, 7th December 2025**

**Principal Celebrant: The Revd Edward Gunn, SSC
Concelebrant & Preacher: The Revd Clive Wylie, OC (Rector)**

THE GATHERING

Stand when the Sacristy bell is rung.

The Entrance Hymn is sung as the ministers come to the altar.

Hail to the Lord's anointed,
great David's greater son!
Hail, in the time appointed,
his reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression,
to set the captive free;
to take away transgression,
and rule in equity.

He comes with succour speedy
to those who suffer wrong;
to help the poor and needy,
and bid the weak be strong;
to give them songs for sighing,
their darkness turn to light,
whose souls, condemned and dying,
were precious in his sight.

He shall come down like showers
upon the fruitful earth,
and love, joy, hope, like flowers,
spring in his path to birth:
before him on the mountains
shall peace the herald go;
and righteousness in fountains
from hill to valley flow.

To him shall prayer unceasing
and daily vows ascend;
his kingdom still increasing,
a kingdom without end.
The tide of time shall never
his covenant remove;
his name shall stand forever;
that name to us is love.

Paraphrase of Psalm 72 by James Montgomery (1771-1854)

The Greeting

In the name of the Father,
✠ and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

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

The priest introduces the Eucharist.

Kneel or sit for the Prayers of Penitence

Most merciful God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
we confess that we have sinned
in thought, word and deed.
We have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
In your mercy
forgive what we have been,

help us to amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be;
that we may do justly, love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God. **Amen.**

The Kyrie eleison is sung kneeling or sitting

**Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy. Have mercy on us.**

**Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison, eleison.
Christe eleison, Christe eleison, Christe eleison, eleison.
Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison, eleison.**

The priest says

Almighty God,
who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon you,
pardon ✠ and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The priest then says Let us pray.

*Remain kneeling or sitting for **The Collect***

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power
and come among us,
and with great might succour us;
that whereas, through our sins and wickedness
we are grievously hindered
in running the race that is set before us,
your bountiful grace and mercy
may speedily help and deliver us;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honour and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

All sit and listen to the readings.

First Reading

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of

wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Isaiah 11:1-10

Responsorial Psalm

R In his time shall the righteous flourish.

Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the king's son; That he may rule your people righteously and the poor with justice; That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, and the little hills bring righteousness. **R**

He shall defend the needy among the people; he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor. He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, from one generation to another. **R**

He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, like showers that water the earth. In his time shall the righteous flourish; there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more. **R**

Blessèd be the Lord God, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous deeds! And blessèd be his glorious name for ever! and may all the earth be filled with his glory. Amen. Amen. **R**

Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19

Second Reading

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement

grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, 'Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name'; and again he says, 'Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people'; and again, 'Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him'; and again Isaiah says, 'The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope.' May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Romans 15:4-13

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Gospel

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.' This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, 'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight."' Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry

his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing-floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Matthew 3:1-12

*Remain standing for the **Lighting of the Advent Candle***

Jesus said, 'Do not think that I have come to abolish the law
and the prophets:

I have not come to abolish them but to fulfil them.

Amen. Come soon, Lord Jesus!

The second candle is lit and this response is used

Jesus is the light of the world.

A light no darkness can ever put out.

We sing:

Prophet voices loudly crying,
making pathways clear;
glimpsing glory, self-denying,
calling all to hear.

Through their message - challenged, shaken -
hearts awaken:

God is near!

*Sit for the **Homily***

A period of reflection follows the homily.

Long ago, prophets knew
Christ would come, born a Jew,
come to make all things new,
bear his people's burden,
freely love and pardon.

*Ring bells, ring, ring ring!
Sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!
When he comes, when he comes,
who will make him welcome?*

God in time, God in man,
this is God's timeless plan:
He will come, as a man,
born himself of woman,
God divinely human.

Journey ends! Where afar
Bethlem shines, like a star,
stable door stands ajar.
Unborn Son of Mary,
Saviour, do not tarry!

*Ring bells, ring, ring ring!
Sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!
Jesus comes! Jesus comes!
We will make him welcome!*

*Fred Pratt Green (1903-2000)
© 1971 Stainer & Bell Ltd.*

Stand for the Affirmation of Faith

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 *(Bow at the mention of the Incarnation)*
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 priest then says Let us pray.

*Kneel or sit for **The Prayer of the Faithful***

Prayer is offered for the world and its people, for those who suffer and those in need, for the Church and its members.

After each clause one of the following responses may be used.

Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

or

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

At the end of the petitions, the reader may introduce a period of silence in which personal petitions may be offered. After the silence, the priest concludes the prayers, by saying

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

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

*Stand for **The Peace***

The priest says

Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your apostles,
'Peace I leave you, my peace I give you.'
Look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church,
and graciously grant her peace and unity in accordance with your will,
who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Let us offer each other a sign of peace.

All exchange a sign of peace.

*During the **Offertory Hymn** the altar is prepared, and bread and wine are placed upon it.*

Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heaven, to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling,

all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesu, thou art all compassion,
pure unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter every trembling heart.

Come, almighty to deliver,
let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never,
never more thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.

Finish then thy new creation,
pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee.
Changed from glory into glory,
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise.

Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

The Prayer over the Gifts is said by the priest.

Lord, accept our praises;
have compassion on our human frailty,
and, since we have nothing of ourselves to offer,
let your mercy make us acceptable in your sight.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Remain standing throughout The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
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:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest.

✠ **Blessed is he, blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest.

Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest.

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. ✠

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did, in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation, we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

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 Our Lady Saint Mary, our holy father Benedict, Saint Columba, Saint Ambrose, 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. **Amen.**

*The priest invites the people to join in reciting **The Lord's Prayer***

At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

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.**

The priest continues

Deliver us, Lord, from every evil, and grant us peace in our day. In your mercy keep us free from sin and protect us from all anxiety as we wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

The priest breaks the consecrated bread.

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
**Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

The Agnus Dei is said as the bread is broken

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, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.

Giving of Communion

The priest then holds up the broken host and says

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

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

*The priest receives communion and then says the **Communion Antiphon.***

Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights,
and behold the joy which comes to you from God.

Bar 5:5; 4:36

All baptised Christians, who are in love and charity with their neighbours, are invited to receive Holy Communion, in one or both kinds.

*If you are uncomfortable receiving the chalice, we ask that for reasons of hygiene you **do not intinct** (dip the host) in the chalice, but receive only the host. Holy Communion is received fully in either the host or the chalice.*

Others are welcome to come forward to receive a blessing. Please indicate by crossing your arms across your chest.

For those watching the live streamed service you may wish to make an act of Spiritual Communion, giving thanks for the saving death and resurrection of Jesus and asking him to be with you 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

A period of reflection is observed while all continue to make their thanksgiving.

O Christ the same, through all our story's pages,
our loves and hopes, our failures and our fears;
eternal Lord, the King of all the ages,
unchanging still, amid the passing years:
O living Word, the source of all creation,
who spread the skies, and set the stars ablaze,
O Christ the same, who wrought our whole salvation,
we bring our thanks to you for all our yesterdays.

O Christ the same, the friend of sinners, sharing
our inmost thoughts, the secrets none can hide,
still as of old upon your body bearing
the marks of love, in triumph glorified:
O Son of Man, who stooped for us from heaven,
O Prince of life, in all your saving power,
O Christ the same, to whom our hearts are given,
we bring our thanks to you for this the present hour.

O Christ the same, secure within whose keeping
our lives and loves, our days and years remain,
our work and rest, our waking and our sleeping,
our calm and storm, our pleasure and our pain:
O Lord of love, for all our joys and sorrows,
for all our hopes, when earth shall fade and flee,
O Christ the same, beyond our brief tomorrows,
we bring our thanks to you for all that is to be.

*Timothy Dudley-Smith (b. 1926)
© 1984 Hope Publishing Company*

The priest then says Let us pray.

Stand for the Post Communion Prayer

Father in heaven,
who sent your Son to redeem the world
and will send him again to be our judge:
give us grace so to imitate him
in the humility and purity of his first coming
that, when he comes again,
we may be ready to greet him
with joyful love and firm faith;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Dismissal

The priest says

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

The priest then blesses the people.

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.
Amen.

The priest dismisses the congregation with these words

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

The Recessional Hymn is sung.

Come, thou long-expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us;
let us find our rest in thee.

Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver;
born a child and yet a king;
born to reign in us for ever;
now thy gracious kingdom bring.

By thine own eternal Spirit,
rule in all our hearts alone:
by thine all-sufficient merit,
raise us to thy glorious throne.

Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

*During the **Recessional Hymn** the ministers go to the image of Our Lady and Child where the **Angelus** is said.*

Angelus

The angel of the Lord brought tidings unto Mary.
And she conceived by the Holy Spirit.

Hail, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.
Blessed art thou among women,
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

**Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners,
now and at the hour of our death.**

Behold the handmaid of the Lord.
Be it unto me according to thy Word.

Hail, Mary... **Holy Mary...**

And the Word was made flesh. *(Bow or genuflect)*
And dwelt among us.

Hail, Mary... **Holy Mary...**

Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.
That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

We beseech thee, O Lord, pour thy grace into our hearts, that as we have known the Incarnation of thy Son Jesus Christ by the message of an angel, so by his ✠ cross and passion we may be brought to the glory of his resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*A **Postlude** is played as the ministers return to the sacristy.*



Daily Readings

Mon, 8th Dec *(The Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary)*

Luke 1:26-38

Thu, 11th Dec

Matthew 11:11-15

Tue, 9th Dec

Matthew 18:12-14

Fri, 12th Dec

Matthew 11:16-19

Wed, 10th Dec

Matthew 11:28-30

Sat, 13th Dec *(Lucy, Martyr at Syracuse)*

Matthew 17:10-13

Prayers of the Faithful

The Diocese & wider Church:

Bishop Graham (*Norwich*); Bishop Jane (*Lynn*); Bishop Ian (*Thetford*)

The Diocesan Vision that people may be transformed by Christ

The Church of Bangladesh

The Deanery:

Robert Ladds SSC, Peter Eagles KHC, & Luke Irvine-Chapel SSC (*Assistant Bishops in the Diocese*)

The Creakes Benefice & The Coxford Group with Toftrees:

Fr Clive & the Anglican Order of Cistercians

Fr Edward

Fr Tripp Norris, SCP & the people of St Columba's, Suwanee, Georgia

A deeper understanding of our common life across the parishes and a greater witness of faith in our daily lives

A holy keeping of Advent

The sick and those in need:

Emri, Colin, Robert, Jack, Chris, Gareth, Roddy, Tim, David, Liz, Andrew, Lesley, Gina, Ruth, Martin, Br Gilbert, Fr Andrew

Those who are housebound or in care homes:

Michael McGovern, Colleen Mason, Carol Fox

The recently departed:

Elizabeth Rix, Kenneth Wacey, Charles Townshend, Richard Bramley

Year's Mind:

Janice Woods, Hugh Benstead, Patrick Edwards, Bill Coppen-Gardner, George Thompson, William Gittens, Alec Langley, Cynthia Howard, John Taylor, George Bright, Christine Adams, Florence Barnes, George Money, Sarah Crisp, Geoffrey Williamson, Dorothy Watson, David Hands, Stanley Edge, Leslie Smith, Alan Chalmers (*Priest*), Alfred Hewison, Elizabeth Barnes, George Rutland, Joan Fennell, Giles Sherington (*last Abbot of Creake Abbey, 1506*), Georgina Brown, Nora Hurn, Jaine Brown



Lucy, Martyr at Syracuse

Lucy was a native of Syracuse in Sicily. She lived at the beginning of the fourth century, when the Roman authorities were attempting to re-establish the worship of gods they approved. The emperor himself was the focus of one of the cults. Tradition has it that Lucy, as a young Christian, gave away her goods to the poor and was betrayed to the authorities by her angry betrothed, who felt that

they should have become his property. She was put to death for her faith in the year 304. Her name in Latin means Light and, as her feast-day fell in December, she became associated with the one true Light who was coming as the redeemer of the world, the Light that would lighten the nations, the Light that would banish darkness and let the eyes of all behold Truth incarnate. Her feast day is November 13th.



Bishop Jane licenses Fr Clive and Fr Edward at a special service on Monday evening at St Mary's Church, East Rudham



**Inclusive
Church**

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REGULAR REST DAY: Monday



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