St Edmundsbury Cathedral

The Holy Eucharist

during

Advent



Sunday at 10.30 am

PLEASE LEAVE THIS ORDER OF SERVICE IN THE CATHEDRAL
SO THAT IT CAN BE USED ON FUTURE OCCASIONS.

Welcome to St Edmundsbury Cathedral

St Edmundsbury Cathedral is Suffolk's Cathedral. It is a place of worship and mission; a place of welcome and hospitality, serving the Diocese, County and beyond. Rooted in the foundation of the ancient Abbey of St Edmund, we hold our Benedictine principles close. Built on that heritage, the Cathedral today continues to proclaim the Christian faith through our work in worship, mission, hospitality and sustainability, underpinned by our values of faith, welcome, compassion and confidence.

Worship has been offered here since medieval times and, whether you are a regular worshipper or if this is your first time in church, you are welcome and invited to be part of that long tradition today. Most of what you need is found in this service booklet. Hymns are in the red hymn book and the numbers are displayed on the boards at the front of the Cathedral.

The Eucharist, which we celebrate today, is the central act of Christian worship in which we give thanks to God and remember the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Following his command at the Last Supper, we share bread and wine as signs of his body and blood, trusting that Christ is truly present with us in this sacrament. In receiving the Eucharist, we are united with him and with one another, nourished in faith, and sent out to live in love and service.

Advent is a season of expectation and preparation, as we prepare to celebrate the coming (*adventus*) of Christ, and also look ahead to his final advent as judge at the end of time. The characteristic note of Advent is expectation, rather than penitence; throughout our worship, there should be a sense of alert watchfulness as we pray 'Maranatha' – 'Our Lord, come'.

If you are new to our congregation and would like to learn more about the life of the Cathedral community, please speak to one of the wardens or clergy, or visit our website: stedscathedral.org. Alternatively, you can complete one of the 'new member cards' available at the west end of the Cathedral.

Inclusive Church

St Edmundsbury Cathedral is part of the **Inclusive Church** Network. As such, we believe in a church which celebrates and affirms every person and does not discriminate on grounds of age, disability, economic power, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, learning disability, mental health, neurodiversity, or sexuality.



St Edmundsbury Cathedral is committed to **environmental action** and is also a 'Fairtrade Cathedral'. This order of service is printed on recycled paper.



Children are very welcome at the Cathedral – we're glad they are here and please do not worry if younger children make some noise and move around. Feel free to make use of our children's area and to move in and out of the Cathedral during the service. You are welcome to feed your baby in the Cathedral, and changing facilities can be found in the Cathedral Centre toilets; please ask a warden for directions. Junior Church meets most weeks during term time. Please feel free to join them in procession during the opening hymn.

St Edmundsbury Cathedral is committed to the **safeguarding**, care and nurture of everyone within our community. If you have any concerns about your own or another's welfare, please contact our Cathedral Safeguarding Officer, Tanya Dawson at tanyadawson@stedscathedral.org or on 07736 994036. Alternatively, you can speak to any of the clergy or wardens on duty here today.

To assist you at today's service, please take note of the following information.

Accessibility

- An induction loop system is in operation.
- The order of service indicates whether to sit, stand or kneel. However, please feel free to adopt the posture with which you are most comfortable.
- Large-print orders of service are available.

Photography, Filming and Live-streaming

- For safeguarding reasons, members of the public are not permitted to take photographs or video recordings during the service.
- Please note that this service will be livestreamed on YouTube. If you do not want to appear in this please inform a warden or verger.
- Photographs, video or livestream footage in which you may appear could be used by the Cathedral at any time and appear in the public domain including social media.
- Please ensure your mobile phones are turned to silent.



The Order of Service

¶ *The Gathering*

After the welcome, all are invited to stand and the following is said.

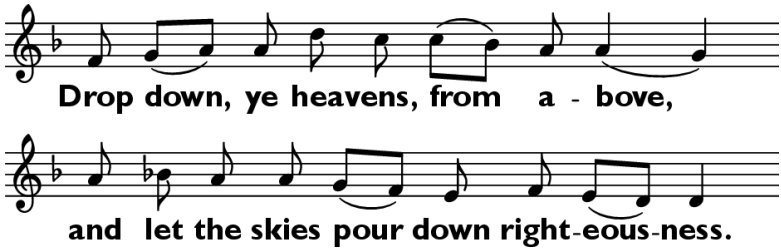
In the name of the ✠ Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

All **Amen.**

All remain standing as the choir and clergy enter during

The Advent Prose

All



Cantor

Be not wroth very sore, O Lord,
neither remember iniquity for ever:
thy holy cities are a wilderness,
Sion is a wilderness, Jerusalem a desolation:
our holy and our beautiful house,
where our fathers praised thee.

We have sinned, and are as an unclean thing,
and we all do fade away as a leaf:
and our iniquities, like the wind,
have taken us away;
thou hast hid thy face from us:
and hast consumed us, because of our iniquities.

Ye are my witnesses, saith the Lord,
and my servant whom I have chosen;
that ye may know me and believe me:
I, even I, am the Lord,
and beside me there is no Saviour:
and there is none that can deliver out of my hand.

Comfort ye, comfort ye my people,
my salvation shall not tarry:
I have blotted out as a thick cloud thy transgressions:
fear not, for I will save thee:
for I am the Lord thy God,
the Holy One of Israel, thy Redeemer.

Based on Isaiah 45.8

All remain standing as the President gives

The Greeting

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

All **and also with you.**

Now is the time to wake out of sleep,

All **for our salvation is nearer**
than when we first believed.

The Prayers of Penitence

As a candle on the Advent Crown is lit, the Deacon says

Advent 1
We light this candle for our ancestors in faith,
for those who first trusted in God's promises.
As we recall the times when we have failed to live by faith,
let us confess our sins.

Advent 2
We light this candle for God's prophets,
for those who called people back to God.
As we recall the times when we have ignored God's call,
let us confess our sins.

Advent 3
We light this candle for John the Baptist,
the one who prepared the way for the coming of Christ.
As we prepare to welcome Christ anew, and remember our need of his mercy, let us confess our sins.

Advent 4
We light this candle for Mary, the mother of Jesus,
the one who bore Christ to the world.
As we recall the times when we have failed to receive Christ with joy and obedience, let us confess our sins.

All sit or kneel. Silence is kept.

All **Father eternal, giver of light and grace,**
we have sinned against you and against our neighbour,
in what we have thought,
in what we have said and done,
through ignorance, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We have wounded your love,
and marred your image in us.
We are sorry and ashamed,
and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
forgive us all that is past;
and lead us out from darkness
to walk as children of light.
Amen.

All remain seated as the Advent Crown is raised and the choir sings

The Kyrie

Kyrie, eleison.	*Lord, have mercy upon us.*
Christe, eleison.	*Christ, have mercy upon us.*
Kyrie, eleison.	*Lord, have mercy upon us.*

The President gives

The Absolution

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

All **Amen.**

All remain seated as the President prays

The Collect

Let us pray.

Silence is kept. The President prays the Collect to which all respond

All **Amen.**

¶ *The Liturgy of the Word*

The Readings

Either one or two readings from Scripture precede the Gospel reading.

At the end of each, the reader says

For the word of the Lord.
All **Thanks be to God.**

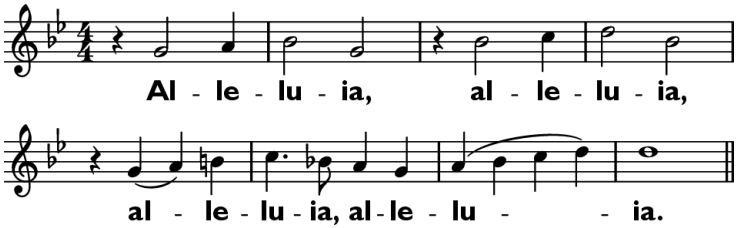
All stand for

The Gospel Acclamation

The Gospel Book is carried in procession to the centre of the Nave and the people turn towards it.

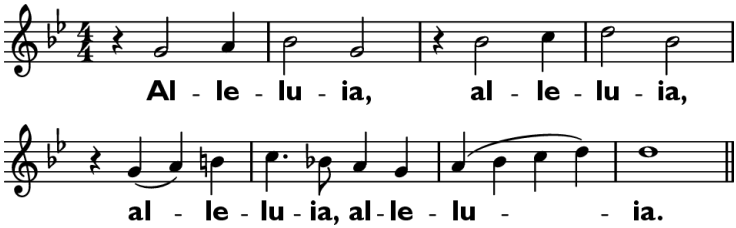
Choir Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

All



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

All



The Gospel Reading

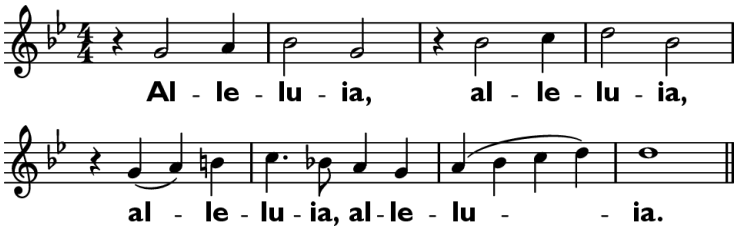
Deacon The Lord be with you
All **and also with you.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord according to *N.*
All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

At the end

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
All **Praise to you, O Christ.**

All



All sit for

The Sermon

The sermon is followed by a time of stillness for reflection, on occasion accompanied by music on the organ.

All stand for

The Affirmation of Faith

Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of God.

All **Though he was divine,**
he did not cling to equality with God,
but made himself nothing.
Taking the form of a slave,
he was born in human likeness.
He humbled himself
and was obedient to death,
even the death of the cross.
Therefore God has raised him on high,
and given him the name above every name:
that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bow,
and every voice proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

The Prayers of Intercession

Deacon Watchful at all times,
let us pray for strength to stand with confidence
before our Maker and Redeemer.

All sit or kneel.

After each bidding

Maranatha.
All **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

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*

All stand as the President leads

The Peace

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.**

Deacon Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may exchange a sign of peace.

All remain standing to sing

The Offertory Hymn

During which the gifts of the people are brought forward; the altar is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it.

A collection is taken for the mission and ministry of the Cathedral. Please give as generously as you can. If you do not carry cash you can donate after the service using one of the contactless giving points or by scanning the QR code on the back of this service booklet.

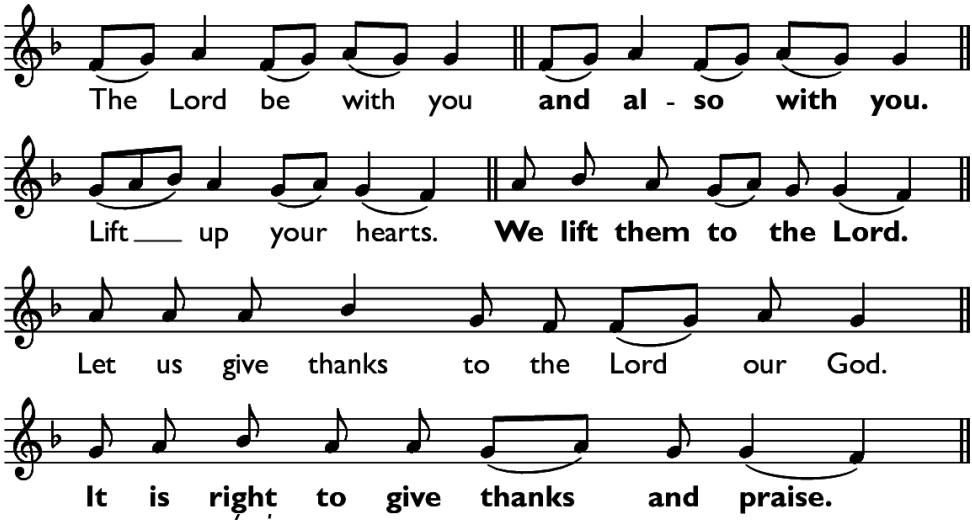
Taking of the Bread and Wine

President Look upon us in mercy not in judgement;
draw us from hatred to love;
make the frailty of our praise
a dwelling place for your glory.

All **Amen.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

The President and people sing the Sursum Corda.



From The First Sunday of Advent until 16 December

President

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:

From 17 December until Christmas Eve:

President

It is indeed right and good to give you thanks and praise,
almighty God and everlasting Father,
through Jesus Christ your Son.
He is the one foretold by all the prophets,
whom the Virgin Mother bore
with love beyond all telling.
John the Baptist was his herald
and made him known when at last he came.
In his love Christ fills us with joy
as we prepare to celebrate his birth,
so that when he comes again
he may find us watching in prayer,
our hearts filled with wonder and praise.

And so, with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your glory,
and join in their unending hymn of praise:

Choir

Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus,	*Holy, holy, holy Lord*
Dominus Deus sabaoth.	*God of hosts,*
Pleni sunt coeli et terra	*heaven and earth are full*
gloria tua.	*of thy glory:*
Hosanna in excelsis.	*Hosanna in the highest.*
Benedictus qui venit	*Blessed is he that cometh*
in nomine Domini.	*in the name of the Lord:*
Hosanna in excelsis.	*Hosanna in the highest.*

President 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.

Deacon Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

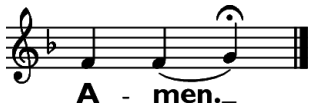
All **Dying you destroyed our death,**
rising you restored our life:
Lord Jesus, come in glory.

President 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 Blessed Mary,
James, Edmund 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.

All



All sit or kneel as the consecrated bread and wine are raised in the sight of the people and the Sanctus bell is rung.

Silence is kept.

The Lord's Prayer

Deacon 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.

The Breaking of the Bread

President Every time we eat this bread and drink this cup,
All **we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

The Invitation to Communion

President 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.

Spiritual Communion

The prayer for Spiritual Communion is offered here for those joining by livestream. Spiritual Communion is the historic practice in the church for anyone who cannot receive the bread and wine physically.

The choir sings

The Agnus Dei

Agnus Dei qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.	*O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.*
Agnus Dei qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.	*O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.*
Agnus Dei qui tollis peccata mundi, dona nobis pacem.	*O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.*

The Communion

Please follow the directions of the Cathedral wardens.

If you are used to receiving communion in your own church, whatever your Christian tradition, you are warmly invited to receive the sacrament today.

If you require gluten-free communion bread, which is available at the north altar rail, please indicate to the minister.

If kneeling at the altar rail is difficult for you, a standing station is available.

Anyone wishing to receive a blessing is also welcome: please carry this order of service with you as an indication to the ministers.

If you wish to receive prayers for healing, and anointing, please go to the Lady Chapel after receiving Communion.

During Communion the choir sings

The Motet

The Prayer after Communion

President Let us pray.

All sit or kneel as silence is kept.

The President prays the Post Communion Prayer; then all pray

All **Generous God,**
you have fed us at your heavenly table.
Set us on fire with your Spirit
that when Christ comes again
we may shine like lights before his face,
who with you and the Spirit lives for ever.
Amen.

¶ *The Dismissal*

All stand as the President gives

The Blessing

The Lord be with you
All **and also with you.**

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.**

All remain standing to sing

The Final Hymn

All remain standing as the Deacon leads

The Dismissal

Our Lord says, 'I am coming soon.'

All **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

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

All **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

All remain standing as the procession departs and the organist plays

The Organ Voluntary

Refreshments are served after the service in the South Transept
to which everyone is warmly invited.

Giving

St Edmundsbury Cathedral is a charitable organisation, dependent on your donations for our ongoing work of worship, service and hospitality.
Please give as generously as you can.

If you do not carry cash you can donate using one of the contactless giving points or by scanning the QR code below.

If you are a UK taxpayer, please consider using a Gift Aid envelope (remembering to fill in your details and sign it) or making a written declaration allowing the Chancellor to add 25% to your gift.
In this way a gift of £5.00 becomes £6.25 at no extra cost to you.

Thank you for your generosity.

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