**St. John the Baptist, Old Malden**

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By Nellie Edwards

*Waiting in Hope and Expectation*

Advent

*The Eucharist*

**Gathering Hymn**

**Lighting of the Advent Wreath** *(the children come to the front)*

**The Gathering**

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

**The Greeting**

The Lord be with you

**and also with you.**

*The President introduces the service.*

**Prayers of Penitence**

When the Lord comes,   
he will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness,  
and will disclose the purposes of the heart.  
Therefore in the light of Christ let us confess our sins. *1 Corinthians 4.5*

May your loving mercy come to me, O Lord,

and your salvation according to your word:

Lord have mercy. **Lord have mercy.**

Your word is a lantern to my feet and a light to my path:

Christ have mercy. **Christ have mercy.**

O let your mercy come to me that I may live,

for your law is my delight.

Lord have mercy. **Lord have mercy.**

*The president pronounces the Absolution,*

May almighty God have mercy on you,

† forgive you your sins, and bring you to everlasting life. **Amen.**

**The Collect**

*The president introduces a period of silent prayer with the words ‘Let us pray’. The Collect is said, and all respond* **“Amen”**.

**The Liturgy of the Word**

*(The Readings are found on the pew sheet.)*

**First Reading**

At the end of each the reader may say:

For the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Second Reading**

At the end of each the reader may say:

For the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gradual Hymn**

**Gospel Reading**

*Here follows the Gospel Acclamation,*

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

*then as the Gospel is announced the reader says:*

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

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*The Gospel Reading concludes with:*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon** *(followed by a short period of silence)*

**The Affirmation of Faith**

We say together in faith

**Holy, holy, holy**

**is the Lord God almighty,**

**who was, and is, and is to come.**

We believe in God the Father,

who created all things:

**for by his will they were created**

**and have their being.**

We believe in God the Son,

who was slain:

**for by his blood,**

**he ransomed us for God,**

**from every tribe and language,**

**from every people and nation.**

We believe in God the Holy Spirit:

**the Spirit and the Bride say, ‘Come!’**

**Even so come, Lord Jesus! Amen.**

**Prayers of Intercession** *(Prayers for those both near and far.)*

*These responses may be used*

Lord, in your mercy (or) Lord, hear us.

**hear our prayer. Lord, graciously hear us.**

*And at the end*

**Merciful Father,**

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

**The Liturgy of the Sacrament**

**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. *Luke 1.78,79*

The peace of the Lord be always with you

**and also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

**The Preparation of the Table**

**Offertory Hymn**

**Offertory Prayer**

Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power,

the glory, the splendour, and the majesty;

for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.

**All things come from you,**

**and of your own do we give you.**

**The Eucharistic Prayer** *(Prayer F)*

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.**

You are worthy of our thanks and praise,  
Lord God of truth,  
for by the breath of your mouth  
you have spoken your word,  
and all things have come into being.

You fashioned us in your image  
and placed us in the garden of your delight.  
Though we chose the path of rebellion  
you would not abandon your own.

Again and again you drew us into your covenant of grace.  
You gave your people the law and taught us by your prophets  
to look for your reign of justice, mercy and peace.

As we watch for the signs of your kingdom on earth,  
we echo the song of the angels in heaven,  
evermore praising you and saying:

**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.**

Lord God, you are the most holy one,  
enthroned in splendour and light,  
yet in the coming of your Son Jesus Christ  
you reveal the power of your love  
made perfect in our human weakness.

Embracing our humanity,  
Jesus showed us the way of salvation;  
loving us to the end,  
he gave himself to death for us;  
dying for his own,  
he set us free from the bonds of sin,  
that we might rise and reign with him in glory.

On the night he gave up himself for us all  
he 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.

Therefore we proclaim the death

that he suffered on the cross,  
we celebrate his resurrection, his bursting from the tomb,  
we rejoice that he reigns at your right hand on high  
and we long for his coming in glory.

As we recall the one, perfect sacrifice of our redemption,  
Father, by your Holy Spirit let these gifts of your creation  
be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;  
form us into the likeness of Christ  
and make us a perfect offering in your sight.

Look with favour on your people  
and in your mercy, hear the cry of our hearts.  
Bless the earth, heal the sick, let the oppressed go free  
and fill your Church with power from on high.

Gather your people from the ends of the earth  
to feast with the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. John the Baptist,

and all your saints at the table in your kingdom,  
where the new creation is brought to perfection  
in 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.**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.**

**Breaking of the Bread**

*The president 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**

**Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.  
Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.  
Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us peace.**

**Giving of Communion**

*The president says the invitation to Communion:*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Take, eat in remembrance that Christ died for you,

and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

*During Communion the Choir sing an anthem and then*

*we join them for the* **Communion Hymn**

**Prayer after Communion**

**Notices**

**Blessing**

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.**

**Final Hymn**

**The Dismissal**

Our Lord says, “I am coming soon”.

**Amen, come Lord Jesus.**

May the Lord, when he comes,

Find us watching and waiting. **Amen.**

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*Everyone is most warmly invited to stay after the service*

*for refreshments and a chat. Please say hello and speak*

*to Fr. Michael, Rev'd Milly Broome, or another member of the Ministry Team if you have any questions*

*or there is anything we can do for you.*

*We hope you find a warm welcome at St. John’s.*

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