



CROWN COURT  
**CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**  
COVENT GARDEN

**Second Sunday of Christmas**  
**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at 11.15am**  
**Holy Communion**

**Minister: The Rev Justin Taylor**  
**The lessons are read by Jennifer Laird**

Listen to me, my people, and give heed to Me, my nation, for a teaching will go out from Me, and my justice for a light to the peoples. *Isaiah 51:4*

*God of power and life, You are the glory of all who believe in You.  
Fill the world with Your splendour and show the nations the light of Your truth;  
through Jesus Christ Your Son, our Lord, Who is alive and reigns with You and the  
Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever.*

\* Indicates where those who are able should stand

## **VOLUNTARY**

### **WELCOME**

A warm welcome to worship at Crown Court Church of Scotland – ‘The Kirk of the Crown of Scotland.’ Whether you are visiting for the first time or are with us occasionally or often - we are delighted to be able to welcome you today in person or online.

*We regularly stream our services. The camera will mainly be focused on the minister and the front of the sanctuary. However, should you wish to ensure you are not included in the livestream, please may we ask that you sit to the rear of the sanctuary by the stained-glass windows.*

### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

\* **HYMN** PRAISE THE LORD, THE GROUND OF GOODNESS

STUTTGART

1. Praise the Lord, the ground of goodness,  
source of silence, sound and time,  
nourisher of fed and foodless,  
catalyst of sense and rhyme.

2. Praise the Lord with city voices,  
pitched in concrete, sweat and steel,  
let the thousand urban choices  
bias to what's right and real.

3. Praise the Lord as science advances,  
research deepens, knowledge grows.  
Let such progress serve, with gladness,  
every need God shall expose.

4. Praise the Lord for honest pleasure:  
fond embrace, surprising news,  
soul-filled thought, creative treasure,  
skill to counsel or amuse.

5. Praise the Lord as churches chorus -  
Quaker-quiet, Salvation-brassed,  
Catholic, Orthodox - united,  
showing oneness meant to last.

6. Praise the Lord, the world's Creator;  
praise our host and guest, the Son;  
praise the ever-roving Spirit,  
pulse of life for everyone.

#### PRAYER OF APPROACH AND CONFESSION

**\* HYMN 314 Child in a Manager**

BUNESSAN

SCRIPTURE READING: Jeremiah 31: 7-14 (page 791)

WE(E) BLETHER

**\* HYMN 318 Lord you were rich beyond all splendour**

QUELLE EST CETTE ODEUR AGREABLE

SCRIPTURE READING: John 1:10-18 (page 1063)

SERMON

OFFERING AND DEDICATION

*As the Offering is brought forward the congregation stand and sing the doxology:*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God all creatures here below;  
praise God, the Trinity of love,  
before, beneath, around, above.**

## THE APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

### **\* HYMN I come in faith and fear to God**

AN COINEACHAN

1. I come in faith and fear to God,  
to share his feast, to hear his word,  
and meet my saviour, friend and Lord  
who bids me call him Jesus.

Chorus:

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA,  
ALLELUIA, GLORY BE TO JESUS.

2. I come with shame for what I've been,  
for what I've left undone, unseen,  
for what I never meant to mean,  
for what discredits Jesus.

3. I come because God knows my name  
and welcomes me, despite my shame,  
forgiving all so I might claim  
companionship with Jesus.

4. I come because God asks me to,  
proclaiming This is meant for you.  
And I believe God's word is true,  
made visible in Jesus.

5. I come and take God's life in mine  
as, in the ancient sacred sign  
of broken bread and new-poured wine,  
I taste the grace of Jesus.

6. O loving God, let me receive  
your very self and so believe  
that we are one. Then give me leave  
to live again for Jesus.

## INVITATION

## NARRATIVE OF THE INSTITUTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

## THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

M: The Lord be with you.

**P: And also with you.**

M: Lift up your hearts.

**P: We lift them to the Lord.**

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**P: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**P: 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.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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 debts,  
as we forgive our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
the power, and the glory, for ever.  
Amen.**

## BREAKING OF BREAD

**M:** Jesus, Lamb of God,

**P:** **Have mercy on us.**

**M:** Jesus, bearer of our sins,

**P:** **Have mercy on us.**

**M:** Jesus, redeemer of the world,

**P:** **Grant us peace**

## COMMUNION

### **\*HYMN God Incarnate, Living Presence**

REGENT SQUARE

1. God incarnate, living presence  
of the Lord that dwells above;  
come to us in human weakness,  
not your power or might to prove,  
but to show, in Christ among us,  
what it means to live in Love.

2. God, Emmanuel, kings and scholars  
travelled far to worship you,  
bringing gifts, their precious treasures,  
offering all that you were due,  
finding in a humble stable  
God was making all things new.

3. Here we gather, faithful people,  
seeking God in human form;  
some with purpose and direction;  
some unsure, afraid, or worn;  
now to join these ancient travellers,  
come to see God's Love reborn.

4. See! We come to lay before you  
costly gifts of love and care,  
different kinds of faithful service,  
precious lives we're called to share;  
God among us, here we give you  
all we have and all we are.

5. God incarnate, living wonder,  
heaven and earth in harmony;  
God, Emmanuel, promised presence,  
word made flesh in Christ we see;  
glory, praise and prayer we bring you!  
This is our Epiphany!

\* THE BLESSING & SENDING

\* **SUNG AMEN (Hymn 819)**

**POSTLUDE**

*Please stand as the elements are processed from the sanctuary.*

***Please remain seated at the end of the services as there will be a short congregational meeting.***

*Remember to take your Order of Service with you to stay up to date with all the events taking place at Crown Court Church.*

## **INTIMATIONS:**

- |                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| <b>Wednesday 7 January</b> | The Guild meets for a packed lunch at 12.15pm with the talk beginning at 1pm. |
| <b>Saturday 10 January</b> | The Rambling and Social Club meeting at 6.30pm in the hall.                   |
| <b>Sunday 11 January</b>   | Sunday morning worship service at 11.15am with Rev Chris Kellock.             |
| <b>Sunday 18 January</b>   | Sunday morning worship service at 11.15am with Rev Canon Prof Paul Middleton  |

## **Church Email**

If you would like to receive our weekly church email, please contact the church administrator at [office@crowncourtchurch.org.uk](mailto:office@crowncourtchurch.org.uk).

## **Donations under the Gift Aid Scheme**

Visitors who are UK taxpayers are invited to make use of the yellow Gift Aid envelopes which are available both in the pews and at the back of the church. Completed envelopes may be placed in the offering plate.

## **Can you help us?**

We are looking for people to join the duty teams.

Duty is once a month, ideally arriving at church for 10:30am, put orders of services into hymn books which you would hand out or standing at the door welcoming people in. Assisting in taking the offering with the other team members. After the service helping to tidy the church before heading to coffee or home. If you think you can help please speak to the Session Clerk.

## **Prayers & Pastoral Support**

If you require pastoral support, please contact your Elder in the first instance. For longer term support, please contact the Pastoral Care Team either by phoning the church office on 020 7836 5643 (Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 9.30am-2.00pm) or by emailing [clerk@crowncourtchurch.org.uk](mailto:clerk@crowncourtchurch.org.uk). All information is kept completely confidential.

## **The Guild**

The next Guild meeting will be held at 1pm on Wednesday 7 January.

## **New mugs for Crown Court Church**

We are excited to offer new mugs for sale at £7.50 each, available in new colours of blue and yellow. The mugs can be purchased after the Sunday worship service in the hall by either cash or card.

If you unable to come to church to purchase the mugs, please contact Norma McGoldrick ([normamcgoldrick@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:normamcgoldrick@yahoo.co.uk) & 07912 583285).

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# Crown Court Church of Scotland

Russell Street, Covent Garden

London WC2B 5EZ

[crowncourtchurch.org.uk](http://crowncourtchurch.org.uk)

**Interim Moderator:** Revd Alistair Cumming MSc., CCS., FIoL., FLPI  
[acumming@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:acumming@churchofscotland.org.uk)

**Session Clerk:** Sheena-Jane Clark  
[clerk@crowncourtchurch.org.uk](mailto:clerk@crowncourtchurch.org.uk) +44 (0)7954350899

**Church Administrator:** Laura Daniels  
[office@crowncourtchurch.org.uk](mailto:office@crowncourtchurch.org.uk) +44(0)20 7836 5643

## Follow us on Social Media

**Facebook:** @CrownCourtChurchLondonWc2

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The Church of Scotland