

**The Parish Church of St. Paul, Wokingham**



# **The Advent Service of Words and Music**

**Sunday 1st December 2024 at 6.15pm**

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*We stand for the hymns  
and sit for the choir carols and readings.  
At the end of each reading, the reader will say:  
“This is the word of the Lord”  
and we all respond  
“Thanks be to God.”*

*Please stay after the service for refreshments and fellowship  
in the Parish Rooms if you can.*

“Come, my breath and my life.

Come, the consolation  
of my humble soul.

Come, my joy, my glory,  
**my endless delight.”**

St Symeon the New Theologian

## Opening Choir Anthem

Matin Responsory

*(Michael Praetorius, 1571-1621)*

## Proclamation Hymn *(omit \* verses)*

**26 Come thou Redeemer of the earth**

## The Greeting and the Advent Bidding

### The Advent Collect

Almighty God,

give us grace to cast away the works of darkness

and to put on the armour of light,

now in the time of this mortal life,

in which your Son Jesus Christ

came to us in great humility;

that on the last day, when he shall come again in his

glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead,

we may rise to the life immortal;

through him who is alive and reigns with you,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Choir                  Advent Prose (636)

Lesson 1              Exodus 3.1-6  
*Moses and the burning bush*

Choir                  O Emmanuel  
*E Esenvalds (1977- )*

Lesson 2              Isaiah 40.1-8, 11

*All people are grass,  
but the word of God shall stand for ever*

Poem                      Incarnation, by Denise Day Spencer

## **Congregational Hymn**

### **29 A great and mighty wonder**

*Lesson 3                Isaiah 52.7-10  
Be joyful- the Lord has comforted his people*

Quartet                This is the truth sent from above  
*R Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)*

Lesson 4                Malachi 3.1-5  
*Behold, I send my messenger to prepare the  
way before me: the Lord whom you seek will  
suddenly come to his temple*

## **Congregational Hymn**

### **12 Longing for light, we wait in darkness**

Lesson 5                Isaiah 61.1-3, 11  
*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me to proclaim  
liberty to the captives*

Choir                    Of the Father's Heart Begotten  
*arr. D Willcocks (1919-2015)*

**Congregation join in the last verse – hymn 28 omitting v6**

Poem                    Mother and Child, by Charles Causley

Lesson 6      St Luke 1.26-45  
*Mary and Gabriel are met:  
Elizabeth and Mary rejoice*

**Choir**              Bogoroditse Dyevo (from the Vespers)  
*S Rachmaninov (1873-1943)*  
*(Rejoice, O virgin mother of God, Mary full of grace, the Lord is with  
thee: blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy  
womb, for thou hast borne the saviour of our souls.)*

## Advent Prayers

### The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, which 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.**

### Recessional Hymn

**11 Lo, he comes with clouds descending**

### The Blessing

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.  
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

[Please sit]

Organ Music      Overture to the Oratorio 'St Paul'  
*F Mendelssohn, arr. W. T. Best*



*Since 1864 St Paul's has been a beacon in the community  
and a place of encounter with God, in joyful times,  
in times of sadness and in all of the normal routine of life.*

*Our Missional Vocation Statement:  
Shaped by God in the Eucharist,  
we are called to make the richness of his love  
known to everyone in the community.*



*For details of forthcoming events  
and information on anything to  
do  
with the life of the church,  
please check our website  
[www.spauls.org.uk](http://www.spauls.org.uk),  
befriend us on Facebook  
or ring the Parish Office  
on 0118 979 2122.*



## Christmas 2024 in the Parish of St Paul, Wokingham and St Nicholas, Emmbrook

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Sunday 22nd December

|        |                         |           |
|--------|-------------------------|-----------|
| 6.15pm | Nine Lessons and Carols | St Paul's |
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Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> December

|     |                                  |           |
|-----|----------------------------------|-----------|
| 3pm | Christingle Service for all-ages | St Paul's |
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| 5pm | Christingle Service for all-ages | St Paul's |
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Christmas Eve (24<sup>th</sup> December)

|     |                         |              |
|-----|-------------------------|--------------|
| 9pm | First Mass of Christmas | St Nicholas' |
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|      |               |           |
|------|---------------|-----------|
| 11pm | Midnight Mass | St Paul's |
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*(with Choir Carols from 10.30pm)*

Christmas Day (25<sup>th</sup> December)

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|-----|-----------------------------|-----------|
| 8am | Mass (traditional language) | St Paul's |
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|        |                   |           |
|--------|-------------------|-----------|
| 9.30am | All Together Mass | St Paul's |
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