

Welcome to Holy Hermits Online Worship

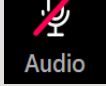
1st Sunday of Advent A

"Hope"


Commissioning of Leaders & Servers




Service Prep: Lauren	Chat Host: Viki	First Reader: Liz
Music: Lauren	Priest: N/A	Second Reader: Bob
Proof-reader: Kerrie-Anne	Deacon: Lauren	Preacher: Lauren
Broadcaster: Lauren	Welcomer: Julie	Fellowship: Lauren
Backup Broadcaster: Barry	Leader: Jeremy	Safety Officer: Chris
Zoom Buttons: Viki	Cantor: Margo	Attendance: Viki

Hospitality

Leader: Please mute  for the service unless invited to offer your voice as part of the service ministry




Have the video camera  on or off and turn the volume and brightness up or down on your device if things are too loud   or too bright  

Our Cantor acts as our voice,  offering the responses, in **Bold Text**, which we say together



Feel welcome to use the chat  and reaction emojis  

 Please take care of yourself in this space.  Come and go as you need 

 It is great to take rest in this space, so falling asleep is also OK 

 Remember, pastoral care is available to all in the community, if you'd like to speak to someone about anything spiritual.  Visit the [help page](#) at the website to reach out 

Our **Being Together ethos and safeguarding practices** can also be accessed on the website 

 Come as you are - we are all here together! 

Leader: Our Holy Hermit Highlights for today

Sr Maria Boulding was an English nun, writer and translator. In 1947 she joined Stanbrook Abbey in Worcester, taking solemn vows in April 1952.

She published a number of books on monastic life. Although rarely appearing in public, she made a conference tour of the Holy Land, Australia and Japan in 1980, then lived as a hermit from 1985 to 2004 with her dog and her cat.

From 2004 until her death in 2009 she travelled and continued translating and revising. She insisted that no Latin be read at her funeral in 2009.



To read more about [Sr Maria Boulding](#) please click the link in the send out

Invitation

Leader: As we settle into worship let your breath be soft, your mind be still, and your heart be open to the presence of God.

[Church of the Advent, Boston, MA, Sunday Bells Ringing](#)

Leader and Cantor unmute

The Greeting

Leader: The Lord is coming!
Prepare the way.

All: The Lord is coming!
We are making ready,

Gathering Prayer

Leader: Come to the mountain of the Lord,
to receive God's teaching
and to walk in his paths.
Come to seek his justice and peace,
as we await his coming among us.

All: As we gather today as your holy people,
help us do right by one another and love one another.
May we push away from our hearts and minds
all that is unpeaceful, unfair and unloving.
Amen.

The Trisagion

All: Holy God, holy and mighty, holy
and immortal, have mercy on us.

Sentence

Leader: I invite our Cantor to proclaim the sentence for today.

Cantor: Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.

Isaiah 2.3a

Prayer of Approach

All: Advent God, we are on a journey with you,
a journey to discover, to seek, to find.
We've come to your house, to greet and to meet.
We've come to pray, to hear, to see, to feel, to know,
to learn and understand.
We've come to prepare for the joys and challenges to come.
Advent God, be our guide.
Amen.

Leader unmutes

Our first song is

Come Now O Prince of Peace

[Come Now O Prince of Peace](#)

We stay on mute
Leader and Cantor mute

Preparing for confession

Leader: We sometimes want to rush to Christmas,
not taking time to value the journey of Advent.

All: Forgive us, God.

Leader: We sometimes forget to prepare as we ought,
to reflect and to seek,
and to offer to help and support
those who need it.

All: Forgive us, God.

Leader: We sometimes get wrapped up in things that we want,
but they aren't always right or just or fair.

All: Forgive us, God.

Leader: We sometimes get all wrapped up like a gift, with tape so tight
and secure that we can't see the needs of the world.

All: Forgive us, God. Amen.

The Deacon Introduces Confession

The Lord comes, bringing to light things now hidden in darkness, and disclosing the purposes of the heart.

Silence may be kept.

Let us open our hearts and prepare for his coming, confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

All:

Merciful God, our maker and our judge,
we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
and in what we have failed to do:

we have not loved you with our whole heart;

we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves;

we repent, and are sorry for all our sins.

Father, forgive us. Strengthen us to love and obey you
in newness of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Words of Assurance offered by the Deacon

These words of assurance from the First Letter of John declare that:

If anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the perfect offering for our sin, and not for ours only, but for the sins of the whole world.

(1 John 2: 1-2)

In this is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the perfect offering for our sins.

(1 John 4:10)

Collect

Leader:

Faithful God,
whose promises stand unshaken through all generations:
renew us in hope,
that we may be awake and alert
watching for the glorious return of Jesus Christ,
our Judge and Saviour,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

The 1st reader unmutes

Leader: I invite the 1st Reader to unmute and offer the 1st reading when ready.

Reader 1: The 1st Reading is from **Isaiah 2.1-5**

¹ The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

² In days to come

the mountain of the LORD 's house

shall be established as the highest of the mountains,

and shall be raised above the hills;

all the nations shall stream to it.

³ Many peoples shall come and say,

Continue...

'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD ,
to the house of the God of Jacob;
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths.'

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,
and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

⁴ He shall judge between the nations,
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;
they shall beat their swords into ploughshares,
and their spears into pruning-hooks;

Continue...

nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war any more.

⁵O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk
in the light of the Lord !

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

Leader: We now say the psalm antiphonally, I invite the first reader to lead and we will all respond with the **Response in Bold** along with our cantor as our voice.

Psalm 122 ¹ I was glad when they said to me:
'Let us go to the house of the Lord.'
² **And now our feet are standing:**
within your gates, O Jerusalem;
³ Jerusalem which is built as a city:
where the pilgrims gather in unity.
⁴ **There the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord:**
as he commanded Israel,
to give thanks to the name of the Lord.

⁵ There are set thrones of judgement:
the thrones of the house of David.

⁶ **O pray for the peace of Jerusalem:**
may those who love you prosper.

⁷ Peace be within your walls:
and prosperity in your palaces.

⁸ **For the sake of my kindred and companions:**
I will pray that peace be with you.

⁹ For the sake of the house of the Lord our God:
I will seek for your good.

The 2nd reader unmutes

Leader: Thank you, 1st reader. I invite the 2nd Reader to unmute and offer the 2nd reading when ready.

Reader 2: The 2nd Reading is from **Romans 13.9-14**

⁹ The commandments, 'You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet'; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' ¹⁰ Love does no wrong to a neighbour; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law. ¹¹ Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers;

Continue...

¹² the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armour of light; ¹³ let us live honourably as in the day, not in revelling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarrelling and jealousy. ¹⁴ Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

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



We pause before
the Gospel


Deacon: The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Matthew Chapter 24 beginning at the 36th verse.

All: Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

³⁶ 'But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³⁷ For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸ For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, ³⁹ and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰ Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left.

⁴¹ Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴² Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³ But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴ Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.

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



We pause
after the Gospel

Leader: The Sermon is a Flashback sermon.

- *Leader and Cantor mute*
- *Broadcaster exits screenshare*

Flashback Sermon

Be alert! The world needs more 'lerts'!

[Be alert! The world needs more 'lerts'!](#)

Leader unmutes

Our next song is

When God Almighty Came To Be One Of Us

[When God Almighty Came To Be One Of Us](#)

We stay on mute
Leader and Cantor mute

The Leader and Cantor unmute

The Greeting of Peace

Leader: We are the body of Christ

All: God's Spirit is with us

Leader: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: A sign of peace may be exchanged

You may like to type 'Peace' into the chat, use the 'raise hand' or other reaction buttons, or just simply wave via the screen with your video turned on

(Broadcaster exits shared screen for a few moments for the exchange of peace)

Prayer of Thanksgiving before Intercessions

God of the journey, thank you for walking with us.

Thank you for:

visions and dreams that reveal more of your purposes;

hope in the future, expectation and exploration;

the guidance you've given and the hand that leads us;

the chance to turn things around and make good what is bad,

to make right what is wrong, to make light out of darkness,

to make peace out of war, to make hope out of despair,

to make meaning and purpose where none has been found.

God of the journey, thanks be to you.

Amen.

Intercessions

Reader 2: We pray for creation and communities we share our lives with. We pause for a few moments to name either in our hearts, or out loud, or in the chat, those environments and communities we bring to the Lord in prayer.

PAUSE...

We entrust to you the community of Holy Hermits Online and our ministry partners:

St John's Cathedral Brisbane

The Anglican Diocese of Southern Queensland

St Gabriel's, Carindale

Benedictus Contemplative Church, Canberra

Anglican Focus and

Prosper the work of our hands and show us the way to your new creation.
Tithe.ly

Creator God, Hear our prayer.

Reader 2: Loving Creator, we entrust to you all animals, especially those who are sick, anxious, ageing, lost, at risk, lonely, sad, hungry, in pain, homeless, abused, living in fear, encountering violence of any kind, in need of comfort, rehabilitation or transformation.

We invite your loving compassion for:

Jasmine,

Leese(y),

Sid, Toots and Lulu

Polly and Suki

Fred, George and Percy

Koshka

Lambert

Kala, Nigel and Little One

Toby

Taco

Paddy and Jax

Rosie



We name in our hearts, out loud or in the chat,
the animals we bring to the Lord in prayer. **PAUSE...**

Reader 2: Eternal Trinity of Love, we uphold to you the people we love and carry cares for:

Kerry and Les, Jake,

Barry

Bill and Marjorie

Dr Julie,

Dilys and Tony,

Rev'd Shane & Janette

Julie and Ray, Tracey, Shane

Paul and Darhon

Alecia, Martin and Aidan

Jess and Leah

Judy and Mary

Aaron and Andrea

May

Mark, Desley and Bob

Neva

Kirsten, Greg, Daphne & Beau

Ruth

Bob and Di

Tanya

Phil

Steven, Vanessa and Craig

Matthew & Nicholas

Rachel, Mervyn & Gillian

Miriam

Alan & Gaylene

Liz's Godchildren

Barry and Gwen

Susan

Bonnie and girls

Pat and Julie

We name in our hearts, out loud or in the chat, those we bring to the Lord in prayer.

PAUSE...

Lord in your mercy, Hear our prayers.

Amen.

Pray Daily Cycle of Prayer

Leader: Loving God, joining with the Church in our cycle of prayer, we ask your blessings on:

- The Anglican Church of Australia
- The Parish of Brisbane Mar Thoma Church: †Gregorios Mar Stephanos Episcopa
- Anglicare SQ Out of Home Care, Central Region - Fraser & Gympie Residential

Prayer for People in Need

Leader:

God who gives shelter, we give thanks for opportunities to offer support and prayers for those that are struggling at this time to put a permanent roof over their heads and to shelter those they love.

Please shine a light on homelessness for the people and animals experiencing this and provide a way for homes to be found and others to help, especially governments and churches.

Please protect all living rough and give safety and security to families and young people, and those who are supporting them.

Continue...

Please help us channel and inspire the hospitality that Jesus and his followers sought and encouraged in their day, and especially strengthen those already offering this ministry.

Awaken compassion in the hearts of all people to reach out with a loving hand.

When we feel disheartened by this unfolding situation, please refocus our energies to keep praying and finding small ways to help so we don't feel so overwhelmed.

Usher in a wave of change for systems to be transformed and ways made for large scale transformation.

All: Amen.

Leader: Let us pray together the prayer which Jesus gave us saying:

All: 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.

Save us from the time of trial

and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours

now and for ever.

Amen.

Devotions

Hermit Wisdom



Leader: Teachings from Sr Maria Boulding

"Prayer is a listening to the creative, life-giving word that loves us into being."

"In today's world silence is in short supply; this is a serious problem for our society, and anything we can do to help people recover a sense of silence as a necessary and positive element in human life is a contribution to the general sanity."

Leader: As we enter a few minutes of silence together, you are invited to pray this prayer of adoration and/or spend this time in contemplation.

The Spiritual Communion prayer follows on the next slide. Let us be still.

Leader and Cantor mute

Lord, help us to keep you at the center of our prayers,

our worship and our lives.

Turn to face outwards

Lord, help us to trust you enough to look out for others.

Amen.



Oh, my Lord Jesus I turn to you
present at the Altar and in the
Tabernacle. I believe that you are
present in the Holy Sacrament of
your most Sacred Body and Blood.
I love you above all things and I
desire to receive you into my Soul.
I cannot at this moment receive you
Sacramentally in Holy Communion.
Come spiritually into my heart.
Purify it, Sanctify it. Render my
heart like your own heart.
I embrace you as if you were
already there and unite myself
wholly with you.
Never permit me to be separated
from you.
Lord, I am not worthy to receive
you, but only say the word and I
shall be healed. Amen

Making a Spiritual Communion

(Prayed in silence)



Prayer of the Advent Wreath

Deacon: This is the season of Advent, we prepare for the coming of



We create this Advent Wreath and light its candles to remind us of your precious gift, Jesus Christ, the light who dispels all darkness.

As we light this wreath, we remember that Jesus is the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the one who is, who was, and who is to come. The circular shape of our wreath symbolizes this eternal truth.

The five candles represent Christ's gifts to us:
hope, peace, joy, love,
and the presence of Christ himself, symbolised by the
white Christ candle.

The light from these candles dispels darkness and reminds
us of Christ's light in the world.



May you bless us, O Lord, and bless this wreath of light.
May its growing brightness be a sign of your Son's
approaching nearness.

Help us to prepare with joy for his humble birth and to be
ready to receive him when he comes again in glory.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with
you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.



Lighting The Advent Wreath: HOPE



Leader: In a world of war, famine, and disease, where children grow up as orphans, where families go hungry and entire regions face destruction by illness and oppression, in a world where many have lost hope, or never had it to begin with, we call upon you Lord to come.

All: Come, Lord Jesus, Come.

Leader: In this season of Advent, we await the coming of Hope into our world. We await the birth of the Christ - child; hope realised, the promise of God, come to us in a new way.

All: Come, Lord Jesus, Come, and bring us your hope.

Light the first purple candle.

Leader: Let us Pray,


All: God of hope, who brought love into this world, be the love that dwells between us.

God of hope, who brought peace into this world, be the peace that dwells between us.

God of hope, who brought joy into this world, be the joy that dwells between us.

God of hope, the rock on which we stand, be the light, and focus of our lives. Amen.





*'Christmas is coming!',
the Church is glad to sing,
and let the advent candles
brightly burn in a ring.*



Commissioning our Leaders

Deacon: Leadership at HHO is a developing space. Four of our community members have entered that space as leaders, responding to a vocational call to be part of our governing team and contribute their ministry gifts and energy to further building our community alongside us all.

I welcome our Governance leaders Chris and Leonie and our Liturgical Assistants Julie and Jeremy to the roles of leadership which they have been called to explore with us and invite us all to uphold them in this commissioning.

Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus, we are all baptised by one Spirit into one Body, and given gifts for a variety of ministries for the common good. Our purpose is to commission these persons in the Name of God and of this community to a special ministry to which they are called.

The Examination of leaders

Deacon: These persons are presented to us for leadership having been prepared by their commitment to Jesus Christ as Lord, regular attendance at worship, acknowledgement of their vocational call, and their willingness to step forward to exercise their ministry to the honour of God, and the well-being of this community.

Leaders Unmute

You have been called to a ministry in this community and taken it up.

Will you, as long as you are engaged in this work, perform it with prayerful diligence, to the honour of God and the benefit of the members of this community?

Leaders: I will with God's help.

The Commissioning of Leaders

Deacon: The Lord gives wisdom; from God's mouth come knowledge and understanding

Leaders: I am your servant; grant me understanding that I may know your wisdom.

All: O Eternal God, the foundation of all wisdom and the source of all courage: Enlighten with your grace our Leaders, and so rule their minds, and guide their counsels, that in all things they may seek your glory and promote the mission of your Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Deacon: In the name of God and of this community we commission you Chris, Julie, Leonie and Jeremy as leaders of Holy Hermits Online.

All: We acknowledge and uphold our leaders in their ministries and will seek to support them as long as they choose to exercise this ministry in our midst.

Deacon: Eternal God, who by the Holy Spirit presided at the council of the apostles to guide them in all knowledge and truth: be present with our leadership team. In the passions of discernment and dialogue give them a quiet spirit, in the complexities of the choices they are called to make give them clear minds, and in the moments of decision give them courageous hearts. Guide them in all things to seek only your glory and the good of your Church: Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Commissioning our Servers

Deacon: Many of our members have begun exercising ministry for and at worship each Sunday as part of the serving team.

I welcome all who serve at worship to bring themselves forward as part of this commissioning to intentionally recognise God's call on their lives.

Including: LAs, readers, service prep team, tech-support, chat host, zoom buttons, broadcasters, music curators, proof-readers, prayer writers, welcomers, fellowship leaders, attendance recorder, safety officer.

The Examination of Servers

I present to you our servers who have begun in earnest to explore online worship alongside the Holy Spirit.

Servers unmute

You have been called to a ministry in this community and begun exercising it at worship. Will you, as long as you are engaged in this work, perform it with prayerful diligence, to the honour of God and the benefit of the members of this community?

Servers: I will with God's help.

The Commissioning of Servers

Deacon: You are my witnesses, says the Lord, and my servants whom I have chosen.

Servers: Give thanks to the Lord and call upon the name of Jesus, make known Christ's deeds among the people.

Servers mute again

All: O gracious lord, confirm with your heavenly benediction your servants commissioned to minister in your Church, that with sincere devotion of mind, body and soul they may offer acceptable service to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

In the name of God and of this community we commission our servers for their various ministries and recognise the call God has placed on their lives to serve at worship online.

All: O Lord, without whom our labour is lost: we beseech you to prosper all works in your Church undertaken according to your holy will. Grant to your workers a pure intention, a patient faith, sufficient success on earth, and the blessedness of serving you in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



Farewell to Kerrie-Anne

Farewell to Kerrie-Anne

Deacon: Loving God, with heavy hearts we acknowledge the redundancy of our Admin Officer. We are saddened by this change and the absence her departure will leave in our community. We give thanks for Kerrie-Anne's dedicated service and the countless ways she has enriched our lives and community.

As she moves forward into new opportunities, we ask for your presence to guide and comfort her. May she find strength and hope in the days ahead, and may we, as a community, support one another through this time of transition. Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Leader unmutes

Our final song is

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=utpZAIycWFU>

We stay on mute

Leader and Cantor mute

Sending Prayer

All: We have worshipped you here today, Lord.

Ask the congregation to face or look towards the door.

Now we go out, with hope and confidence, to love and to serve.

Help us to worship you out there, just as we do here.

Amen.

The Benediction

Leader: Let us all invite God's blessings together,

All: May the Lord bless us and keep us.

May the Lord's face shine upon us and be gracious to us.

May the Lord's countenance be lifted upon us,
and bring us peace. Amen

Notices

- Today @ 5:30pm 3D Dialogue's November at home retreat, for more information go to <https://holyhermits.com.au/ministries/3d-dialogue>
- Week 2 of our Advent study based on The Muppet Christmas Carol Thursday 4th Dec @6pm [The Muppet Christmas Carol](#)
- Submissions for Christmastide content are closing 14th Dec. Please email to Holy Hermit inbox or Rev'd Lauren
- Purchase of Christmastide subscriptions is also now open. [Christmastide Subscription 2025](#)
- Next week we remember Holy Hermits St Herman of Alaska and St Juan Diego
- A call out for broadcasters, readers and servers for HHO Christmas Services
- See HHO Events page for further upcoming events [HHO Events](#)

Offerings: Thank you for your regular gifts to this ministry

Offerings are most welcome via

- The HHO App
- Direct Debit
- International Direct Debit
- Please consider a one-off donation or leaving a legacy in your Will

For further information go to HHO give page

<https://holyhermits.com.au/give>



The Dismissal

Leader: I invite everyone to unmute for the Dismissal

Leader: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: In the name of Christ, Amen.

Serving next week 7th December
2nd Sunday of Advent
9:00 am AEST

Service Prep: Leonie

Music: Wiggles

Proof-reader: Kristine

Broadcaster: Barry

Backup Broadcaster: Lauren

Zoom Buttons: Paul

Chat Host: Viki

Priest: N/A

Deacon: Lauren

Welcomer: Chris

Leader: Lauren

Cantor: Julie

First Reader: Jeremy

Second Reader: Roselyn

Preacher: Lauren

Fellowship: Julie

Safety Officer: Chris

Attendance: Viki

Thank you for your ministry gifts

New Servers always welcome!
Please email Rev'd Lauren to get involved
holyhermits@anglicanchurchsq.org.au

Fellowship time

Thank you, Lauren for
leading Fellowship

Please feel welcome to
linger or pop a message in
the chat and head off
when you are ready.



Extra resources developed
by Roots on the Web

All artwork by Padlet