St Peter's
Leckhampton Parish Church

Holy Communion



Sundays in Advent

Welcome to St. Peter's, Leckhampton

If this is your first visit, you are particularly welcome, and it is hoped that you feel at home here; please join in with the words in ***bold****.*

CCLI Licence 513132

Notices and any banns of marriage are read.

First Hymn

Please stand to sing.

The clergy, servers and choir process in.

Introduction

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

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Welcome

Some words of welcome are given.

The Advent Wreath

Please remain standing as the Advent Wreath is lit.

Please see responses on page 13.

Prayer of Preparation

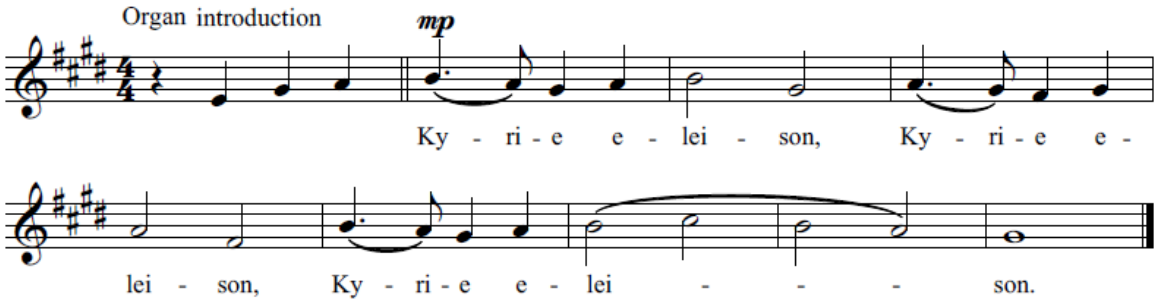
Please sit or kneel.

**Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

The deacon invites us to confess our sins:

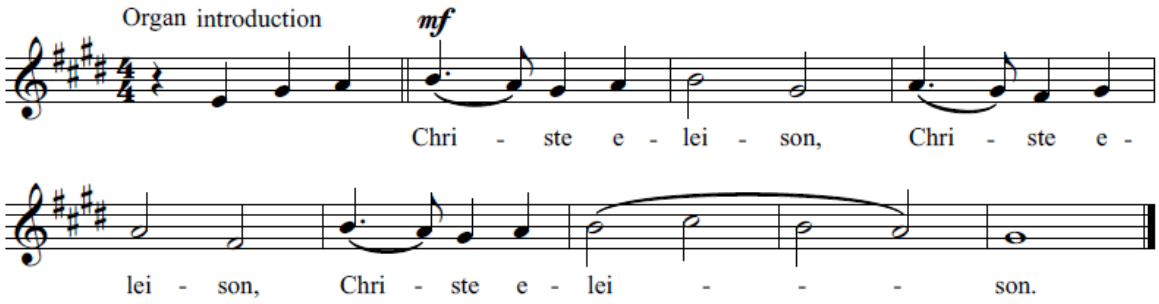
God be gracious to us and bless us, and make your face shine upon us.

Lord, have mercy:



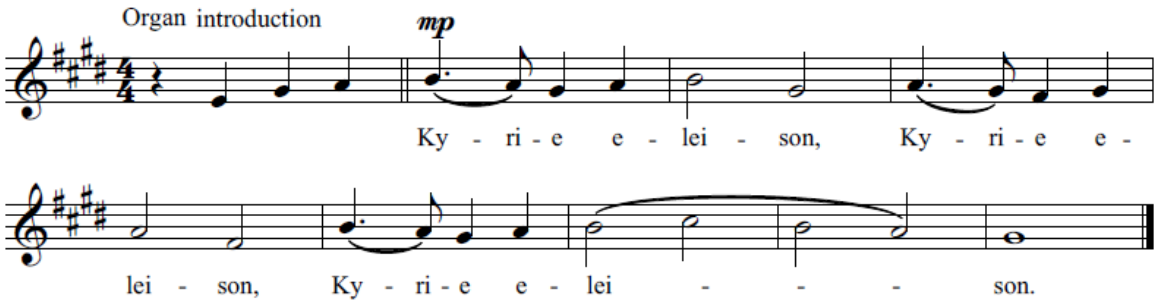
May your ways be known on the earth, your saving power among the nations.

Christ, have mercy:



You, Lord, have made known your salvation, and reveal your justice in the sight of the nations

Lord, have mercy:



We Are Forgiven

We hear God's forgiveness:

May the God of all healing and forgiveness
draw you to himself,
and cleanse you from all your sins †
that you may behold the glory of his Son,
the Word made flesh,
Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Gloria

We stand to sing the 'Gaudete Gloria' on the third Sunday in Advent (see page 15).

The Collect

The Collect is introduced with 'Let us pray'; at the end we all say:
Amen.

Readings

Please sit for the readings, the response is:

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Hymn

Please stand to sing.

Please turn to face the Gospel book as it is processed.

The Gospel

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

Then at the end:

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

Sermon

Please sit.

The Creed

Please stand.

Let us declare our faith together:

We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and on earth is named.

We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith,
and fills us with his love.

We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us
with power from on high.

We believe in one God;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Please sit or kneel.

Intercessions

After each prayer, this or another response is used:

Lord in your mercy,
Hear our Prayer.

Then, at the end:

Merciful Father.
Accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Peace

Please stand.

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.
And also with you.

The deacon says:

Let us share with each other a sign of Christ's peace.

We all exchange a greeting of peace.

Hymn

Please stand to sing.

During which the altar is prepared.

We Give Thanks

We hear the Eucharistic Prayer; taken from the Greek word 'eucharistos' (εὐχάριστος), meaning 'to give thanks'.

Please remain standing.



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.

For the first 3 Sundays in Advent

It is indeed right and good to give you thanks and praise, almighty God and everlasting Father, through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

For when he humbled himself to come among us in human flesh, he fulfilled the plan, which 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 and wait for the day when Christ will come again in glory.

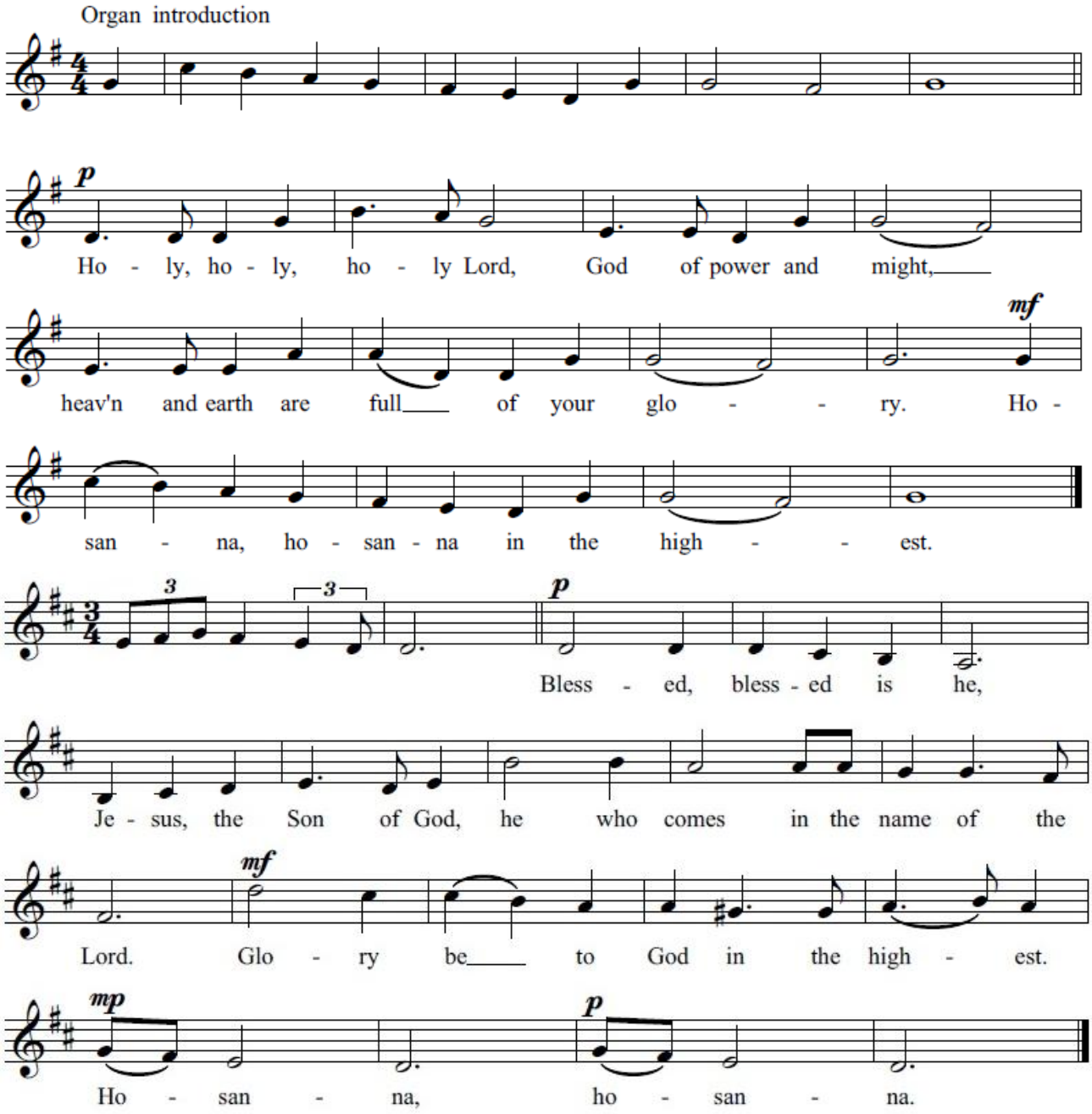
For the 4th Sunday in Advent

It is indeed right and good to give you thanks and praise, almighty God and everlasting Father, through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

For he is the one foretold by all the prophets, the one whom Mary bore and loved beyond all telling, the one whom John the Baptist made known when at last he came.

As we prepare to celebrate Christ's birth, we now watch and wait for the day when he 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,
forever praising you and singing:



Accept our praises, heavenly Father,
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,
and as we follow his example and obey his command,
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us his body and his blood †

Who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
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, heavenly Father,
we remember his offering of himself
made once for all upon the cross;
we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;
we look for the coming of your kingdom,
and with this bread and this cup
we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

The deacon proclaims:

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died:
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.

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 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.
Amen.

Please sit or kneel.

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

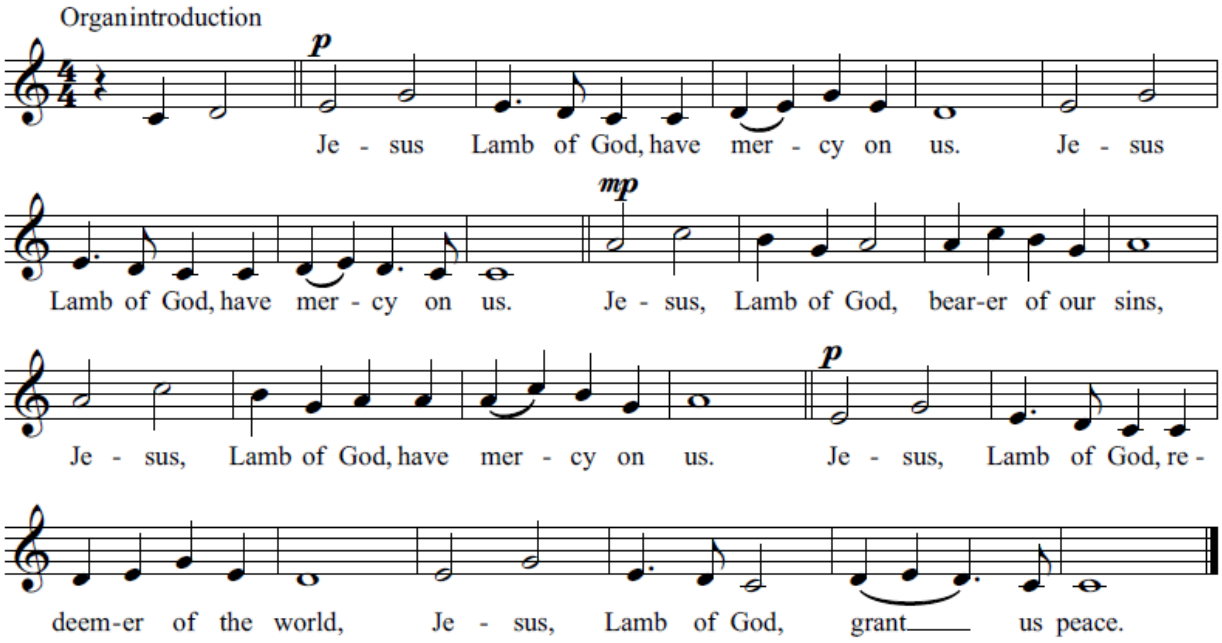
Our Father, who art in heaven
hallowed be thy name
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.

Breaking of the 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.

Agnus Dei

We join with angels in proclaiming Jesus Christ as 'Agnus Dei', the Lamb of God.



Invitation to Communion

God's holy gifts for God's holy people.
Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

The Communion

We share Holy Communion with each other; taken from the Greek word 'koinonia' (κοινωνία), meaning 'communion, fellowship, sharing'.

All are invited to come forward to receive the bread and wine.

If you would rather receive a blessing, please keep your hands down and head bowed.

Please let one of the stewards know if you would like to receive Communion or a blessing in your seat.

The choir will sing an anthem.

After Communion

We pray together:

Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood
of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory.
Amen.

Final Hymn

Please stand to sing.

The 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.

The Dismissal

The deacon sends us out into the world:

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

Organ Voluntary

The clergy, servers and choir depart.

An organ voluntary is played.

Please feel free to get up and leave your seats at any time.

There is no collection taken during the service, but you can make an offering as you leave (there is a card machine).

If you would like to find out more about the services or any aspect of the life of St. Peter's, then please email stpetersleck@gmail.com

Please leave this service booklet in the church.

Please come to the church cottages for refreshments after the service.

THE ADVENT WREATH

The following responses may be said or sung as the Advent candles are lit

ADVENT 1

'The Advent Hope'

Jesus said, 'Keep awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming.'
Amen. Come soon, Lord Jesus!

The first (purple coloured) candle is lit and this response is used:

Jesus is the light of the world.
A light no darkness can ever put out.

We sing:

Advent candles tell their story
as we watch and pray,
longing for the Day of Glory,
'Come, Lord, soon,' we say.
Pain and sorrow, tears and sadness,
changed for gladness
on that Day.

ADVENT 2

'The Prophets'

Jesus said, 'Do not think that I have come to abolish the law and the prophets: I have not come to abolish them but to fulfil them.'
Amen. Come soon, Lord Jesus!

The second (purple coloured) candle is lit and this response is used:

Jesus is the light of the world.
A light no darkness can ever put out.

We sing:

Advent candles tell their story
as we watch and pray,
longing for the Day of Glory,
'Come, Lord, soon,' we say.
Pain and sorrow, tears and sadness
changed for gladness
on that Day.

Prophet voices loudly crying,
making pathways clear;
glimpsing glory, self-denying,
calling all to hear.
Through their message - challenged,
shaken –
hearts awaken:
God is near!

ADVENT 3

'John the Baptist'

Jesus said, 'No one more important than John the Baptist has ever been born; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.'
Amen. Come soon, Lord Jesus!

The third (rose coloured) candle is lit and this response is used:

Jesus is the light of the world.
A light no darkness can ever put out.

We sing:

Advent candles tell their story
as we watch and pray,
longing for the Day of Glory,
'Come, Lord, soon,' we say.
Pain and sorrow, tears and sadness
changed for gladness
on that Day.

John the Baptist, by his preaching
and by water poured,
brought to those who heard his teaching
news of hope restored:
'Keep your vision strong and steady,
and be ready
for the Lord.'

ADVENT 4

'Mary'

Jesus said, 'Anyone who does what my Father in heaven wants is my brother or sister or mother.'
I am the servant of the Lord.
Let it be to me according to his word.

The fourth (purple coloured) candle is lit and this response is used:

Jesus is the light of the world.
A light no darkness can ever put out.

We sing:

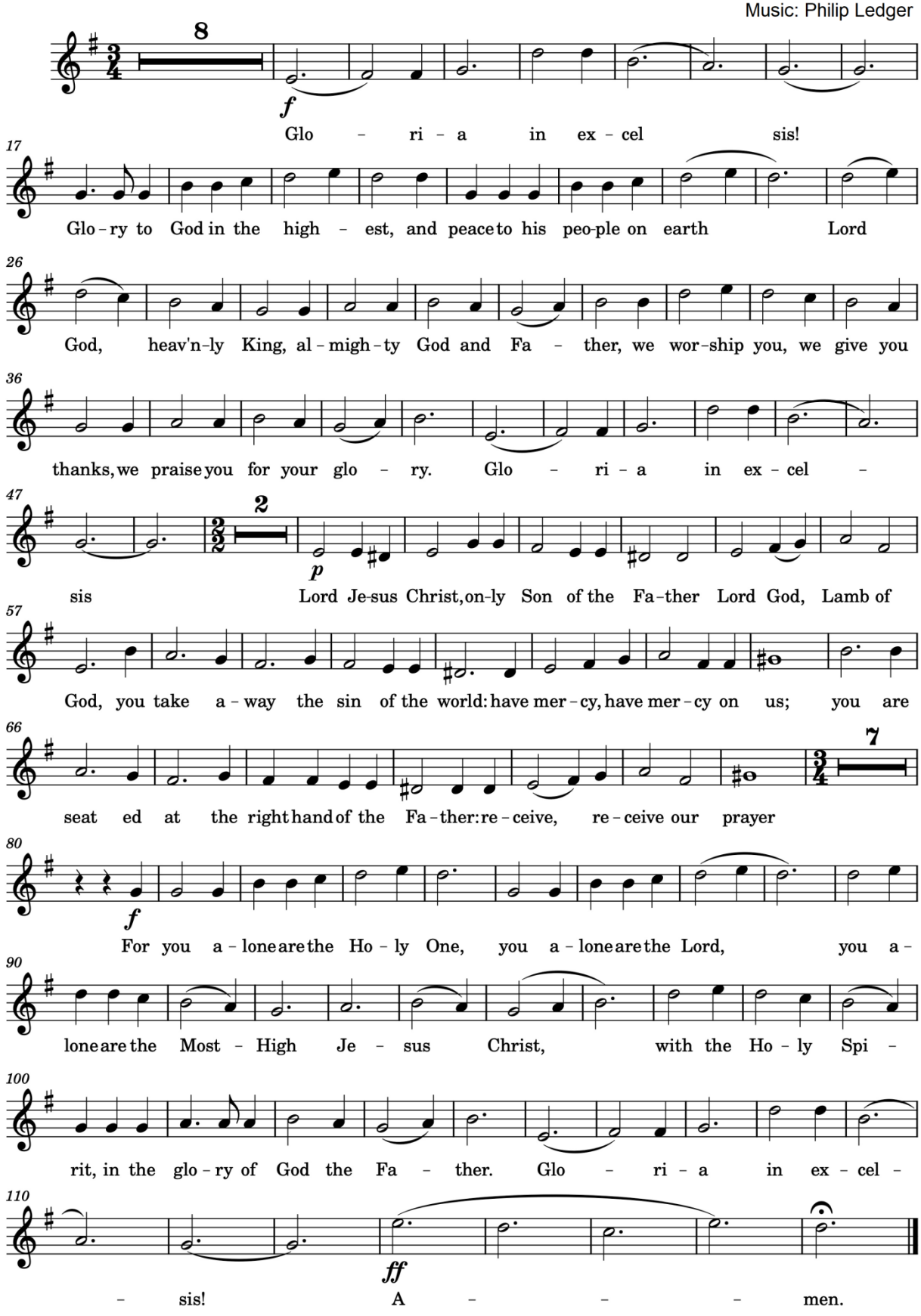
Advent candles tell their story
as we watch and pray,
longing for the Day of Glory,
'Come, Lord, soon,' we say.
Pain and sorrow, tears and sadness
changed for gladness,
on that Day.

Mary's gift, beyond all telling,
was to give Christ room.
She gave God a human dwelling
in a mother's womb.
Who could guess the final story?
Cross and glory;
empty tomb!

GAUDETE GLORIA

This special Gloria may be used on 'Gaudete Sunday' (Advent 3).
Gaudete meaning 'rejoice'.

Music: Philip Ledger



Please leave this service booklet in the church

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