

Welcome to the Parish Church of St Mark Serving Broomhill & Broomhall Living Thinking Loving Faith

Advent 4

Sunday 22 December 2024 at 10.00 am

Wait ... without expectation which might focus attention too narrowly, so that we miss the coming. Wait with expectancy, alert, hearts, minds, hands, ears open to receive the gift. Ann Lewin



Welcome

The President is Revd Dr Beth Keith The Deacon and Preacher is Jonathan Williamson

Introit:

Born in the Night

Geoffrey Ainger (1925 - 2013) arr. David Sanderson Welcome

(No Singing Bowl in Advent)



Opening Hymn

Earth has many a noble city; Bethl'hem, thou dost all excel: out of thee the Lord from heaven came to rule his Israel. Fairer than the sun at morning was the star that told his birth, to the world its God announcing seen in fleshly form on earth. Eastern sages at his cradle make oblations rich and rare; see them give in deep devotion, gold and frankincense and myrrh. Sacred gifts of mystic meaning: incense doth their God disclose, gold the King of kings proclaimeth, myrrh his sepulchre foreshows.

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Jesu, whom the Gentiles worshipped
at thy glad Epiphany,
unto thee with God the Father
and the Spirit glory be.
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Aurelius Clemens Prudentius Christian F Whitt, (1660 - 1715) Tune: Stuttgart

Prayers of Approach

May God be with you: and also with you.

- People of God: awake!
- The day is coming when we shall see God face to face.
- God calls us out of darkness
- to walk in the light of eternity.
- We are God's children.
- Make us one in the hope of Christ today and for ever. Amen.



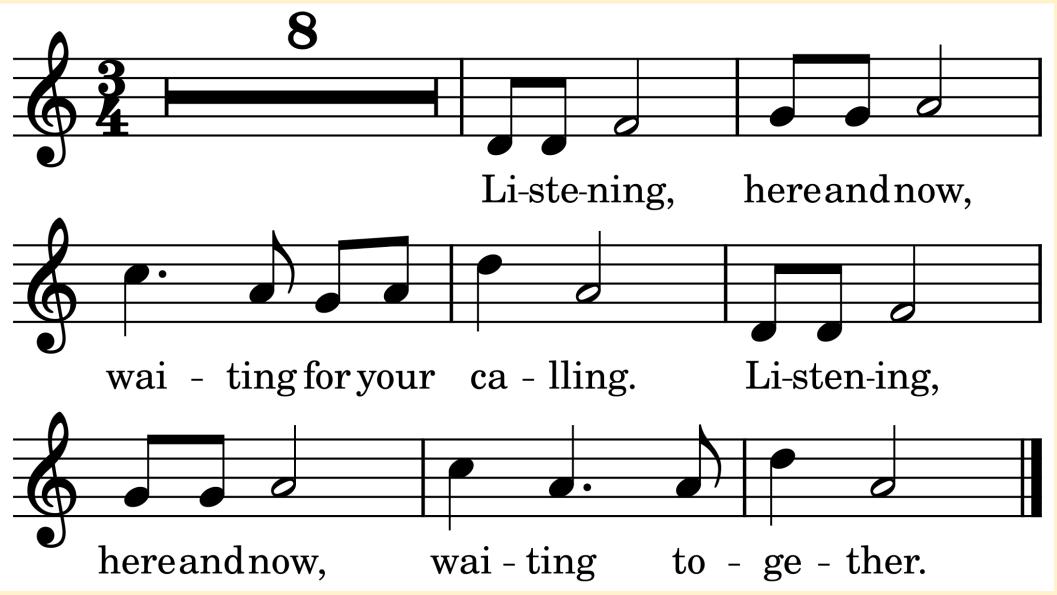
Lighting the Advent Candles

A candle for each Sunday of Advent is lit as we sing the following chant.

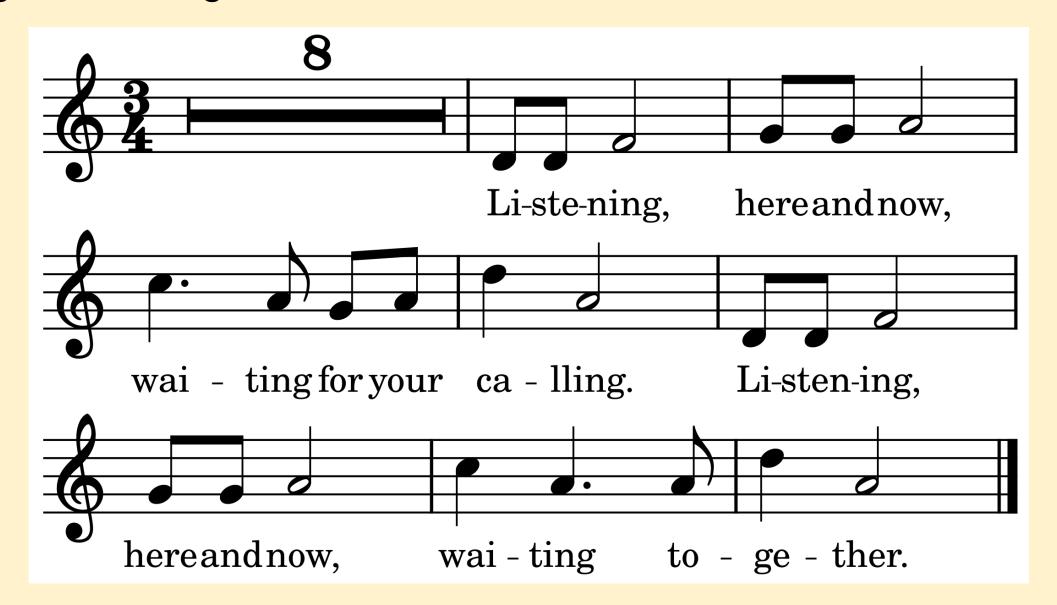
As the candles are lit in church, you may wish to light a candle at home.



Together we sing



13 Hannah Jones A cantor will sing: Liberate us, set us free to serve you now. Then together we sing:



Journeying Together in Faith

As we prepare to explore God's word, let us pray together:

May God guide each of us in the way of Christ, whatever our age or experience. The love of God be with us all. Amen



Prayers of Penitence

We sit or kneel

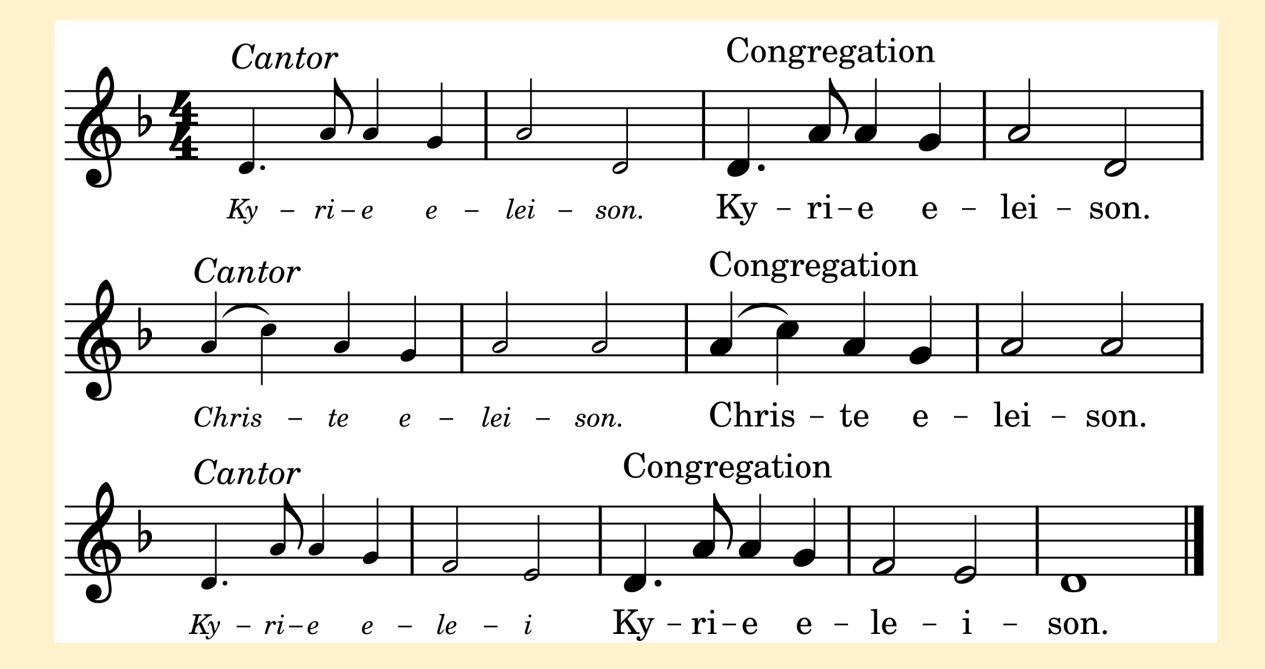
cf Matthew 6.33

Jesus said, above all, strive for justice and peace.

Within these fragmented days, a gentle invitation threads through our lives, reminding us that all is sacred and rooted in a love that knows no bounds.

Prayers of Approach & Penitence

Peter Millar



SPIRIT OF COMPASSION,

when our hearts are hardened to the call of Christ, or to the cries of the needy; when our words and actions cause division or disrupt the pursuit of peace; when we choose to do nothing rather than speak out against that which is wrong; by your grace free us from wrongdoing and liberate us to serve one another in Jesus' name. Amen.

Knowing that we are forgiven and always given the chance to begin again:

May God forgive you, Christ renew you and the Spirit enable you to grow in love. **Amen.**

The Collect

O God our deliverer, you cast down the mighty, and lift up those of no account: as Elizabeth and Mary embraced with songs of liberation, so may we also be pregnant with your Spirit, and affirm one another in hope for the world, through Jesus Christ, Amen

Janet Morley 20

Attending

First Reading: Micah 5.2-5a Page 880 Old Testament NRSV Read by Rosalind Rogerson

At the end the reader says: How is this God's word of love for us today?

After the reading we share a time of quiet



Gradual Hymn

For Mary mother of our Lord, God's holy name be praised, who first the Son of God adored, as on her child she gazed.

The angel Gabriel brought word she should Christ's mother be; Our Lady, handmaid of the Lord, made answer willingly.

The heav'nly call she thus obeyed, and so God's will was done; the second Eve love's answer made which our redemption won.

She gave her body for God's shrine, her heart to piercing pain, and knew the cost of love divine when Jesus Christ was slain.

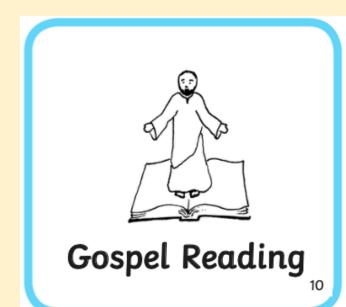
Dear Mary, from your lowliness and home in Galilee, there comes a joy and holiness to ev'ry family. Hail Mary, you are full of grace, above all women blest; and blest your son, whom you embrace in birth and death confessed.

> John Raphael Peacey (1896 - 1971) Gordon Slater (1896 - 1979) Tune: Saint Botolph 28

Gospel – Luke 1.39 - 45

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

At the end: This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**



Sermon

Jonathan Williamson, Reader





Sermon

Affirmation of Faith

WE BELIEVE that God is present in the darkness before dawn; where fear and courage join hands, and the sun rises over barbed wire. We believe in a God who sits down in our midst, sharing our humanity.

We affirm a faith that takes us beyond the safe place, into action, into vulnerability and into the streets. We commit ourselves to work for change to stand with those on the edge; to choose life and be used by the Spirit for God's new community of hope. Maranatha, come Lord Jesus.

Inspired by an affirmation from the Iona Community

33

Prayers of the People Led by David Price

When we see these things, we will know the Kingdom of God is near, **And when we do them, we bring it nearer still.**

At the end **Amen**



Greeting of Peace

In the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us, to give light to those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace. We meet in Christ's name and share his peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

We share a sign of Christ's peace.



Sharing Peace

Offertory Hymn

The Angel Gabriel from heaven came, his wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame; 'All hail', said he, 'thou lowly maiden Mary, most highly favoured lady.' Gloria!

'For known a blessèd mother thou shalt be, all generations laud and honour thee, thy son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold; most highly favoured lady.' Gloria!

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head, 'To me be as it pleaseth God', she said, 'My soul shall laud and magnify his holy name': most highly favoured lady. Gloria! Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ was born in Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn, and Christian folk throughout the world will ever say, 'Most highly favoured lady.' Gloria!

> Sabine Baring-Gould (1834 - 1924) Tune: Birjina Gaztetto Bat Zegoen

Ingredients in our Communion Bread

Doves Freee © Gluten Free bread flour (rice, tapioca, potato starch), Chickpea flour, Sugar, Salt Sunflower oil, Cider vinegar, Yeast, Water



We cannot guarantee that the kitchen in which our Communion Bread is made is free from gluten or other allergens

Abiding

Preparation

Blessed are you, O God; through your goodness we have this bread and wine to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made. May they be for us the foretaste of your kingdom.

Blessed be God for ever.

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Let us pray

May God be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to God.

Let us give thanks to our gracious God. It is right to give thanks and praise.



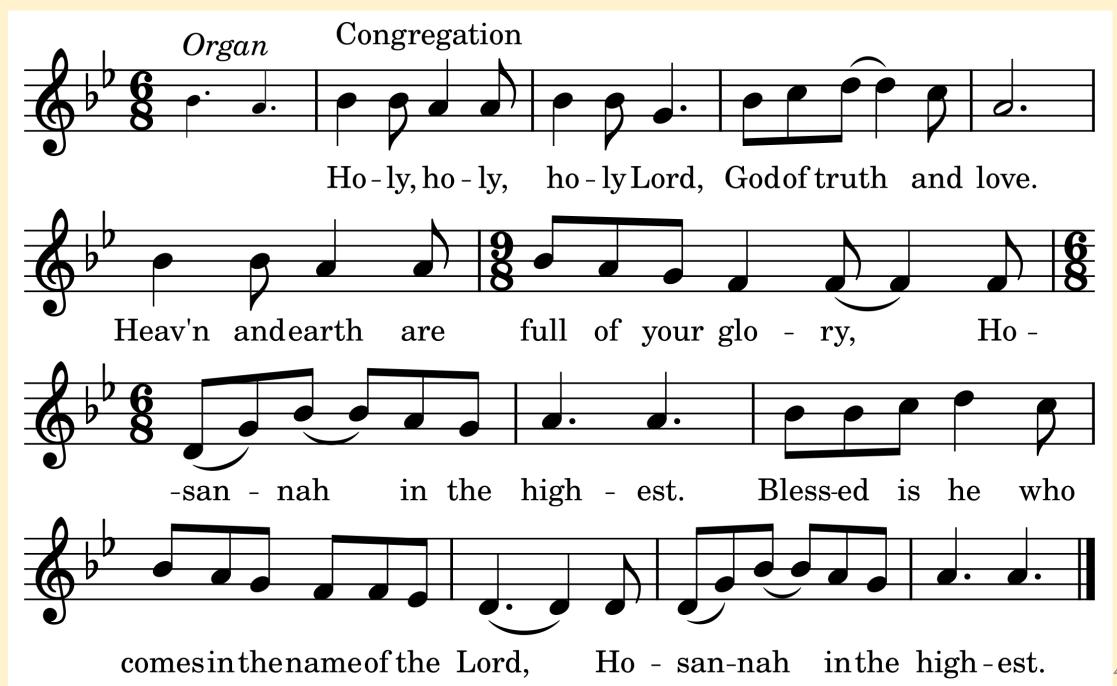
God of our longing, God of our hoping, it is good and right to praise you.

From the time of our forebears you have journeyed with those who seek you in openness and trust.

You inspired prophets to pursue justice – to challenge the mighty and liberate the oppressed. Through John the baptiser you taught us to lament our wrongdoings and return to the way of forgiveness.

In Mary, the mother of faith, you draw us into your passion and reveal your peace.

It is, indeed, good and right to praise you, and so we sing:



Above all, we give you thanks for revealing your salvation in Jesus Christ. In him, we see the person you long for us to be, through him, we feed on your wisdom and truth, with him, we embrace your kingdom causes.

And now, in obedience to his command, it is our duty and our joy, to remember the night he gave himself up and was handed over to death. In the company of his friends, Jesus took bread, blessed it in God's holy name, broke it and gave it to them, saying, This is my body, which is given for you. Do this to remember me.

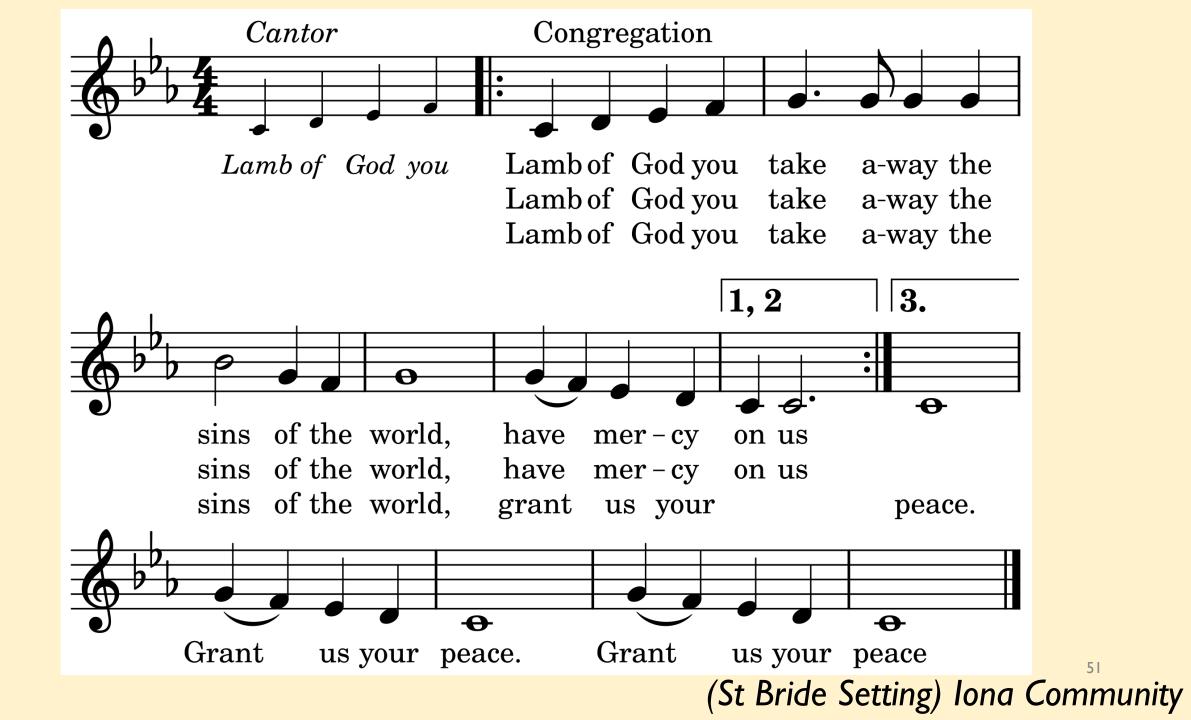
Later, he took a cup of wine, gave thanks, and offered it to them, saying, This cup is the new covenant in my blood, Do this to remember me.

God of our longing, God of our hoping, breathe your life-giving Spirit into this bread and wine that all who partake of this communion may feed on Christ and taste his sacred hunger for a world renewed by your promises and fulfilled through your love. Amen.

Ian Wallis (adapted)

Lord's Prayer & Communion **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. Lord's Prayer The bread is broken

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.



Words of invitation follow

Come, all who are weary and heavy-laden; come, all who are dancing with joy; come to the table where sorrow and celebration belong together.

During Communion the congregation is invited to sing:



During the administration of Communion the Choir sings the anthem: Magnificat in G by CV Stanford (1852 - 1924)

My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour. For he hath regarded the lowliness of his handmaiden. For behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed. And his mercy is on them that fear him throughout all generations. He hath shewed strength with his arm. He hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. He hath put down the mighty from their seat and hath exalted the humble and meek. He hath filled the hungry with good things. And the rich he hath sent empty away. He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel as he promised to our forefathers Abraham, and his seed forever. 54

Prayer of Commitment

EVER-PRESENT God,

give us grace to respond to your call with compassion, justice and peace. May what we hope for, long for, strive for, come a little closer, bringing healing in its wings; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.



Announcements

To support the ministry of this church please use the card reader at the back of church or visit the website for more options.

Thank you.



Blessing

May the God who brings heaven close to earth give truth to our judgement and flame to our longing that our hearts might be ready to be born again in love; And the blessing of God, creator, saviour, spirit of peace rest upon you, and all whom you love, both living and departed, now and always. Amen. Steven Shakespeare



Final Hymn (process out)

Tell out my soul, the greatness of the Lord! Unnumbered blessings, give my spirit voice; tender to me the promise of his word; in God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.



Tell out my soul the greatness of his name: make known his might, the deeds his arm has done; his mercy sure, from age to age the same; his holy name, the Lord, the mighty one. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might! Powers and dominions lay their glory by. Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight, the hungry fed, the humble lifted high. Tell out my soul, the glories of his word! Firm is his promise, and his mercy sure. Tell out my soul, the greatness of the Lord to children's children and for evermore!

> Time Dudley-Smith (b. 1926) Tune:Woodlands

Commission

God of our longing, God of our hoping: Eagerly we seek you.

Go in peace to prepare God's way: In the name of Christ. Amen.

Voluntary

Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern BWVI JS Bach (1685 - 1750)

Friendship Time

Refreshments are served at the end of the service, please stay if you can. For those on Zoom, we hold a breakout group after the voluntary to which you are welcome. Tonight

ST MARK'S CAROL SERVICE 22 December, 6pm Traditional and contemporary carols and readings

FESTIVE SERVICES,

24 December, 4.30pm Nativity Service with hot chocolate from 4pm

24 December, 11.30pm * Midnight Mass, candlelit service of carols, reflection, prayer, and Communion

Christmas Day * 8am BCP Communion * 10am Festive All Age Communion Service * also online via Zoom

MARK'S MESSENGER The latest edition of the messenger is now available. You will find paper copies at the back of church or digitally on the website.



The Parish Magazine of St Mark's Church, Broomhill and Broomhall, Sheffield

Winter 2024



THE DIOCESE OF SHEFFIELD

SERVICE OF WELCOME

You are invited to a service of welcome at which

The Revd Dr Beth Keith

will be installed and inducted by The Bishop of Sheffield as Vicar of St Mark Broomhill and Broomhall, and licensed as Priest in Charge of St Mary Walkley and Oversight Minister in the Three Spires Mission Area.

15 JANUARY 2025

7.30 PM St Mark's Church Broomfield Road, Sheffield, S10 2SE

www.stmarkssheffield.co.uk

There is an ongoing collection at St Mark's of good quality warm clothes and coats, as well as toiletries, shower gel and period products for refugees. Thank you so much for your generosity.



Open Communion is an inclusive service for the LGBTQIA people that meets once a month

> Next service 4pm on 12 January

THINKING FAITH

On the second Sunday of each month we tackle a different topic, with a panel discussion, and lots of time for questions and responses from guest speakers.

12 JANUARY 7PM

LISTEN, LEARN, EXPLORE..... SEVEN HILLS SHUL - SHEFFIELD'S PROGRESSIVE JEWISH SYNAGOGUE

This event will be devoted to exploring aspects of the life of Seven Hills Shul.

The following sources have been used in compiling this service: 'Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England' and 'New Patterns for Worship' © The Archbishops Council 2000, 2002 & 2006; Art by Sue Carroll, at Art2liftspirits.com 'All Desires Known' by Janet Morley © 2005; '600 Blessings and Prayers', compiled by Geoffrey Duncan © 2005; and texts by Ian Wallis and other locally produced texts. Hymns and songs are reproduced under Church Copyright Licence Number 887387 and OneLicense A632945. The image on the front cover is from https://www.ciudadredonda.org/imagenes-religiosas