



St Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton

This week's music and notices

Sunday 7th December 2025 - Second Sunday of Advent

11.15am Choral Eucharist in the Nave

6.30pm Choral Evensong in the Nave

The week ahead

*The church will normally be open for private prayer from 11.00am to 2.00pm from
Monday to Friday*

Tuesday 9th December

10.00am Pebbles

A free group for pre-school children and their parents/carers

Wednesday 10th December

5.15pm Choral Evensong in the Nave

Thursday 11th December

2.00pm University Carol Service in the Nave

Friday 12th December

12.30pm Said Eucharist (BCP) in the Memorial Chapel

1.15pm Lunchtime Live! Ruimei Huang -
Piano

Saturday 13th December

7.00pm Ex Cathedra Concert in the Nave

Sunday 14th December - Third Sunday of Advent

11.15am Choral Eucharist in the Nave

6.30pm Choral Evensong in the Nave

Sunday 7th December 2025 - 11.15am

Choral Eucharist

Musical Setting

Communion Service in F

Introit Hymn

**1. On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
Announces that the Lord is nigh;
Come then and hearken, for he brings
Glad tidings of the King of kings.**

**2. Then cleansed be every Christian breast,
And furnished for so great a guest!
Yea, let us each our hearts prepare
For Christ to come and enter there.**

**3. For thou art our salvation, Lord,
Our refuge and our great reward;
Without thy grace our souls must fade,
And wither like a flower decayed.**

**4. Stretch forth thine hand to heal our sore,
And make us rise, to fall no more;
Once more upon thy people shine,
And fill the world with love divine.**

**5. All praise, eternal Son, to thee
Whose advent sets thy people free,
Whom, with the Father we adore,
And Spirit blest, for evermore. Amen.**

*Tune: Winchester New (NEH 12)
Words: Tr. John Chandler (1808-76)*

Collect

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

First Reading

Romans 15. 4 - 13

Gradual Hymn

**1. Hail, harbinger of morn:
Thou that art this day born,
And heraldest the Word with clarion voice!
Ye faithful ones, in him
Behold the dawning dim
Of the bright day, and let your hearts rejoice.**

**2. John - by that chosen name
To call him Gabriel came
By God's appointment from his home on high:
What deeds that babe should do
To manhood when he grew,
God sent his angel forth to testify.**

**3. There is none greater, none,
Than Zechariah's son;
Than this no mightier prophet hath been born:
Of prophets he may claim
More than a prophet's fame;
Sublimer deeds than theirs his brow adorn.**

**4. 'Lo, to prepare thy way,'
Did God the Father say,
'Before thy face my Messenger I send,
Thy coming to forerun;
As on the orient sun
Doth the bright Daystar morn by morn attend.'**

**5. Praise therefore God most high;
Praise him who came to die
For us, his Son that liveth evermore;
And to the Spirit raise,
The Comforter, like praise,
While time endureth, and when time is o'er.**

*Tune: Hail, Harbinger Of Morn (NEH 169)
Words: Latin, The Venerable Bede (673-735)
Tr. Charles Calverley (1831-84)*

Gospel

Matthew 3. 1 - 12

Offertory Hymn

**1. All for Jesus! all for Jesus!
This our song shall ever be;
For we have no hope nor saviour
If we have not hope in thee.**

**2. All for Jesus! thou wilt give us
Strength to serve thee hour by hour:
None can move us from thy presence
While we trust thy love and power.**

**3. All for Jesus! at thine altar
Thou dost give us sweet content;
There, dear Saviour, we receive thee**

**4. All for Jesus! thou has loved us,
All for Jesus! thou has died,
All for Jesus! thou art with us,**

**In thy holy sacrament.
5. All for Jesus! All for Jesus!
This the Church's song shall be,
Till at last the flock is gathered
One in love, and one in thee.**

All for Jesus, glorified!

*Tune: All For Jesus (NEH 272)
Words: W. J. Sparrow-Simpson (1859-1952)*

Post Communion Motet Zion hears the watchmen's voices - Bach

Post Communion Prayer

Father in heaven, who sent your Son to redeem the world and will send him again to be our judge: give us grace so to imitate him in the humility and purity of his first coming that, when he comes again, we may be ready to greet him with joyful love and firm faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Final Hymn

**1. Lift up your heads ye mighty gates,
Behold the King of glory waits,
The King of kings is drawing near,
The Saviour of the world is here.**

**2. O blest the land, the city blest,
Where Christ as ruler is confessed;
O happy hearts and happy homes
To whom this King in triumph
comes.**

**3. Come then, O Saviour, and abide,
Our hearts to thee be open wide;
May all thy inward presence feel,
To all thy grace and love reveal.**

*Tune: Gonfalon Royal (NEH 128 (t. ii))
Words: Latin 5th Century Tr. J. M. Neale (1818-66)*

Choral Evensong - 6.30pm

Preces & Responses

Tallis

Kings College Service

Forbes L'Estrange

Opening Hymn

**1. The Lord will come and not be slow,
His footsteps cannot err;
Before him righteousness shall go,
His royal harbinger.**

**2. Truth from the earth, like to a flower,
Shall bud and blossom then;
And justice, from her heavenly bower,
Look down on mortal men.**

**3. Rise, God, judge thou the earth in
might,
This wicked earth redress;
For thou art he who shalt by right
The nations all possess.**

**4. The nations all whom thou hast made
Shall come, and all shall frame
To bow them low before thee, Lord,
And glorify thy name.**

**5. For great thou art, and wonders great
By thy strong hand are done:
Thou in thy everlasting seat
Remainest God alone.**

*Tune: St Stephen (NEH 15)
Words: Cento Psalms 85, 82, 86*

Psalms 11 and 28

1: In the Lord put I my trust : how say ye then to my soul, that she should flee as a bird unto the hill?

2: For lo, the ungodly bend their bow, and make ready their arrows within the quiver : that they may privily shoot at them which are true of heart.

3: For the foundations will be cast down : and what hath the righteous done?

4: The Lord is in his holy temple : the Lord's seat is in heaven.

5: His eyes consider the poor : and his eye-lids try the children of men.

6: The Lord alloweth the righteous : but the ungodly, and him that delighteth in wickedness, doth his soul abhor.

7: Upon the ungodly he shall rain snares, fire and brimstone, storm and tempest : this shall be their portion to drink.

8: For the righteous Lord loveth righteousness : his countenance will behold the thing that is just.

1: Unto thee will I cry, O Lord my strength : think no scorn of me; lest, if thou make as though thou hearest not, I become like them that go down into the pit.

2: Hear the voice of my humble petitions, when I cry unto thee : when I hold up my hands towards the mercy-seat of thy holy temple.

3: O pluck me not away, neither destroy me, with the ungodly and wicked doers : which speak friendly to their neighbours, but imagine mischief in their hearts.

4: Reward them according to their deeds : and according to the wickedness of their own inventions.

5: Recompense them after the work of their hands : pay them that they have deserved.

6: For they regard not in their mind the works of the Lord, nor the operation of his hands : therefore shall he break them down, and not build them up.

7: Praised be the Lord : for he hath heard the voice of my humble petitions.

8: The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart hath trusted in him, and I am helped : therefore my heart danceth for joy, and in my song will I praise him.

9: The Lord is my strength : and he is the wholesome defence of his Anointed.

10: O save thy people, and give thy blessing unto thine inheritance : feed them, and set them up for ever.

First Lesson

1 Kings 18. 17 - 39

Office Hymn

1. Creator of the stars of night,
Thy people's everlasting light,
O Jesu, Saviour of us all,
Regard thy servants when they call.

2. Thou, grieving at the bitter cry
Of all creation doomed to die,
Didst come to save a ruined race
With healing gifts of heavenly grace.

3. Thou camest, Bridegroom of the bride,
As drew the world to evening-tide,
Proceeding from a virgin shrine,
The Son of Man, yet Lord divine.

4. At that great name, exalted now,
All knees must bend, all hearts must bow,
And things in heaven and earth shall own
That thou art Lord and King alone.

5. To thee, O holy One, we pray,
Our judge in that tremendous day,
Preserve us, while we dwell below,
From every onslaught of the foe.

6. All praise, eternal Son, to thee,
Whose advent sets thy people free,
Whom with the Father we adore,
And Spirit blest, for evermore. Amen.

Tune: Conditor Alme (NEH 1 (t. i))

Words: Tr. J. M. Neale (1818-66)

Second Lesson

John 1. 19 - 28

Anthem

Bogoroditse Devo - Rachmaninov

Hymn

**1. Saviour, again to thy dear name we raise
With one accord our parting hymn of praise.
Guard thou the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,
That in this house have called upon thy name.**

**2. Grant us thy peace, Lord, through the coming night;
Turn thou for us its darkness into light;
From harm and danger keep thy children free,
For dark and light are both alike to thee.**

**3. Grant us thy peace throughout our earthly life;
Peace to thy Church from error and from strife;
Peace to our land, the fruit of truth and love;
Peace in each heart, the Spirit from above:**

**4. Thy Peace in life, the balm of every pain;
The peace in death, the hope to rise again;
Then, when thy voice shall bid our conflict cease,
Call us, O Lord, to thine eternal peace.**

*Tune: Ellers (NEH 250)
Words: John Ellerton (1826-93)*

Organ Voluntary

Wednesday 10th December 2025 Choral Evensong - 5.15pm

Preces & Responses plainsong

Fauxbourdons Service Macdonald

Psalm 10

1: Why standest thou so far off, O Lord : and hidest thy face in the needful time of trouble?

2: The ungodly for his own lust doth persecute the poor : let them be taken in the crafty wiliness that they have imagined.

3: For the ungodly hath made boast of his own heart's desire : and speaketh good of the covetous, whom God abhorreth.

4: The ungodly is so proud, that he careth not for God : neither is God in all his thoughts.

5: His ways are alway grievous : thy judgements

6: Are far above out of his sight, and therefore defieth he all his enemies.

7: His mouth is full of cursing, deceit, and fraud : under his tongue is ungodliness and vanity.

8: He sitteth lurking in the thievish corners of the streets : and privily in his lurking dens doth he murder the innocent; his eyes are set against the poor.

9: For he lieth waiting secretly, even as a lion lurketh he in his den : that he may ravish the poor.

10: He doth ravish the poor : when he getteth him into his net.

11: He falleth down, and humbleth himself : that the congregation of the poor may fall into the hands of his captains.

12: He hath said in his heart, Tush, God hath forgotten : he hideth away his face, and he will never see it.

13: Arise, O Lord God, and lift up thine hand : forget not the poor.

14: Wherefore should the wicked blaspheme God : while he doth say in his heart, Tush, thou God carest not for it.
 15: Surely thou hast seen it : for thou beholdest ungodliness and wrong.
 16: That thou mayest take the matter into thy hand : the poor committeth himself unto thee; for thou art the helper of the friendless.
 17: Break thou the power of the ungodly and malicious : take away his ungodliness, and thou shalt find none.
 18: The Lord is King for ever and ever : and the heathen are perished out of the land.
 19: Lord, thou hast heard the desire of the poor : thou preparest their heart, and thine ear hearkeneth thereto;
 20: To help the fatherless and poor unto their right : that the man of the earth be no more exalted against them.

First Lesson

Amos 9. 11 - end

Second Lesson

Romans 13. 8 - 14

Anthem

O comfort my people - Ogden

Hymn

**1. Hark the glad sound! the Saviour comes,
 The Saviour promised long!
 Let every heart prepare a throne,
 And every voice a song.**

**2. He comes the prisoners to release
 In Satan's bondage held;
 The gates of brass before him burst,
 The iron fetters yield.**

**3. He comes the broken heart to bind,
 The bleeding soul to cure,
 And with the treasures of his grace
 Enrich the humble poor.**

**4. Our glad hosannas, Prince of peace,
 Thy welcome shall proclaim,
 And heaven's eternal arches ring
 With thy belovèd name.**

*Tune: Bristol (NEH 6)
 Words: Philip Doddridge (1702-51)*

Notices

Bible Readings for all services

References for the readings for all our services can be found in this booklet. If you wish to follow the readings, they are available online at bible.oremus.org (we use NRSV version), or perhaps consider bringing your own Bible. If you are reading this booklet online you are now able to click on the reading heading and this will take you directly to the Bible reading.

Visiting Priests at St Peter's

Our Presidents and Preachers for the next few Sundays will be:

7th December	Choral Eucharist	Rev Paul Farthing
	Choral Evensong	Rev Paul Farthing
14th December	Choral Eucharist	Very Rev Adrian Dorber
	Choral Evensong	Lay led
21st December	Choral Eucharist	Rev Preb. Dr Sarah Schofield
	Nine Lesson and Carols	Rev Paul Farthing
24th December	Midnight Mass	Right Rev Dr Tim Wambunya, Bishop of Wolverhampton and Rev Preb. Dr Sarah Schofield
25th December	Choral Eucharist	Rev Paul Farthing

Advent message from Rev Canon Jeremy Dussek

Rev Jeremy says *'I'm tremendously looking forward to joining you and that the attached will give us hope in the waiting and preparation for our time together. With my best wishes and prayers'*

The full message is available at the back of church.

SAVE THE DATE - UPCOMING EVENTS AND SERVICES

Christmas Fair - Saturday 6th December - 10.30am - 2.30pm

The Mayor of Wolverhampton has agreed to open the Christmas Fair at 10.30 on 6th December. Please do come and join us.

We will be setting up from 4.00pm on Friday. Cakes should be brought in then or on the day. Please supply a list of ingredients in any homemade cakes and baking.

Christmas Raffle

Raffle tickets are now available please take and sell as many tickets as you can. The draw will be held at the Choir Concert on the evening of the Fair.

Choir Concert - Saturday 6th December at 6.00pm

A concert of music for Advent sung by our choirs.

Tickets £10 per person (school age children free)

Follow the Star Wolverhampton - A City Centre Nativity Parade Saturday 13th December

A family friendly Walk beginning at St John's in the Square Church at 3pm and ending in St Peter's Square about 4.30pm, stopping along the way to tell the story of Joseph and Mary and the birth of Jesus, and sing carols accompanied by The Band of the West Midlands Fire Service.

Help needed - STEWARDS to walk with the participants and help especially at road junctions. Stewards' Briefing at 2.30 at St John's in the Square Church. High Vis waistcoats will be provided.

READERS to tell the story.

KNITTED OR CROCHETED STARS to give out along the route.

If you can help in anyway, please contact

Lesley Cook 07840 128510 or lesleyvcook@btinternet.com

Deacon Linda Gilson 07941 354958 or linda.gilson@methodist.org.uk

Ex Cathedra - Christmas Music by Candlelight - Saturday 13th December at 7.00pm in St Peter's Church

Ex Catherdra return with a concert of both familiar melodies and wondrous discoveries to make you smile as well as reflect. For full details and to book please go to www.excathedra.co.uk

Nine Lessons and Carols - Sunday 21st December at 6.30pm

The traditional service of readings and carols by candlelight.

Junior Church

Junior Church will take place on the following dates.

14th December

4th January

18th January

Lunchtime Live!

These free Friday lunchtime recitals take place at 1.15pm on the following dates;

12th December Ruimei Huang

Piano

16th January Sebastien Sgouraditis

Voice

South Door Access

Work has now begun to remove the damaged pinnacles above the south door. We apologise for the continued lack of access from the drive, but we do have temporary ramped access via the west door. Please ask if you need to use the ramp.

Church Website

Our church website is now back up and running. Details can be found at <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/St-Peter-Wolverhampton>

Pastoral support at St Peter's

There is a small team of volunteers to offer support to members of our church community in time of need. The volunteers are;

Kath Harrow
Akosua Ankrah

Di Polowyj

Michael Oginni

Photography/Filming

Could we please ask that no photography or filming takes place during our services for safeguarding reasons.

Good Shepherd Food Donations

There is a box at the back of church for donations to the Good Shepherd Ministry. If you have any tins or dried goods please consider donating them. Men's toiletries are also on their shopping list, copies of which are available next to the box.

Friends of the Music

If you would like to help us continue our work in producing the choral musicians of the future, please consider either giving us a one-off donation or becoming a Friend. One-off donations can be made directly to our account via the details below, and if you wish to become a member of the Friends of the Music, please complete the form in the leaflets at the back of church and return it to the Parish Office.

Account Name: Friends of St Peter's Church Music
Sort Code: 30-99-83 Account Number: 02010234

Giving

General & Gift Aid Donations

Those who are UK taxpayers and who wish to make a donation are asked to use one of the small white envelopes which can be found by the doors and in the pews.

Please ensure that you fill in your details in ink on the front. This will enable HMRC to add 25% to your gift. If you would like to commit yourself to regular giving through our envelope scheme, please ask one of the stewards or churchwardens

Contactless Payments

A contactless machine for donations is at the back of church. It is possible to gift aid your donation by following the onscreen instructions (you only need do this once).

St Peter's welcomes donations via our 'Give a Little' page, by using the following link **St Peter's - Give a Little** or by scanning the QR code



Standing Orders

Perhaps the simplest way to give regularly is by Standing Order. Please tell us so that we can do what's necessary to claim Gift Aid. Please email us for our bank details.

Giving by Post

You are most welcome to send regular and one-off donations by posting a cheque (please see address below) but please do not send cash.

Contact Us

Parish Office, St Peter's House, 4 Exchange Street, WV1 1TS

email: wolvescentralparish@hotmail.co.uk

Phone: 01902 422642

University Chaplain	Rev Preb. Dr Sarah Schofield	322904
Churchwardens	Deborah Castle	341660
	Alan Bickley	741617
Deputy Churchwarden	Di Polowyj	764513 / 07904605529
Chief Steward	Sue Butler	07899 723050
Director of Music	Louis Stockton	422642
Head of Pastoral Care	Di Polowyj	764513 / 07904605529
Safeguarding & Child Protection	Di Polowyj	422642 / 07904605529
Assistant Safeguarding Officer	Ellie Frith	07905 769030
Bell Ringers	Richard Robson	790853
St Peter's House	Coffee Shop	546866
Gift Shop	Tony Perry	343109