



Christmas Day Eucharist

THE GATHERING

Welcome and notices

Opening Hymn

The service begins at the crib.

Welcome all wonders in one sight!
Eternity shut in a span.
Summer in winter, day in night,
heaven in earth and God in man.

Great little one whose all-embracing birth
brings earth to heaven, stoops heaven to earth.

The Greeting

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

All Amen.

Grace, mercy and peace
from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ
be with you

All and also with you.

Christ has brought us out of darkness

All to live in his marvellous light.

The glory of the Lord has been revealed

All and all flesh shall see it together.

Blessing of the Crib

Dear friends, as we meet to celebrate the birth of Christ, let us pray that God will bless this crib, that all who worship his Son, born of the Virgin Mary, may come to share his life in glory.

God our Father, on this day your Son Jesus Christ was born of the Virgin Mary for us and for our salvation: bless this crib, which we have prepared to celebrate that holy birth; may all who see it be strengthened in faith and receive the fullness of life he came to bring, who is alive and reigns for ever.

All Amen.

Prayers of Penitence

Christ the light of the world has come
to dispel the darkness of our hearts.
Let us turn to the light and confess our sins.

God our Father,
you sent your Son full of grace and truth:
forgive our failure to receive him.
Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

Jesus our Saviour,
you were born in poverty and laid in a manger:
forgive our greed and rejection of your ways.
Christ, have mercy.

All Christ, have mercy.

Spirit of Love,
your servant Mary responded joyfully to your call:
forgive the hardness of our hearts.

Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

Absolution

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.

All Amen.

Gloria in Excelsis

**All Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.**

The Collect

Let us pray in the peace of this Christmas celebration that our joy in the birth of Christ will last for ever.

**Lord Jesus Christ,
your birth at Bethlehem draws us to kneel in
wonder at heaven touching earth:
accept our heartfelt praise as we worship you,
our Saviour and our eternal God.**

All Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Readings from the Old and New Testament.

Please sit.

At the end of each reading the reader will say:

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn or Anthem

Gospel Reading

Please stand (or remain standing).

Alleluia

All Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

The word became flesh and dwelt among us,
and we have seen his glory.

All Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to
N

All Glory to you, O Lord.

At the end:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

The Creed

Let us stand to declare our faith in God:

**All 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.**

Prayers of Intercession

Let us pray to the Father through our Lord Jesus
Christ who is our light and our life.

Please sit or kneel.

These or other responses may be used:

Lord, in your mercy
All hear our prayer.

Or

Lord, hear us.
All Lord, graciously hear us.

And at the end
**All Merciful Father,
accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen**

The Peace

Unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given,
and his name shall be called the Prince of Peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you
All and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of Christ's peace.
All may exchange a sign of Christ's peace.

Offertory Hymn

Offertory Prayer

Word made flesh, life of the world,
in your incarnation you embraced our poverty: by
your Spirit may we share in your riches.
All Amen.

**All Yours, Lord,
is the greatness, the power, the glory, the
splendour, and the majesty;
for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.
All things come from you, and of your own do we
give you.**

Eucharistic Prayer E

The Lord is here.

All His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give thanks and praise.

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere,
mighty creator, ever-living God.

We give you thanks and praise for your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who for love of our fallen race humbled himself,
was born of the Virgin Mary
by the power of your Spirit,
and lived as one of us.

In this mystery of the Word made flesh
you have caused his light to shine in our hearts,
to give knowledge of your glory
in the face of Jesus Christ.

In him we see our God made visible
and so are caught up
in the love of the God we cannot see.

Therefore with all the angels of heaven
we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name
and sing our joyful hymn of praise:

**All Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

We praise and bless you, loving Father,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;
and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit,
that broken bread and wine outpoured
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died
he had supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he praised you.
He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
Do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:
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.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did.
In him we plead with confidence
his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross.
Bringing before you the bread of life
and cup of salvation,
we proclaim his death and resurrection
until he comes in glory.

Great is the mystery of faith:

**All 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 *[N and]* 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.

All Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Please sit or kneel to pray.

Rejoicing in the presence of God here among us, let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**All 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 the bread of life,
and that life is the light of the world.

**All God here among us,
light in the midst of us,
bring us to light and life.**

**All Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
grant us peace.**

Giving of Communion

Invitation

Christ is the true bread which has
come down from heaven.

All Lord give us this bread always.

**All Most merciful Lord,
your love compels us to come in.
Our hands were unclean,
our hearts were unprepared;
we were not fit even to eat the crumbs
from under your table.
But you, Lord, are the God of our salvation,
and share your bread with sinners.
So cleanse and feed us with the precious
body and blood of your Son,
that he may live in us and we in him;
and that we, with the whole company of Christ,
may sit and eat in your kingdom. Amen**

If you are a communicant member of another church you are welcome to go up to the altar to receive communion. If you are not confirmed you are warmly encouraged to go to the altar for a blessing. Please keep your hands down so that the celebrant will know to give you a blessing.

During Communion please join in the singing of the Communion hymns and choruses.

Prayers after Communion

The Post Communion Collect

**God our Father,
whose Word has come among us
in the Holy Child of Bethlehem:
may the light of faith illumine our hearts
and shine in our words and deeds;
through him who is Christ the Lord.**

All Amen.

Thanksgiving Prayer

**All Eternal God,
giver of love and power;
your Son Jesus Christ
has sent us into all the world
to preach the gospel of his kingdom:
confirm us in this mission,
and help us to live the good news we proclaim;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

The Blessing

May the Father,
who has loved the eternal Son
from before the foundation of the world,
shed that love upon you his children.

All Amen.

May Christ,
who by his incarnation gathered into one
things earthly and heavenly,
fill you with joy and peace.

All Amen.

May the Holy Spirit,
by whose overshadowing Mary became the God-
bearer,
give you grace to carry the good news of Christ.

All Amen.

And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and your family this Christmas and
remain with you always.

All Amen.

HYMN

The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All In the name of Christ.

Amen.

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