



## **GREETING**

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

## **CAROL**

### **INVITATION TO CONFESSION** *(Please sit or kneel)*

Christ the light of the world has come to dispel the darkness of our hearts. In his light, let us examine ourselves and confess our sins.

*Silence is kept*

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

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

## **ABSOLUTION**

May God who loved the world so much  
that he sent his Son to be our Saviour  
forgive us our sins and make us holy  
to serve him in the world,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

## **GLORIA IN EXCELSIS** (*Sung to Ode to Joy*)

**Glory be to God in heaven,  
peace to those who love God well.  
On the earth, let all God's people  
speak of Grace, and wonders tell:  
Lord, we praise you for your glory,  
mighty Father, heaven's king.  
Hear our joyful adoration  
and accept the thanks we bring.**

**Only Son of God Almighty,  
Lamb who takes our sin away.  
Now with God in triumph seated,  
for your mercy, Lord, we pray:  
Jesus Christ, most high and holy,  
Saviour, you are God alone  
In the glory of the Father  
with the spirit, three in One!**

## **THE COLLECT**

Let us pray in the peace of this Christmas celebration  
that our joy in the birth of Jesus will last forever

### *Silence*

Eternal God,  
who made this most holy night  
to shine with the brightness of your one true light:  
bring us, who have known the revelation  
of that light on earth,  
to see the radiance of your heavenly glory;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever. Amen

## **READINGS**

*(Please sit )*

### **Old Testament**

*At the end is said:*

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

## **CAROL**

### **The Gospel** *(Remain standing for the Gospel)*

Alleluia, alleluia.

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us

And we have seen his glory.

**Alleluia.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At the end is said*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **SERMON**

### **DECLARATION OF FAITH**

Let us stand to affirm our common faith, saying together:

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

**We believe 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/INTERCESSIONS**

*(Please sit or kneel for the prayers)*

In peace let us pray to the Lord...

*Prayers conclude with:*

**Merciful Father, accept these prayers  
for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## **THE PEACE**

*(Please stand)*

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.  
**and also with you**

*All may exchange a sign of peace with those nearest to you.*

**CAROL**            *(During which Bread and Wine are placed on the Lord's Table)*

**OFFERTORY** *(During which monetary donations are collected and presented)*

## **PRAYER AT THE PREPARATION OF THE TABLE**

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

## **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

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.**

*(Please sit or kneel)*

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,  
and on this night 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:

**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:

**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, forever and ever. **Amen**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

*(Please remain seated or kneeling)*

Rejoicing in the presence of God here among us, as our Saviour taught us so we pray:

**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 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**

**Jesus Lamb of God, have mercy on us**

**Jesus bearer of our sins, have mercy on us**

**Jesus redeemer of the world, grant us your peace.**

*Brief Silence*

### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you**

**But only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

*The Church of England welcomes members of any Christian Church to share the communion. If you would rather receive a blessing, please put your hands behind your back.*

### **COMMUNION CAROLS/MUSIC**

**THE WHITE ADVENT CANDLE IS LIT** *(to announce Jesus' birth followed by the following prayers).*

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray

God our Father,

in this night you have made known to us again

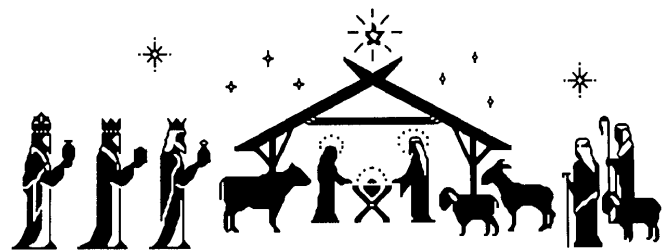
the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ:  
confirm our faith and fix our eyes on him until the day  
dawns  
and Christ the Morning Star rises in our hearts.  
To him be glory both now and forever.

**Almighty God,  
we thank you for feeding us  
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.  
Through him we offer ourselves to 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**

## **NOTICES**

## **CAROL**

## **THE BLESSING - *(Please stand)***



May the loving care of Mary,  
the joy of the angels,  
and the healing peace of Jesus Christ  
be God's gift to us this Christmas;  
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**

Go in the light and peace of Christ.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*We wish you all a very blessed Christmas*