

Welcome to All Hallows

24 December 2017

Christmas Eve

23:30 Midnight Mass



*Feel free to ask the Priest before the service if you have any special intentions to be included in today's **Intercessions**.*

***We do not practise Intinction** (dipping the consecrated bread, or host, into the consecrated wine before consumption by the communicant) in this church. If you are unable to partake of the Common Cup, then it is legitimate to receive the host alone, since the body and blood are present in both species.*

***Be aware of the step-up** if you use the pews on the north and south walls – we don't want anyone falling.*

***In case of an accident** during the service if there is a trained medic in church they should take control and others should remain in their seats. A churchwarden should call for an ambulance if needed and the accident book should be filled in. The service will continue as normal if at all possible.*

HYMN

Quire only:

- 1 Once in royal David's city
 stood a lowly cattle shed,
 where a mother laid her baby
 in a manger for his bed:
 Mary was that Mother mild,
 Jesus Christ her little Child.

All sing:

- 2 He came down to earth from heaven
 who is God and Lord of all,
 and his shelter was a stable,
 and his cradle was a stall:

with the poor and mean and lowly,
lived on earth our Saviour holy.

3 And through all his wondrous childhood
day by day like us, he grew,
he was little, weak and helpless,
tears and smiles like us he knew:
and he feeleth for our sadness,
and he shareth in our gladness.

4 And our eyes at last shall see him
through his own redeeming love,
for that Child so dear and gentle,
is our Lord in heaven above;
and he leads his children on
to the place where he is gone.

Cecil Frances Alexander (née Humphreys) (1818-1895) HymnQuest ID: 59729

GREETING

The president says

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.

All Amen.

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

All and also with you.

Words of welcome or introduction may be said.

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

**All 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.**

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Minister 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.

The president says

Lord of grace and truth,
we confess our unworthiness
to stand in your presence as your children.
We have sinned:

All forgive and heal us.

The Virgin Mary accepted your call
to be the mother of Jesus.
Forgive our disobedience to your will.
We have sinned:

All forgive and heal us.

Your Son our Saviour was born in poverty in a manger.
Forgive our greed and rejection of your ways.
We have sinned:

All forgive and heal us.

The shepherds left their flocks to go to Bethlehem.
Forgive our self-interest and lack of vision.
We have sinned:

All forgive and heal us.

The wise men followed the star to find Jesus the King.
Forgive our reluctance to seek you.
We have sinned:

All forgive and heal us.

ABSOLUTION

May the God of all healing and forgiveness
draw us to himself,
that we may behold the glory
of his Son, the Word made flesh,

and be cleansed from all our sins
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Silence may be kept.

GLORIA

The Gloria is said.

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.**

Glory to God in the highest and peace to his people on earth.

**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.**

Glory to God in the highest and peace to his people on earth.

**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.**

**Glory to God in the highest and peace to his people on earth.
Amen.**

COLLECT

The president introduces a period of silent prayer with the words

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

The collect is said.

Eternal God,
in the stillness of this night
you sent your almighty Word
to pierce the world's darkness with the light of salvation:
give to the earth the peace that we long for
and fill our hearts with the joy of heaven
through our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

All **Amen.**

READING Isaiah 52.7-10

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, 'Your God reigns.' Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the LORD to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the LORD has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Silence may be kept.

PSALM 98

The psalm is sung.

- 1 Sing to the Lord a new song, *
for he has done marvellous things.
- 2 His own right hand and his holy arm *
have won for him the victory.
- 3 The Lord has made known his salvation; *
his deliverance has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.
- 4 He has remembered his mercy and faithfulness
towards the house of Israel *
and all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.
- 5 Sound praises to the Lord, all the earth; *
break into singing and make music.
- 6 Make music to the Lord with the lyre, *
with the lyre and the voice of melody.
- 7 With trumpets and the sound of the horn *
sound praises before the Lord, the King.
- 8 Let the sea thunder and all that fills it, *
the world and all that dwell upon it.

9 Let the rivers clap their hands *
and let the hills ring out together before the Lord,
for he comes to judge the earth.

10 In righteousness shall he judge the world *
and the peoples with equity.

Glory to the Father,
and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.

READING Hebrews 1.1-4

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Silence may be kept.

HYMN

- 1 Silent night! Holy night!
Heaven is near, earth is bright,
angel songs are heard above
as the Child of peace and love
sleeps in Mary's arms,
sleeps in Mary's arms.
- 2 Silent night! Holy night!
Skies are clear, stars are bright,
now the shepherds wend their way,
homage to this Child to pay:
he is Christ the Lord,
he is Christ the Lord.

3 Silent night! Holy night!
 Christ is here, all is light,
 shadows of the past are gone
 with the advent of the Son,
 born to save us all,
 born to save us all.

*Stille nacht! Heilige Nacht! G B Timms (1910-1997) based on Joseph Mohr (1792-1848
HymnQuest ID: 80942*

GOSPEL READING John 1.1-14

Minister This night Christ is born.

All **Alleluia!**

Minister This night the Saviour comes.

All **Alleluia!**

Minister This night the angels sing on earth.

All **Alleluia! Glory to God in the highest.**

Minister Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

All Glory to you, O Lord.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

After the Sermon silence may be kept.

CREED

Let us declare our faith in God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**All We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord,
Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

This response may be included:

Lord, hear us.

All Lord, graciously hear us.

And at the end:

Merciful Father,

**All accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Silence is kept.

The president says

Come, Lord Jesus, do not delay;
give new courage to your people, who trust in your love.
By your coming, raise us to share in the joy of your kingdom
on earth as in heaven, where you live and reign
with the Father and the Spirit, one God for ever and ever.

All Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

We light this candle for the newborn Christ
reawakening hope and faith,
the Word embodied for our time.

**All God, as we receive your promise,
you are light, you are hope.**

All candles are lit.

Jesus is the light of the world.

All A light no darkness can ever put out.

**All sing Advent candles tell their story
on this Christmas Day.
Those who waited for God's glory:
they prepared the way.
Christ is with us: loving, giving,
in us living, here today!**

Mark Earey © 2002 Mark Earey

PEACE

This holy night the angels sang,
'Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace to all in whom he delights.'

Luke 2.14

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

Minister Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may exchange a sign of peace.

PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

During the hymn a collection takes place.

HYMN

- 1 It came upon the midnight clear,
that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth
to touch their harps of gold:
'Peace on the earth, good-will to men
from heaven's all-gracious King!'
The world in solemn stillness lay
to hear the angels sing.
- 2 Still through the cloven skies they come,
with peaceful wings unfurled;
and still their heavenly music floats
o'er all the weary world;
above its sad and lowly plains
they bend on hovering wing;
and ever o'er its Babel sounds
the blessed angels sing.
- 3 Yet with the woes of sin and strife
the world has suffered long;
beneath the angel-strain have rolled
two thousand years of wrong;
and man, at war with man, hears not
the love-song which they bring:

O hush the noise, ye men of strife,
and hear the angels sing!

4 For lo! the days are hastening on,
by prophet bards foretold,
when, with the ever-circling years,
comes round the age of gold;
when peace shall over all the earth
its ancient splendours fling,
and the whole world give back the song
which now the angels sing.

Edmund Hamilton Sears (1810-1876) HymnQuest ID: 55849

TABLE 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.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

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,
and on this holy 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:

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.**

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
and according to your holy will,
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

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.

Minister Great is the mystery of faith.

All **Christ has died; Christ is risen;
Christ will come again.**

And so, Father,
calling to mind his death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world;
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,
we bring before you this bread and this cup
and we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we, in the company of *[N and]* all the saints,
may praise and glorify you for ever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,
for ever and ever.

All Amen.

Silence may be kept.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

All	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.	<i>(Or)</i>	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.
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BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The president breaks the consecrated 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.**

AGNUS DEI

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

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

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

GIVING OF COMMUNION

Christ is the true bread
which has come down from heaven.
All Lord, give us this bread always.

The president and people receive communion. Authorized words of distribution are used and the communicant replies 'Amen.'

If you are not used to take communion, do come forward for a blessing.

QUIRE ANTHEMS Torches, Away in a manger, O little one sweet

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God our Father, 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 for ever.

**All Father of all, we give you thanks and praise,
that when we were still far off
you met us in your Son and brought us home.
Dying and living, he declared your love,
gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.**

**May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;
we who drink his cup bring life to others;
we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.**

**Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,
so we and all your children shall be free,
and the whole earth live to praise your name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

BLESSING

Christ, who by his incarnation
gathered into one things earthly and heavenly,
fill you with peace and goodwill
and make you partakers of the divine nature;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All Amen.

HYMN

1 O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
 O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
 come and behold him, born the King of angels:

Refrain *O come, let us adore him,
 O come, let us adore him,
 O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!*

2 God of God, Light of Light,
 Lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
 very God, begotten, not created:

3 Child, for us sinners poor and in the manger,
 fain we embrace thee, with awe and love;
 who would not love thee, loving us so dearly?

4 Sing, choirs of Angels, sing in exultation,
 sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
 Glory to God in the Highest:

Before the final verse the hymn stops and the crib is blessed.

BLESSING OF THE CRIB

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

God our Father,
this night 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.**

HYMN *continues*

5 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
 Jesu, to thee be glory given;
 word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:

Refrain *O come, let us adore him,*
 O come, let us adore him,
 O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

Anon. Latin, tr. Frederick Oakeley (1802-1880) and others, HymnQuest ID: 58575

Minister Go in peace. Proclaim the Word made flesh.

All **Glorify, thank and praise to God.**

The ministers and people depart.

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Setting: Trinity Mass

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