

# Welcome to All Saints



25 December 2017

**Christmas Day**

9:15 Joint Benefice Eucharist

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*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.

**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.

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## 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:

*The hymn stops for the blessing of the crib.*

## BLESSING OF THE CRIB

*The president says*

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.**

**HYMN** *continues*

3            Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,  
              sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;  
              Glory to God in the highest:

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

4            Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning,  
              Jesu, to thee be glory giv'n;  
              Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:

*Composer unknown, HymnQuest ID 58575*

**GREETING**

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 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.**

## CONFESSION

Minister    Hear the words of the angel to Joseph:  
‘You shall call his name Jesus,  
for he will save his people from their sins.’

Therefore let us seek the forgiveness of God  
through Jesus the Saviour of the world.

*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.**

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** *to the tune of Angels from the Realms of Glory*

**Glory be to God in heaven.  
Peace to all throughout the world.  
Thanks and praise to God our Father.  
Love in action is unfurled.**

**Gloria in excelsis Deo. [x2]**

**Jesus Christ is born among us,  
Son of God light of the world.  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
Love in action is unfurled.**

**Gloria in excelsis Deo. [x2]**

**Here on earth Christ's life he gave us;  
living, dying, ris'n on high.  
God we praise your gen'rous spirit.  
All our needs you full supply**

**Gloria in excelsis Deo. [x2]**

## **COLLECT**

*The president introduces a period of silent prayer*

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*

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.**

## **READING** Isaiah 9.2-7

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness, on them light has shone. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onwards and for evermore.

The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

*At the end the reader may say*

This is the word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may be kept.*

## **PSALM 96**

- 1 Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth.
- 2 Sing to the Lord and bless his name;  
tell out his salvation from day to day.
- 3 Declare his glory among the nations  
and his wonders among all peoples.
- 4 For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised;  
he is more to be feared than all gods.
- 5 For all the gods of the nations are but idols;  
it is the Lord who made the heavens.
- 6 Honour and majesty are before him;  
power and splendour are in his sanctuary.
- 7 Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples;  
ascribe to the Lord honour and strength.

- 8 Ascribe to the Lord the honour due to his name;  
bring offerings and come into his courts.
- 9 O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;  
let the whole earth tremble before him.
- 10 Tell it out among the nations that the Lord is king.  
He has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved;  
he will judge the peoples with equity.
- 11 Let the heavens rejoice and let the earth be glad;  
let the sea thunder and all that is in it;
- 12 Let the fields be joyful and all that is in them;  
let all the trees of the wood shout for joy before the Lord.
- 13 For he comes, he comes to judge the earth;  
with righteousness he will judge the world  
and the peoples with his truth.

### **READING Titus 2.11-14**

The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

*At the end the reader may say*

This is the word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may be kept.*

### **ANTHEM Joy to the world**

### **GOSPEL READING Luke 2.1-14**

Choir Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

**All Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

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

Choir Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

**All Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

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

**All            Glory to you, O Lord.**

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her first-born son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see – I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.' And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

'Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace among those whom he favours!'

Minister 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**

*The president says*

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*

**All** Lord Jesus Christ, child of Mary,  
you know us and love us,  
you share our lives and hear our prayer.  
Glory to you for ever. Amen.

*Silence is kept.*

## **LIGHTING 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**

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.

Minister Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*All may exchange a sign of peace.*

## **PREPARATION OF THE TABLE**

*During the hymn the gifts of the people may be gathered.*

## **HYMN**

1 Every star shall sing a carol;  
Every creature, high or low,  
Come and praise the King of Heaven,  
By whatever name you know:

Refrain *God above, Man below,  
Holy is the name I know.*

2 When the King of all creation  
Had a cradle on the earth,  
Holy was the human body,  
Holy was the human birth:

- 3 Who can tell what other cradle  
High above the milky way  
Still may rock the King of Heaven  
On another Christmas Day?
- 4 Who can count how many crosses  
Still to come or long ago  
Crucify the King of Heaven?  
Holy is the name I know:
- 5 Who can tell what other body  
He will hallow for his own?  
I will praise the son of Mary,  
Brother of my blood and bone:
- 6 Every star and every planet,  
Every creature high and low,  
Come and praise the King of Heaven,  
By whatever name you know.

*Sydney Carter (1915-2004) © 1961 Stainer & Bell Ltd. HymnQuest ID: 52423*

## 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  
**All 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,  
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 is the Lord, holy is the Lord God Almighty.  
Holy, holy, holy is the Lord, holy is the Lord God Almighty,  
Who was and is and is to come.  
Holy, holy, holy is the Lord.**

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 Jesus, Jesus, Jesus is the Lord, Jesus is the Lord God Almighty.  
Jesus, Jesus, Jesus is the Lord, Jesus is the Lord God Almighty.  
Who was and is and is to come.  
Jesus, Jesus, Jesus is the Lord.**

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.**

**All**      **Glory, glory, glory to the Lord, glory to the Lord God Almighty.  
Glory, glory, glory to the Lord, glory to the Lord God Almighty.  
Who was and is and is to come.  
Glory, glory, glory to the Lord.**

*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.**

*(Or)*      **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

*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      Jesus, Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:  
            have mercy on us [x2].**

**Jesus, bread of life, you take away the sins of the world:  
            have mercy on us [x2].**

**Jesus, wine of joy, you take away the sins of the world:  
            have mercy on us [x2].**

**Jesus, prince of peace, you take away the sins of the world:  
            grant us your peace [x4].**

## GIVING OF COMMUNION

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

*The people come forward to receive communion, authorized words of distribution are used and the communicant replies 'Amen'.*

## HYMNS

1            Like a candle flame,  
            flick'ring small in our darkness,  
            uncreated light  
            shines through infant eyes.

Refrain

Men      *God is with us, alleluia,*  
Women *God is with us, alleluia,*  
Men      *come to save us, alleluia,*  
Women *come to save us,*  
All        *alleluia!*

2            Stars and angels sing,  
            yet the earth sleeps in shadows;  
            can this tiny spark  
            set a world on fire?

3 Yet his light shall shine  
from our lives, spirit blazing,  
as we touch the flame  
of his holy fire.

*Graham Kendrick (b. 1950) © 1998 Make Way Music, HymnQuest ID: 56997*

1 See him lying on a bed of straw:  
a draughty stable with an open door;  
Mary cradling the babe she bore -  
the Prince of Glory is his name.

Refrain *O now carry me to Bethlehem  
to see the Lord appear to men:  
just as poor as was the stable then,  
the Prince of Glory when he came.*

2 Star of silver, sweep across the skies,  
show where Jesus in the manger lies;  
shepherds, swiftly from your stupor rise  
to see the Saviour of the world!

3 Angels, sing the song that you began,  
bring God's glory to the heart of man;  
sing that Bethl'em's little baby can  
be salvation to the soul.

4 Mine are riches, from your poverty,  
from your innocence, eternity;  
mine forgiveness by your death for me,  
child of sorrow for my joy.

*Michael Perry (1942-1996) © Mrs B Perry/Jubilate Hymns, HymnQuest ID: 60634*

1 What child is this who, laid to rest  
on Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,  
while shepherds watch are keeping?

Refrain *This, this is Christ the King,  
whom shepherds guard and angels sing:  
haste, haste, to bring him praise,  
the babe, the Son of Mary.*

2 Why lies he in such mean estate,  
where ox and ass are feeding?

Good Christians fear: for sinners here,  
the silent Word is pleading.

- 3 So bring him incense, gold and myrrh,  
come, peasant, king, to own him,  
the King of kings salvation brings,  
let loving hearts enthrone him.

*William Chatterton Dix (1837-1898) and others, HymnQuest ID: 63727*

*Silence is kept.*

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

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 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.**

## **NOTICES**

### **BLESSING**

*The Child Bishop says*

May the joy of the angels,  
the eagerness of the shepherds,  
the perseverance of the wise men,  
the obedience of Joseph and Mary,  
and the peace of the Christ child  
be yours this Christmas;  
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 Hark, the herald-angels sing  
'Glory to the new-born King!  
peace on earth and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled.'  
Joyful, all you nations rise,  
join the triumph of the skies,  
with the angelic host proclaim,  
'Christ is born in Bethlehem.'
- Refrain *Hark, the herald-angels sing  
'Glory to the new-born King!'*
- 2 Christ by highest heaven adored,  
Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
late in time behold him come,  
offspring of a virgin's womb!  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see!  
Hail, the incarnate Deity!  
Pleased as man with man to dwell,  
Jesus, our Immanuel.
- 3 Hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!  
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings,  
risen with healing in his wings;  
mild he lays his glory by,  
born that we no more may die,  
born to raise the sons of earth,  
born to give them second birth.

*C Wesley (1707-1788) G Whitfield (1714-1770) M Madan (1726-1790) HymnQuest ID 53955*

Minister Go in peace. Proclaim the Word made flesh.

**All Glory, thanks and praise to God.**

*The ministers and people depart.*

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