



Holy Communion

Christmas Day
25 December 2021

A warm welcome to our worship this morning. Whether a regular or a visitor it is good to have you here. At All Saints we continue to take precautions to keep everyone as safe as possible as we worship, the details of these are below. We hope that you find peace and spiritual refreshment this morning as we journey through the season of Advent.

*We continue to observe **social distancing rules** in our church during worship.*

*We encourage you to use the **hand sanitiser** stations when you arrive, before and after communion, and when you leave. Please wear a **face mask** when you are moving around the church. You may remove your mask whilst sitting in your pew, and for a brief period when receiving communion. We continue to take **communion** in one kind only.*

*Please **take this service sheet home** with you.*

***Personal photographs** you take in our church, with children other than your own in them, are not to be published on social media sites (Instagram, Facebook etc.)*

We stand as the bell sounds to mark the beginning of our worship. The ministers and the Child Bishop process into the church.

WELCOME & GREETING

Minister 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.

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

All and also with you.

CAROL

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 Sing, choirs of angels,
sing in exultation!
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above,
'Glory to God
in the highest!'

*attr. to John Francis Wade (1711-1786) Etienne Jean Francois Borderies ((1764-1832) William Mercer (1811-1873), Frederick Oakeley (1802-1880), William Thomas Brooke (1848-1917) and others
HymnQuest ID: 58575*

BLESSING THE CRIB

Minister 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.

CAROL continues

4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
 born this happy morning,
 Jesus, 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!*

John Francis Wade ((1711-1786), Frederick Oakeley (1802-1880) and others; Irregular

CONFESSION

Minister 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.

 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.

Minister 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.

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

All Lord, have mercy.

Minister May the God of all healing and forgiveness
 draw you to himself,
 that you may behold the glory of his Son,
 the Word made flesh,
 and be cleansed from all your sins
 through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

GLORIA

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

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

**Here on earth Christ's life he gave us,
living, dying, risen on high.
God, we praise your generous spirit,
All our needs you full supply.**

Glory to God in the Highest.

COLLECT

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

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.**

FIRST 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 shined. 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.

SECOND 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.

GOSPEL READING Luke 2.1.20

Minister This day Christ is born.

All Alleluia!

Minister This day the Saviour comes.

All Alleluia!

Minister This day the angels sing on earth.

All Alleluia! Glory to God in the highest.

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 firstborn 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!'

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

After the Sermon silence may be kept.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

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

**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.**

Silence may be kept.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Minister 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 RING

C. Bishop 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.

C. Bishop 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

C. Bishop 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.

CAROL

- 1 Joy to the world, the Lord has come!
Let earth receive her King!
Let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.
- 2 Joy to the earth the Saviour reigns!
Let men their songs employ;
while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.
- 3 He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.

Isaac Watts (1674-1748) HymnQuest ID: 56558

PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

Minister 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.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Minister The Lord be with you,

All and also with you.

Minister Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

Minister Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give thanks and praise.

Minister 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 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 say our joyful hymn of praise:

**All Holy, holy, holy, Lord Almighty,
God of power and God of might.
Heaven and earth, full of your glory,
overflow this Christmas Day.
Blessed is he who comes to greet us
on this glorious Christmas Day,
in God's name a human baby.
Sing hosanna in the height.
Glory to God in the Highest.**

Minister 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.

Minister Great is the mystery of faith.

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

Minister 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

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

<p>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.</p>	<p><i>[or]</i></p>	<p>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.</p>
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BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Minister 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, with love you save us
taking all our sins away,
look with mercy on our people
on this glorious Christmas Day.**

**Lamb of God, your peace you bring us,
full of justice, grace and light,
look with mercy on your people
on this glorious Christmas Day.**

Glory to God in the Highest.

GIVING OF COMMUNION

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

All **Lord, give us this bread always.**

Please wait to be directed forward to receive communion.

SONGS

Refrain *Come and join the celebration
it's a very special day;
come and share our jubilation,
there's a new King born today!*

1 See the shepherds
hurry down to Bethlehem;
gaze in wonder
at the Son of God who lay before them.

2 Wise men journey,
led to worship by a star,
Kneel in homage,
bringing precious gifts from lands afar, so...

3 'God is with us,'
'round the world the message bring;
He is with us,
'Welcome!' all the bells on earth are peeling.

Mike Kerry © 1982 Thankyou Music

Refrain *Go tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and everywhere;
go tell it on the mountain,
that Jesus Christ is born!*

1 The shepherds from the hillside
gave worship and adored;
they saw the Babe of Bethl'hem
was Jesus Christ the Lord:

2 The men from eastern countries
came later there to bring
their gifts of loving homage
to Jesus Christ the King:

3 A road that Jews and Gentiles,
both rich and poor have trod-
it led them all to Bethl'hem,
to Christ, the Son of God:

4 The learned and the simple
come to the manger-stall;

he joins us in his family,
the saviour of us all!

*Richard Bewes (1934-2019) from Afro-American
Words © in this version The Jubilate Group, Kitley House, St Katherines Road, Torquay, TQ1 4DE, UK.
HymnQuest ID: 62138*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Minister 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.**

CAROL

1 Hark, the herald-angels sing
glory to the new-born King,
peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled.
Joyful, all ye 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, th'incarnate Deity,
pleased as man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.
- 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 man no more may die,
born to raise the sons of earth,
born to give them second birth.

Charles Wesley, (1707-1788), George Whitfield (1714-1770), Martin Madan (1726-1790) HymnQuest ID: 53955

BLESSING

C. Bishop 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 Almighty God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with
you and remain with you always.

All Amen.

Minister Go in peace. Proclaim the Word made flesh.

All Glory, thanks and praise to God.

The ministers and people depart.

All Saints and All Hallows, Wellingborough

phone: 01933 278484

email: officeallsaints@btinternet.com

officeallhallows@btinternet.com

website: allhallowsandallsaintswellingborough.co.uk

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Gloria, Sanctus, Benedictus, Agnus Dei: Rev Rachel Firth: Metrical Mass for Christmas