



Midnight Mass



Welcome! We hope you will catch the infectious love of the infant Jesus in tonight's worship!

¶ The Gathering

The first reading in darkness Isaiah 52: 7 – 10
An Old Testament prophecy of salvation

Carol

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.

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

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 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 this 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 forever. **Amen**

Confession

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

We hear God's promise of forgiveness

Carol

¶ The Liturgy of the Word

Collect

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 for ever. **Amen.**

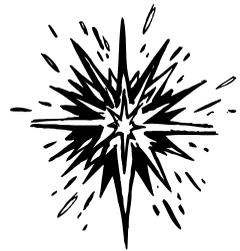
Gospel

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
Glory to you, O Lord.

John 1.1-14
In the beginning was the Word

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

A short address
After the sermon we affirm our faith:



Creed

Let us declare our faith in God
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

Holy God
Hear our prayer



The Liturgy of the Sacrament

Peace

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

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

PEACE ON
EARTH

Carol

during this carol we take our collection.

Offering of
gifts

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

The great
prayer of
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.

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 on this night 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.**

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.

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. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

**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
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

**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.**



Invitation to
communion

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

**Please come and share in communion or a blessing.
You are very welcome – just follow the crowd!**

If you do not want communion but would like a blessing,
you may find it helpful to bring this service book with you so we know.

The choir will sing a collection of carols during communion.
You are welcome to join in.

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 for ever. Amen.

¶ The Sending out

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



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

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

And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

Carol

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.



HAPPY CHRISTMAS EVERYONE!

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Why not let the magic of Christmas last all year?

Other activities you may be interested in:

Sunday at 9.30am Our main worship of the week. We try to relate the themes of the week to the worship that we offer.

Beautiful music and always something to grab your attention. We run a crèche once a fortnight and sometimes the service is without communion.

We aim to enjoy our worship!

Sunday
Morning

Storyteller
Service

Last Sunday of the month - 11am

Worship specially aimed at young children who find it hard to sit still. We meet in the same space as Tiny Tots so the children feel at home. Lots of sticking, action songs, and things to do. Lots of noise!!!

For people of all ages who enjoy singing. We perform most Sunday mornings and at Evensong and other special services.

**Practice: Thursday at 8 – 9.30pm
(children 7 – 8.30pm)**

Join the choir

For children who enjoy singing all types of music. We perform several times a term and play a really valuable part in church. We sing at weddings and other special services and even get paid!

Thursday at 7 – 8.30pm

Join the
Junior choir

Come to
Junior Church

Sunday School with lots of games and activities runs **every Sunday morning at 9.30am** in the hall in term time. About once a month we stay in Church for a special Family Service aimed at all ages.

Are you under 5? Then bring your mum or dad for half an hour of singing and stories and a drink. Children and adults both love it!

Every Wednesday come rain or shine at 10.30am in church.

Tiny Tots

PTO

Other Services

Sun 8am: Communion - Traditional words (BCP)
Mon 12.30pm: Communion - Very quiet and peaceful
Wed 9.30am: Communion - Friendly with coffee
Sun 6pm: Choral Evensong (*usually 1st Sun of the month*)

10am – 1pm: Wednesday and Saturday in the church hall (behind the church). We serve lunch on the first Sunday of the month. We also sell a wide range of fair trade goods and the church shop is open for presents, gifts and souvenirs.

Coffee Shop

For more details about any of these ring Rev'd Andrew Holford on 896273 or just turn up. You can be assured of a warm welcome!

**To go on our mailing list: email
or contact the Rector**

