



Christmas Day Family Communion – 2023

10am

Welcome (Revd David Cattle)

Lighting the Christmas candle

Carol: O come, all ye faithful (12)

¹O come, all ye faithful,
joyful and triumphant
O come ye, o come ye to
Bethlehem
come and behold him
born the King of Angels.

*O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord.*

²God of God, Light of Light;
lo, he abhors not the virgin's
womb;
very God,
begotten not created;

³Sing, choirs of angels,
sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven
above!
Glory to God
in the highest:

⁴Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
born this happy morning:
Jesus, to thee be all glory given;
word of the Father,
now in flesh appearing;

Showing Christmas presents

Saying sorry

Lord Jesus, for the wrong things we've done, we're sorry.
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, for the wrong things we've said, we're sorry.
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, for the wrong things we've thought, we're sorry.
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

May the God of love bring us back to himself, forgive us our sins, and assure us of his eternal love in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

For forgiving us, Lord Jesus: **Thank you.**

For giving us a fresh start, Lord Jesus: **Thank you.**

For helping us next time things are hard, Lord Jesus: **Thank you.**

Collect

Carol: Joy to the world (11)

¹Joy to the world! The Lord is
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.

²Joy to the earth! The Saviour
reigns!

Your sweetest songs employ
while fields and floods, rocks, hills
and plains
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

³He 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.

Bible reading: Luke 2:1-7

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.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Talk

Creed

We believe in God the Father, God almighty, by whose plan earth and heaven sprang to being, all created things began.

We believe in Christ the Saviour, Son of God in human frame, virgin-born, the child of Mary, upon whom the Spirit came. Christ, who on the cross forsaken, like a lamb to slaughter led, suffered under Pontius Pilate, he descended to the dead. We believe in Jesus risen, heaven's king to rule and reign, to the Father's side ascended, till as judge he comes again. We believe in God the Spirit; in one Church, below, above: saints of God in one communion, one in holiness and love.

So by faith, our sins forgiven, Christ our Saviour, Lord and friend, we shall rise with him in glory, to the life that knows no end.

Prayers

The Peace

Carol: Of the Father's love begotten (3)

¹Of the Father's love begotten,
Ere the words began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega,
He the Source, the Ending he
Of the things that are, that have
been,
And that future years shall see,
Evermore and evermore.

²O that birth for ever blessed,
When the Virgin full of grace,
By the Holy Ghost conceiving,
Bare the Saviour of our race,
And the babe the world's
Redeemer,
First revealed his sacred face,
Evermore and evermore.

³O ye heights of heaven adore him,
Angel hosts his praises sing,
Powers, dominions, bow before him,
And extol our God and King.
Let no tongue on earth be silent,
Every voice in concert ring,
Evermore and evermore.

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here

His Spirit is with us.

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.

It is always right to give you thanks... ...to celebrate and say:

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.

Father, on the night before he died... ...Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Father, as we bring... ...one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

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 sin

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.

The breaking of bread

We break the bread of life, and that life is the light of the world.

God here among us, light in the midst of us, bring us to light and life.

Prayer of spiritual communion

*Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ,
for all the benefits you have given me,
for all the pains and insults you have borne for me.
Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,
I ask you to come spiritually into my heart.
O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother,
may I know you more clearly, love you more dearly,
and follow you more nearly, day by day. Amen.*

Carols during Communion:

Once in Royal David's City (19)

¹Once 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.

²He 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 meek and lowly
Lived on earth our Saviour holy.

³And through all his wondrous
childhood
He would honour and obey,
Love and watch the lowly mother
In whose gentle arms he lay.
Christian children all should be
Mild, obedient, good as he.

⁴For he is our childhood's pattern:
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.

⁵And 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.

⁶Not in that poor lowly stable,
With the oxen standing by,
We shall see him, but in heaven,
Set at God's right hand on high;
When like stars his children
crowned,
All in white shall wait around.

Carol: See amid the winter's snow (8)

¹See amid the winter's snow,
Born for us on earth below,
See, the Lamb of God appears,
Promised from eternal years.

*Hail, thou ever-blessèd morn!
Hail, redemption's happy dawn!
Sing through all Jerusalem:
Christ is born in Bethlehem!*

²Lo, within a manger lies
He who built the starry skies,
He who, throned in height sublime
Sits amid the cherubim.

³Say, ye holy shepherds, say,
What your joyful news today;
Wherefore have ye left your sheep
On the lonely mountain steep?

⁴As we watched at dead of night,
Lo, we saw a wondrous light:
Angels singing, "Peace on earth"
Told us of the Saviour's birth.'

⁵Sacred Infant, all divine,
What a tender love was thine,
Thus to come from highest bliss
Down to such a world as this!

⁶Teach, O teach us, holy Child,
By thy face so meek and mild,
Teach us to resemble thee
In thy sweet humility.

Carol: Ding dong! Merrily on high (17)

¹Ding dong! Merrily on high
In heaven the bells are ringing;
Ding dong! Verily the sky
Is riv'n with angels singing.
Gloria, hosanna in excelsis!
Gloria, hosanna in excelsis!

²E'en so here below, below,
Let steeple bells be swungen,
And i-o, i-o, i-o,
By priest and people sungen.
Gloria, hosanna in excelsis!
Gloria, hosanna in excelsis!

³Pray you, dutifully prime
Your matin chimes, ye ringers;
May you dutifully rime
Your evetime song, ye singers.
Gloria, hosanna in excelsis!
Gloria, hosanna in excelsis!

Prayer after Communion

God our Father, whose Word has come among us
in the Holy Child of Bethlehem: may Jesus light up our hearts,
and shine in our words and actions. Amen.

Notices

Carol: Hark! The herald angels sing

¹Hark! 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.

*Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King!*

²Christ, by highest heaven adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come,
offspring of the Virgin's womb.

Veiled in flesh the Godhead see!
Hail the incarnate Deity!
Pleased as man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel:

*Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King!*

³Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Son 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:
Hark! The herald angels sing: "Glory to the new-born King!"

Blessing

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Have a great Christmas, and may God bless us in 2024!

Sunday 31th December:

8.30am BCP Morning Prayer.
10am Service of the Word (also live-streamed).