

18th December 2022

Holy Communion with Children's Groups

Jacqueline Gray will be leading, Rev Mark Pybus will be presiding and Rev. Rob Powell will be preaching on 'Preparing for Christmas Part 2' (Luke 1:57-80)

WELCOME & LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLES

 **O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM,**
How still we see thee lie!
Above Thy deep and dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by.
Yet in Thy dark streets shineth
The everlasting Light;
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in Thee tonight.

O morning stars, together
Proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the King,
And peace to men on earth.
For Christ is born of Mary,
And gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep
Their watch of wondering love.

How silently, how silently
The wondrous gift is given!
So, God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of His heaven.
No ear may hear His coming;
But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive Him,
Still, the dear Christ enters in.

O holy child of Bethlehem,
Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in;
Be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Emmanuel.



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.
This, this is Christ the King
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing.
Haste, haste to bring Him laud
The Babe, the Son of Mary.

Why lies He in such mean estate
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian fear, for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.
Nails spear shall pierce Him through
The cross be borne for me for you.
Hail, hail the Word made flesh
The Babe the Son of Mary.

So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh,
Come peasant king to own Him.
The King of kings salvation brings
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.
Raise, raise the song on high,
The Virgin sings her lullaby.
Joy, joy for Christ is born,
The Babe the Son of Mary.

PRAYER OF PREPARATION



**Blessed are you,
Sovereign God of all,
to you be praise and glory for ever.
In your tender compassion
the dawn from on high
is breaking upon us
to dispel the lingering shadows of night.**

**As we look for your coming
among us this day,
open our eyes to behold your presence
and strengthen our hands to do your will,
that the world may rejoice
and give you praise.
Blessed be God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Blessed be God for ever.**



CONFESSION

**Father eternal,
giver of light and grace,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour,
in what we have thought,
in what we have said and done,
through ignorance, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We have wounded your love
and marred your image in us.
We are sorry and ashamed
and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us, forgive us all that is past
and lead us out from darkness
to walk as children of light.
Amen.**

ABSOLUTION



May the God of all healing and
forgiveness draw us to himself,
and cleanse us from all our sins
that we may behold the glory of his Son,
the Word made flesh,
Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen



ACTION SONG

ALL THE ANGELS SING

That Christ has come
To a manger bare
Mary laid him there
Come on fill the sky
With shouts of praise
Lift your voice with me
And sing, sing, sing, sing, sing!

*Emmanuel, Emmanuel
God is with us
It's the true meaning of Christmas
Jesus has come
And changed life forever
Emmanuel, Emmanuel
God is with us
Every day and not just Christmas
Jesus has come
And changed our lives forever more*

All the angels sing
That Christ has come
To a world in need
Good news indeed
Love wrapped as a babe
Gave everything
For you and I
Let's sing, sing, sing, sing, sing!
Join with all the angels singing
Giving glory unto him
One and all now lift your voices
To him praises bring
All of heaven sings together
All creation worships him
He is Jesus Holy one
He is Christ the King

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BIBLE READING: Luke 1:57- 80

SERMON by Rev. Rob Powell



COME THOU LONG EXPECTED JESUS,

Born to set thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us;
Let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
Hope of all the earth Thou art;
Dear Desire of every nation,
Joy of every longing heart.

Joy to those who long to see Thee
Day-spring from on high, appear.
Come, Thou promised Rod of Jesse,
Of Thy birth, we long to hear!
O'er the hills the angels singing
News, glad tidings of a birth;

"Go to Him your praises bringing
Christ the Lord has come to earth!"

Come to earth to taste our sadness,
He whose glories knew no end.
By His life He brings us gladness,
Our Redeemer, Shepherd, Friend.
Leaving riches without number,
Born within a cattle stall;
This the everlasting wonder,
Christ was born the Lord of all.

Born thy people to deliver,
Born a child, and yet a King,
Born to reign in us for ever,
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone;
By thine all-sufficient merit
Raise us to thy glorious throne.

THE PEACE *(we share the sign of the peace)*



THE COMMUNION 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 right to praise you, Father,
Lord of all creation;
in your love you made us for yourself.
When we turned away
you did not reject us
but came to meet us in your Son.
**You embraced us as your children
and welcomed us to sit and eat with you.**

In Christ you shared our life
that we might live in him and he in us.
**He opened his arms of love upon the
cross and made for all the perfect
sacrifice for sin.**

On the night he was betrayed,
at supper with his friends
he took bread, and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to them, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given
for you; do this in remembrance of me.

**Father, we do this in remembrance of
him: his body, is the bread of life.**

At the end of supper, taking the cup of
wine, he gave you thanks, and said:
Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the
new covenant, which is shed for you for
the forgiveness of sins;
do this in remembrance of me.

**Father, we do this in remembrance of
him: his blood is shed for all.**

As we proclaim his death and celebrate
his rising in glory, send your Holy Spirit that
this bread and this wine may be to us the
body and blood of your dear Son.

**As we eat and drink these holy gifts
make us one in Christ, our risen Lord.**

With your whole Church throughout the
world we offer you this sacrifice of praise
and lift our voice to join the eternal song
of heaven:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:
**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**

WORDS OF INVITATION

God's holy gifts for God's holy people.
**Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

Every time we eat this bread
and drink this cup,

we proclaim the Lord's death
until he comes.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood
of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls and
bodies to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory.
Amen.**

NOTICES



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'
Hark! the herald angels sing:
Glory to the new-born King.

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 Emmanuel
Hark! the herald angels sing:
Glory to the new-born King.

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

OFFERTORY PRAYER & BLESSING

THE DISMISSAL

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