


24th December 2021

Christmas Eve Holy Communion

Rev Rob Powell will be leading & presiding.

WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

 **ONCE, 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.

He 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 mean and lowly
Lived on earth our Saviour holy.

And 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 must be
Mild, obedient, good as He.

For 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.

And 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.

Not 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.



PRAYER OF PREPARATION

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

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

THE FIRST NOEL THE ANGELS DID SAY

Was to certain poor shepherds
in fields as they lay:
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel
Born is the King of Israel

They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the east beyond them far
And to the earth it gave great light
And so it continued both day and night.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel
Born is the King of Israel!

And by the light of that same star
Three Wise men came from country far,
To seek for a King was their intent
And to follow the star wherever it went.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel
Born is the King of Israel!

This star drew nigh to the northwest,
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest
And there it did both stop and stay
Right o'er the place where Jesus lay.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel
Born is the King of Israel!

Then entered in those Wise men three,
Full reverently upon their knee
And offered there in His presence
Their gold and myrrh and frankincense.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel
Born is the kind of Israel!

Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord
That hath made heaven and earth
of nought
And with his blood mankind has bought.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel
Born is the King of Israel!

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TIME IN THE WORD

The Bible Reading is Luke 2:1-20

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

TALK & PRAYERS



SILENT NIGHT, HOLY NIGHT

All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and Child
Holy Infant, so tender and mild.
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night
Shepherds quake at the sight,
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heavenly hosts sing alleluia.
Christ the Saviour is born,
Christ the Saviour is born.

Silent night, holy night
Son of God, love's pure light.
Radiant beams from Thy holy face
With the dawn of redeeming grace.
Jesus, Lord at Thy birth,
Jesus, Lord at Thy birth.

Franz Xaver Gruber, Joseph Mohr, and John Freeman Young

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.

THE 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.**

*If you do not wish to receive Communion,
please come forward for a prayer of blessing.*

Gluten-free wafers are available on request.

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

After everyone has received Communion, we say together:

**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.

 **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.

O come let us adore him,

O come let us adore him,

O come let us adore him,

Christ the Lord.

God of God,

Light of light,

Lo, he abhors not the virgin's womb;

Very God, begotten, not created.

Sing choirs of angels

Sing in exultation,

Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above,

Glory to God, in the highest.

Yea, Lord we greet Thee,
Born this happy morning
Jesus to Thee be glory given;
Word of the Father,
Now in flesh appearing.

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THE BLESSING

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