

11<sup>th</sup> January 2026

## Holy Communion Service with Children's Groups

Richard Reddie will be leading and The Ven. Bridget Shepherd will be presiding and preaching on 'Visit of the Magi' (Matthew 2: 1- 12)

### WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

#### IN THE DARKNESS WE WERE WAITING

Without hope, without light,  
Till from Heaven You came running  
There was mercy in Your eyes.  
To fulfil the law and prophets  
To a virgin came the Word,  
From a throne of endless glory  
To a cradle in the dirt.

*Praise the Father, praise the Son,  
Praise the Spirit, three in one.  
God of Glory, majesty,  
Praise forever to the King of Kings.*

To reveal the Kingdom coming  
And to reconcile the lost,  
To redeem the whole creation,  
You did not despise the cross.  
For even in Your suffering,  
You saw to the other side,  
Knowing this was our salvation  
Jesus for our sake You died.

And the morning that You rose,  
All of heaven held its breath  
Till that stone was moved for good,  
For the Lamb had conquered death.  
And the dead rose from their tombs  
And the angels stood in awe,  
For the souls of all who'd come  
To the Father are restored.

And the Church of Christ was born,  
Then the Spirit lit the flame.  
Now this Gospel truth of old  
Shall not kneel, shall not faint.  
By His blood and in His Name,  
In His freedom I am free,  
For the love of Jesus Christ  
Who has resurrected me!

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#### HELD WITHIN A MANGER

The Son of God arrived  
The one who would be called Emmanuel  
The promise was delivered  
Unto a virgin bride  
The one who would be called Emmanuel

Your name is the highest  
Your name is the greatest  
Your name stands above them all  
All thrones and dominions  
All powers and positions  
Your name stands above them all

And the angels cry holy  
All creation cries holy  
You are lifted high holy  
Holy forever

In the humble town of David  
A Saviour born that day  
The one who would be called Emmanuel  
Behold the host of heaven  
With holy roar proclaim  
The one who would be called Emmanuel  
The Messiah our God is with us now

And the angels cry holy  
All creation cries holy  
You are lifted high holy  
Holy forever  
Hear Your people sing holy  
To the King of kings holy  
You will always be holy  
Holy forever

Your name is the highest  
Your name is the greatest  
Your name stands above them all  
All thrones and dominions  
All powers and positions  
Your name stands above them all (x2)

And the angels cry holy  
All creation cries holy  
You are lifted high holy  
Holy forever  
Hear Your people sing holy  
To the King of kings holy  
You will always be holy  
Holy forever

You will always be holy  
Holy forever and ever  
You will always be holy  
You will always be holy holy holy  
You will always be  
Holy forever

## PRAYER OF PREPARATION

**We have come together in the name of Christ to offer our praise and thanksgiving, to hear and receive God's holy word, to pray for the needs of the world, and to seek the forgiveness of our sins, that by the power of the Holy Spirit we may give ourselves to the service of God.**

## CONFESSION

Lord Jesus, we confess to you that we have often let you down.  
When we stayed silent but knew we should say something.  
**We are sorry, Lord; please forgive us.**

When we spoke but knew that what we said was cowardly or hurt someone.

**We are sorry, Lord; please forgive us.**

When we acted as though you meant nothing to us.

**We are sorry, Lord; please forgive us.**

When we kept you trapped on Sunday and didn't let you affect the rest of our week.

**We are sorry, Lord; please forgive us.**

When we had a chance to tell someone about you but lost our nerve.

**We are sorry, Lord; please forgive us.**

Lord Jesus, we know we have done wrong. At the beginning of this new year, please forgive us and empower us by your grace to serve you better.

**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



### JESUS IS THE KING

Ruler over everything

Jesus is the One

Promised One, the Son of God

Jesus is the Lord

He's the One you can't ignore

Jesus, Jesus

He is the King, He is the King

He commanded the fishermen

Hey, come follow me!

And they did, and they did,

And they did!

He commanded the evil ones

Hey, come out of him!

And they did, and they did

And they did!

He commanded the wind and waves

Hey, be still, be still!

And they did, and they did

And they did!

He promised that three days after death

He'd rise again!

And He did, and He did

And He did!

## TIME IN THE WORD

Bible Reading: Matthew 2: 1-12

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**



## SERMON

### LIGHT OF THE WORLD

You stepped down into darkness  
Opened my eyes, let me see  
Beauty that made this heart adore You,  
Hope of a life spent with You.

So here I am to worship,  
Here I am to bow down,  
Here I am to say that You're my God;  
You're altogether lovely,  
Altogether worthy,  
Altogether wonderful to me.

King of all days,  
Oh so highly exalted  
Glorious in heaven above;  
Humbly You came  
To the earth You created,  
All for love's sake became poor  
And I'll never know how much it cost  
To see my sin upon that cross.

(Repeat)

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## PRAYERS

## 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**

### **AS WITH GLADNESS MEN OF OLD**

Did the guiding star behold  
As with joy they hailed its light  
Leading onward beaming bright  
So most gracious Lord may we  
Evermore your splendour see

As with joyful steps they sped  
Saviour to your lowly bed  
There to bend the knee before  
You whom heaven and earth adore  
So with ever-quicken pace  
May we seek your throne of grace

As they offered gifts most rare  
At your cradle plain and bare  
So may we with holy joy  
Pure and free from sin's alloy  
All our costliest treasures bring  
Christ to you our heavenly king

Holy Jesus every day  
Keep us in the narrow way  
And when earthly things are past  
Bring our ransomed souls at last  
Where they need no star to guide  
Where no clouds your glory hide

In the heavenly city bright  
None shall need created light  
You its light its joy its crown  
You its sun which goes not down  
There for ever may we sing  
Alleluias to our king

## **OFFERTORY PRAYER & BLESSING THE DISMISSAL**

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