

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 Mary, virgin Mother of God, Joseph her spouse, St Thomas the Apostle and our patron, 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. **All Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Rejoicing in the presence of God here among us, as our Saviour taught us, so we pray
All Our Father, who art in heaven... for ever and ever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread *The priest breaks the consecrated host, saying:*

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

All Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

The priest says the invitation to communion

✠ Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

**All Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

The Agnus Dei is played on the Organ **M. Dupre** (1886-1971) - Chorale prelude on "O

Lamm Gottes unschuldig" (Op.28 No.61) **followed by the Communion Antiphon:**

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us: we have seen the glory of our God.

After that is intoned, the people then come forward walking up the centre aisle to received Holy Communion in one kind only, standing at the Chancel Step. No accompanying words will be given, but mediate on Christ's body. Then return via the North Aisle to their places. Please keep a 2 meter gap!

Organ Voluntaries during Holy Communion

M. Dupre (1886-1971) - Chorale prelude on "In dulci jubilo" (Op. 28 No. 41)

J.S. Bach (1685-1750) - Pastoral in F Major (2nd mvmt) (BWV 590ii)

there follows the Communion Motet sung by our Choir: Away in Manger

Prayer after Communion *Silence is kept.*

God our Father, we rejoice in the birth of our Saviour.

May we share his life completely by living as he has taught. **All Amen.**

The Dismissal

The Lord be with you **All and also with you.**

May God give you his comfort and his peace, his light and his joy, in this world and the next; and the blessing of God almighty ✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be with you and remain with you always. **All Amen.**

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

Organ Postlude: J.S. Bach (1685-1750) Chorale prelude on "Vom Himmel hoch, da komm ich her" (BWV 700)

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Christmas Day 2020

Organ Preludes *played before the service* **J.G. Walther** (1684-1748) - Chorale prelude on "In dulci jubilo" & **J.M. Bach** (1648-1694) - Chorale prelude on "In dulci jubilo"

The Gathering

The Altar party enter to the Organ Processional: F. Couperin (1688-1733) *Plein chant du premier Kyrie, en Taille (from Messe pour les Paroisses) followed by the Entrance Antiphon:*

For unto us a child is born: he shall be called Emmanuel, God with us.

and then the recorded Introit from our choir, Infant holy is sung.

The priest says

✠ In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **All Amen.**

The Greeting *The priest greets the people*

The Lord be with you **All and also with you.**

The Welcome is given.

Invitations to Confession

Christ the light of the world has come to dispel the darkness of our hearts.

In his light let us examine ourselves and confess our sins.

followed by a Kyrie **J.S. Bach** (1685-1750) - Kyrie, Gott Vater in Ewigkeit (BWV 672) *played on the Organ. Followed by:*

All Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

All Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

May the God of all healing and forgiveness draw you to himself, that you may behold the glory of his Son, the Word made flesh, and be ✠ cleansed from all your sins, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **All Amen.**

The Gloria is said. *This is the song of the Angels the Shepherds heard on the first Christmas Night*

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,

we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,

you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;

you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,

you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,

in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Collect

Lord Jesus Christ, your birth at Bethlehem draws us to kneel in wonder at heaven touching earth: accept our heartfelt praise as we worship you, our Saviour and our eternal God.

All Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

The Old Testament Reading Isaiah 52.7-10 *is read by Sarah Holroyd*

⁷How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." ⁸Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the LORD to Zion. ⁹Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the LORD has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. ¹⁰The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

This is the word of the Lord. **All Thanks be to God.**

The New Testament Reading Hebrews 1.1-4 *is read by Sue Cunningham*

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. ³He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

This is the word of the Lord. **All Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel Reading Stand as an Organ Fanfare: On a theme by E. Gigout (1844-1925) heralds the Gospel The Lord be with you. **All And also with you.**

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St John **All ✠✠✠ Glory to you, O Lord.**

John 1.1-14

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. ⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

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

The Sermon followed by The Creed

Especially at Christmas we acknowledge the incarnation by bowing at the italicised words.

All We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, *was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man.*

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession *are led by XXXXXX. After each petition the following is said:*

Holy God **All reply: hear our prayer.**

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given, and his name shall be called the Prince of Peace. The peace of the Lord be always with you **All and also with you.**

During The Offertory this organ voluntary is played: F. Couperin (1688-1733) - Offertoire sur les Grands jeux (from Messe pour les Paroisses)

Prayers at the Preparation of the Table

Almighty God, accept our gifts on this joyful feast of our salvation. By our communion with the Word made flesh in bread and wine, may we become more like Christ who joins our lives to yours, for he is Lord forever and ever.

All Amen.

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you.

All And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **All It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Father, all powerful and ever-living God,

we do well always to give you thanks and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord.

In the wonder of the incarnation

your eternal Word has brought a radiant vision of your love and glory to our eyes.

In him we see God made visible and so,

we join with Angels and Archangels and the whole company of heaven, saying:

All 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.✠

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

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