

St Andrew's, Chesterton

All-Age Communion

29 December 2024

First Sunday of Christmas

Copyright acknowledgement (where not indicated below):

Settings for Sanctus, Benedictus and Agnus Dei - A Christmas Sung Eucharist based on carol tunes. ©Christopher J. Pountain 1992. Some material included in this service is copyright: © 1989 National Council of the Churches of Christ, USA.; © The Archbishops' Council 2000-20. Copyright hymns are reproduced under CCLI Licence no. 30093 and One Licence 632880-A

Please be aware this service is livestreamed. If you or anyone accompanying you does not wish to be visible on camera, remain behind the front row. Those receiving Communion will not be filmed.

We are welcomed

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you **and also with you.**

The service is introduced.

We sing

- 1 While shepherds watched their flocks by night,
all seated on the ground,
the angel of the Lord came down,
and glory shone around.
- 2 'Fear not,' said he (for mighty dread
had seized their troubled mind);
'glad tidings of great joy I bring
to you and all mankind.
- 3 'To you in David's town this day
is born of David's line
a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord;
and this shall be the sign:
- 4 'the heavenly babe you there shall find
to human view displayed,
all meanly wrapped in swathing bands,
and in a manger laid.'
- 5 Thus spake the seraph; and forthwith
appeared a shining throng
of angels praising God, who thus
addressed their joyful song:
- 6 'All glory be to God on high,
and to the earth be peace;
good will henceforth from heaven to men
begin and never cease.'

Reproduced from *Ancient & Modern Electronic Words Edition*, number 89. NAHUM TATE (1652-1715) based on Luke 2.1-20; Tune: Winchester Old.

We say sorry

Brothers and sisters,
as we prepare to celebrate,
let us call to mind our sins.

Silence is kept.

You were born for our salvation:
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

You came as Saviour to bring wholeness and peace:
Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

You come to bring light into the darkness of our lives:
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

We receive God's forgiveness

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.

Gloria

To the tune of Angels from the realms of glory

'Glory be to God in heaven;
peace on earth,' the angels sing.
Worship, thanks and praise be given,
Lord, to thee, our heav'nly King.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Jesus, Son of God Almighty,
Lamb of God and Father's heir,
Bearer of our sin, have mercy;
Judge of all, receive our prayer.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

For thou only art most holy,
for thou only art the Lord:
Most High, in the Father's glory,
with the Spirit, be adored.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

We pray the Collect Prayer

**God in Trinity,
eternal unity of perfect love:
gather the nations to be one family,
and draw us into your holy life
through the birth of Emmanuel,
our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.**

We listen to our first Bible reading

Colossians 3.12-17

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. ¹³ Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴ Above all, clothe yourselves with love,

which binds everything together in perfect harmony.
¹⁵ And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶ Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. ¹⁷ And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

We listen to our Gospel Reading

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord**

Luke 2.41-52

Now every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. ⁴² And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. ⁴³ When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. ⁴⁴ Assuming that he was in the group of travellers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. ⁴⁵ When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. ⁴⁶ After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷ And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸ When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, 'Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety.' ⁴⁹ He said to them, 'Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?' ⁵⁰ But they did not understand what he said to them. ⁵¹ Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart. ⁵² And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favour.

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

Talk

We sing

I I cannot tell why he, whom angels worship,
should set his love upon the sons of men,
or why, as Shepherd, he should seek the wanderers,
to bring them back, they know not how or when.
But this I know, that he was born of Mary
when Beth'lem's manger was his only home,
and that he lived at Nazareth and laboured,
and so the Saviour, Saviour of the world, is come.

- 2 I cannot tell how silently he suffered,
as with his peace he graced this place of tears,
or how his heart upon the cross was broken,
the crown of pain to three and thirty years.
But this I know, he heals the broken-hearted
and stays our sin and calms our lurking fear
and lifts the burden from the heavy laden;
for still the Saviour, Saviour of the world is here.
- 3 I cannot tell how he will win the nations,
how he will claim his earthly heritage,
how satisfy the needs and aspirations
of east and west, of sinner and of sage.
But this I know, all flesh shall see his glory,
and he shall reap the harvest he has sown,
and some glad day his sun will shine in splendour
when he the Saviour, Saviour of the world, is known.

Reproduced from *Ancient & Modern Electronic Words Edition*, number **666**. Words: WILLIAM YOUNG FULLERTON (1857–1932). Tune: Londonderry Air.

We affirm our faith

Let us declare our faith in God.

**We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith,
and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us
with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

We pray for others and ourselves

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

And at the end

Merciful Father,
**accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

The Peace

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace on earth to all on whom his favour rests.
The peace of the Lord be always with you.
and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.



A collection for the ministry and mission of St Andrew's will be taken at this point of the service. Thank you to all who give to the life of our church in so many ways.

It is also possible to make electronic donations via the machines at the back or this QR code here.

We sing while our Offerings are received

- 1 In the bleak mid-winter,
Frosty wind made moan,
earth stood hard as iron,
water like a stone;
snow had fallen, snow on snow,
snow on snow,
in the bleak mid-winter,
long ago.
- 2 Our God, heaven cannot hold him,
nor earth sustain;
heaven and earth shall flee away
when he comes to reign:
in the bleak mid-winter
a stable-place sufficed
the Lord God Almighty,
Jesus Christ.
- 3 Angels and archangels
may have gathered there,
cherubim and seraphim
thronged the air;
but his mother only,
in her maiden bliss,
worshipped the beloved
with a kiss.
- 4 What can I give him,
poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd,
I would bring a lamb;
if I were a wise man,
I would do my part;
yet what I can I give him —
give my heart.

Reproduced from *Ancient & Modern Electronic Words Edition*, number 68.
CHRISTINA GEORGINA ROSSETTI (1830–1894)

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.

The president praises God for his mighty acts and all respond

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, God of power and God of might,
Hea-ven and earth are full of your glo- - ry. Ho- - san-na in the high - est.
Slower
Bles-sed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, Ho - san-na in the high - est.

[Great is the mystery of faith:
Christ has died:

**Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.]**

The Eucharistic Prayer ends with
Amen.

We kneel and keep a moment's silence

We pray the Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us
**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 Bread is broken

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.**

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world, have mer-cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world, have mer-cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world, give us your peace.

We are invited to share Communion

Christ is the true bread which has come down from
heaven.

Lord, give us this bread always.

*The president and people receive communion. Visitors who
are communicant members of their home churches are
welcome to receive communion at St Andrew's. If you would
prefer to receive a blessing instead, please signify this by
bringing your order of service with you.*

*There will be two communion stations – one at the Nave
altar and one at the South Aisle altar (for those wishing to
kneel). If for health reasons you would prefer to receive the
bread and wine by intinction (dipped) by the priest, please
come forward to the Nave altar and indicate this by pointing
to the chalice held with the bread. Please also indicate if you
require gluten-free bread.*

Music during Communion

- 1 Thou who wast rich beyond all splendour,
all for love's sake becamest poor ;
thrones for a manger didst surrender,
sapphire-paved courts for stable floor.
Thou who wast rich beyond all splendour,
all for love's sake becamest poor.
- 2 Thou who art God beyond all praising,
all for love's sake becamest man;
stooping so low, but sinners raising
heavenwards by thine eternal plan.
Thou who art God beyond all praising,
all for love's sake becamest man.
- 3 Thou who art love beyond all telling,
Saviour and King, we worship thee.
Emmanuel, within us dwelling,
make us what thou wouldst have us be.
Thou who art love, beyond all telling,
Saviour and King, we worship thee.

Reproduced from *Ancient & Modern Electronic Words Edition*, number 87; Words
FRANK HOUGHTON (1894–1972) © OMF International, 2 Cluny Road, Singapore

We pray after Communion

**Heavenly Father,
whose blessed Son shared at Nazareth the life of
an earthly home:
help your Church to live as one family,
united in love and obedience,
and bring us all at last to our home in heaven;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

We sing

- 1 Lord, for the years your love has kept and guided,
urged and inspired us, cheered us on our way,
sought us and saved us, pardoned and provided,
Lord of the years, we bring our thanks today.
- 2 Lord, for that word, the word of life which fires us,
speaks to our hearts and sets our souls ablaze,
teaches and trains, rebukes us and inspires us,
Lord of the word, receive your people's praise.
- 3 Lord, for our land, in this our generation,
spirits oppressed by pleasure, wealth and care;
for young and old, for commonwealth and nation,
Lord of our land, be pleased to hear our prayer.
- 4 Lord, for our world; when we disown and doubt him,
loveless in strength, and comfortless in pain;
hungry and helpless, lost indeed without him,
Lord of the world, we pray that Christ may reign.
- 5 Lord, for ourselves; in living power remake us,
self on the cross and Christ upon the throne;
past put behind us, for the future take us,
Lord of our lives, to live for Christ alone.

Reproduced from *Ancient & Modern Electronic Words Edition*, number 715 Words:
© Timothy Dudley-Smith in Europe and Africa; Reproduced by permission of Oxford
University Press. All rights reserved.

Blessing

May God the Father, Judge all-merciful,
make us worthy of a place in God's kingdom.
Amen.

May God the Son, coming among us in power,
reveal in our midst the promise of his glory.
Amen.

May God the Holy Spirit make us steadfast in faith,
joyful in hope and constant in love.
Amen.

And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

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

*We very much hope you have enjoyed joining us for worship
at St Andrew's Chesterton this morning.*

*You are welcome also to take a welcome leaflet or fill out a
card. We look forward to welcoming you again.*