

Church of the Holy Ghost: Christmas Day Eucharist

25th December 2025

Chaplain: Rev.d Robert Morley

Entrance hymn:

1. 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 th'angelic host proclaim,
'Christ is born in Bethlehem'
Hark, the herald-angels sing
glory to the new-born King.

2. Christ, by highest heav'n adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come,

offspring of a virgin's womb!
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,
hail, th'incarnate Deity!
Pleased as man with us to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.

3. Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
ris'n with healing in his wings;
mild he lays his glory by,
born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth,
born to give us second birth.

All stand as the ministers go to the Crib. The priest says:

I bring you good news of great joy:

All: a Saviour has been born to you, Alleluia

Unto us a child is born,

All: unto us a son is given. Alleluia!

Hear the words of St Luke: When the angels had gone from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, 'Let us go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened which the Lord has made known to us.' So they hastened, and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. He is Christ the Lord. Alleluia!

All: We worship and adore him. Alleluia!

O God the Son, highest and holiest, who humbled yourself to share our birth and our death: bring us with the shepherds and the wise men to kneel before your holy cradle, that we may come to sing with your angels your glorious praises in heaven; where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, God, world without end. **Amen.**

Prayers of Penitence

Priest: As we kneel with the shepherds before the new-born Christ child, we open our hearts in penitence and faith: You, Lord, were born for our salvation. Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

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

All: Christ, have mercy.

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

All: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: May God who loved the world so much that he sent his Son to be our Saviour forgive us our sins and make us holy to serve him in the world, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Gloria

The Collect

Almighty God, you have given us your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him and as at this time to be born of a pure virgin: grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

First Reading (from the New Testament): Hebrews 1.1-4

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but 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. He 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, having 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

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Gospel Acclamation:

All (sing): Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Gospel Reading John 1:1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And 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.

We light the Christmas Candles

Priest: People of God: shout and sing! Tell the good news of peace on earth.

Lord, bring us today into Christ's peace. All God's people shout: **Amen!**

Angels dance and the bright star shines. All creation bows to the Lord of all.

Lord, bring us today into Christ's light. All God's people shout: **Amen!**

One with us, yet born to save, he will show us the way to God.

Lord, bring us today into Christ's love. All God's people shout: **Amen!**

People of God: shout and sing: **Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen.**

Offertory Hymn:

*Go, tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and evrywhere.*

*Go, tell it on the mountain
that Jesus Christ is born.*

1. While shepherds kept their watching
o'er wand'ring flocks by night,
behold, from out of heaven,
there shone a holy light.

2. And lo, when they had seen it,

they all bowed down and prayed;
they travelled on together
to where the babe was laid.

3. When I was a seeker,
I sought both night and day:
I asked my Lord to help me
and he showed me the way.

4. He made me a watchman
upon the city wall,
and, if I am a Christian,
I am the least of all.

These words are said:

With this bread that we bring

With this wine that we bring

Bread for his body, wine for his blood, gifts from God to his table we bring

All: We shall remember Jesus.

All: We shall remember Jesus.

All: We shall remember Jesus.

Prayer after Communion

God our Father, whose Word has come among us in the Holy Child of Bethlehem: may the light of faith illumine our hearts and shine in our words and deeds; through him who is Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn

1. 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.

2. God of God, Light of Light,
lo, he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
very God, begotten not created:

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3. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;
glory to God in the highest:

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4. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this
happy morning,
Jesu, to thee be glory giv'n;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:

We are sent out again into the world
Go in peace. Proclaim the Word made flesh.
All Glory, thanks and praise to God.



Service Times over the Christmas holidays:

- Sunday, 28 December Eucharist 10:30am.
- Sunday, 4 January Eucharist for the Epiphany 10:30am.

- Can you help with food for our Food Bank? Talk to Mary, Lis or Ruth to find out what you could donate. Thank you.
- Our food and clothing banks are open before and after the Sunday services.

*May the Peace
of the
Holy Family
be with you
always.*

