

The Gathering

Notices and processional hymn

The Greeting

President May the Lord who calls you out of darkness into his
marvellous light be with you all.

All **And also with you.**

Prayer of Preparation

Either (Sundays):

Deacon In this season of Advent we are preparing for the feast of
Christmas, that day when we celebrate the birth of Jesus.
Each Sunday we begin our service together by lighting a
candle, reminding ourselves that Christ came to lead us out
of darkness into his light.

Advent 1

All **Lord Jesus, Light of the world,
born in David's city of Bethlehem,
born like him to be a king:
Be born in our hearts this Christmastide,
be king of our lives today.**

Advent 2

All **Lord Jesus, Light of the world,
the prophets said you would bring peace
and save your people in trouble.
Give peace in our hearts at Christmastide
and show all the world God's love.**

Advent 3

All **Lord Jesus, Light of the world,
John told the people to prepare,
for you were very near.
As Christmas grows closer day by day,
help us to be ready to welcome you now.**

Or (midweek):

All **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.**

The Collect

Silence is kept

President The collect

The Liturgy of the Word

Readings

Deacon Let us listen for the word of God;
All **Speak, Lord to our listening,
Speak, Lord to our waiting,
Speak, Lord to our understanding.**
One or two readings from scripture, ending

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

Silence may be kept

Gradual hymn

Gospel Reading

Deacon Alleluia, alleluia.
Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.
Alleluia.
All **Alleluia.**

When the Gospel is announced:

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

At the end:

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

Sermon
The Creed

President Let us declare our faith in God:
All **We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family in heaven and 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.**

Prayers of Intercession

Leader In joyful expectation of his coming
We pray to Jesus saying,
Maranatha.

All **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Leader Come to your Church as Lord and Judge.
We pray for ...
Help us to live in the light of your coming and give us a
longing for your rule.
Maranatha.

All **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Leader Come to your world as King of the nations.
We pray for ...
Before you rulers will stand in silence.
Maranatha.

All **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Leader Come to your people with a message of victory and peace.
We pray for ...
Give us the victory over death, temptation and evil.
Maranatha.

All **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Leader Come to us as Saviour and Comforter.
We pray for ...
Break into our failure and distress
and set us free to serve you for ever.
Maranatha.

All **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Leader Come to us from heaven with power and great glory,
to lift us up to meet you,
with all your saints and angels,
and to live with you for ever.
Maranatha.

All **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Prayers of Penitence

We are invited to confess our sins:

Deacon Lord God, our maker and redeemer,
this is your world and we are your people:
come among us and save us.

We have wilfully misused your gifts of creation;
Lord, be merciful:

Cantor Kyrie eleison
All **Kyrie eleison**

Cantor Christe eleison
All **Christe eleison**

Cantor Kyrie eleison
All **Kyrie eleison**

Deacon We have seen the ill-treatment of others
and have not gone to their aid;
Lord, be merciful:

We have condoned evil and dishonesty
and failed to strive for justice;
Lord, be merciful:

Cantor Kyrie eleison
All **Kyrie eleison**

Cantor Christe eleison
All **Christe eleison**

Cantor Kyrie eleison
All **Kyrie eleison**

Deacon We have heard the good news of Christ,
but have failed to share it with others;
Lord, be merciful:

We have not loved you with all our heart,
nor our neighbours as ourselves;
Lord, be merciful:

Cantor Kyrie eleison
All **Kyrie eleison**

Cantor Christe eleison
All **Christe eleison**

Cantor Kyrie eleison
All **Kyrie eleison**

President 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.

All **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

President While we are watching and waiting for the coming of the
Christ child let us be at peace with God and with one
another.

The peace of the Lord be always with you

All **and also with you.**

Deacon Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Preparation of the Table

Taking of the Bread and Wine

Offertory hymn

President Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation.
You sent your son Jesus, poor and powerless.
May this money, symbol of all the resources we control,
challenge us to use them wisely, and so make your kingdom
come.

All **Blessed be God for ever.**

President Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation,
through your goodness we have this bread to set before you,
which earth has given and human hands have made.
It will become for us the bread of life.

All **Blessed be God for ever.**

President Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation,
through your goodness we have this wine to set before you,
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.
It will become for us the cup of blessing.

All **Blessed be God for ever.**

President Receive these gifts, dear God,
and accept in them the dedication of ourselves.
In life and in death may we be an offering to you for ever.

All **Amen.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

Either Prayer D, or Prayer E (page 10).

Prayer D

President The Lord be with you

All **and also with you.**

President Lift up your hearts.

All **We lift them to the Lord.**

President Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

President Almighty God, good Father to us all,
your face is turned towards your world.
In love you gave us Jesus your Son
to rescue us from sin and death.
Your Word goes out to call us home
to the city where angels sing your praise.

We join with them in heaven's song:

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.

President Father of all, we give you thanks
for every gift that comes from heaven.

To the darkness Jesus came as your light.
With signs of faith and words of hope
he touched untouchables with love
and washed the guilty clean.

Deacon This is his story.

All **This is our song:**
Hosanna in the highest.

President The crowds came out to see your Son,
yet at the end they turned on him.
On the night he was betrayed
he came to table with his friends
to celebrate the freedom of your people.

Deacon This is his story.

All **This is our song:**
Hosanna in the highest.

President Jesus blessed you, Father, for the food;
he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and said:
This is my body, given for you all.
Jesus then gave thanks for the wine;
he took the cup, gave it and said:
This is my blood, shed for you all
for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this in remembrance of me.

Deacon This is our story.

All **This is our song:**
Hosanna in the highest.

President Therefore, Father, with this bread and this cup
we celebrate the cross
on which he died to set us free.

Defying death he rose again
and is alive with you to plead for us and all the world.

Deacon This is our story.

All **This is our song:
Hosanna in the highest.**

President Send your Spirit on us now
that by these gifts we may feed on Christ
with opened eyes and hearts on fire.

May we and all who share this food
offer ourselves to live for you
and be welcomed at your feast in heaven
where all creation worships you,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

All **Blessing and honour and glory and power
be yours for ever and ever.
Amen.**

*Silence is kept and the service continues with the Lord's Prayer
(page 13).*

Or Eucharistic Prayer E

President The Lord is here.

All **His Spirit is with us.**

President Lift up your hearts.

All **We lift them to the Lord.**

President Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Either

President Father, you made the world and love your creation.
You gave your Son Jesus Christ to be our Saviour.
His dying and rising have set us free from sin and death.
And so we gladly thank you,
with saints and angels praising you and *saying*:

Or (until 16 December)

It is indeed right and good to give you thanks and praise,
almighty God and everlasting Father,
through Jesus Christ your Son.
For when he humbled himself to come among us in human
flesh,
he fulfilled the plan you formed before the foundation of the
world
to open for us the way of salvation.
Confident that your promise will be fulfilled,
we now watch for the day
when Christ our Lord will come again in glory.
And so we join our voices with angels and archangels
and with all the company of heaven
to proclaim your glory,
for ever praising you and *saying*:

(from 17 December)

It is indeed right and good to give you thanks and praise,
almighty God and everlasting Father,
through Jesus Christ your Son.
He is the one foretold by all the prophets,
whom the Virgin Mother bore with love beyond all telling.
John the Baptist was his herald
and made him known when at last he came.
In his love Christ fills us with joy
as we prepare to celebrate his birth,
so that when he comes again he may find us watching in
prayer,
our hearts filled with wonder and praise.
And so, with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your glory,
and join in their unending hymn of praise:

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.**

President We praise and bless you, loving Father,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;
and as we obey his command,
send your Holy Spirit,
that broken bread and wine outpoured
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he praised you.
He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:
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.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice
made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,
we proclaim his death and resurrection
until he comes in glory.

Deacon Praise to you, Lord Jesus:
All **Dying you destroyed our death,**

**rising you restored our life:
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

President Lord of all life,
help us to work together for that day
when your kingdom comes
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people,
gather us in your loving arms
and bring us with [N and] all the saints
to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,
for ever and ever.

All **Amen.**

Silence is kept

The Lord's Prayer

President Let us pray for the coming of God's kingdom in the words
our Saviour taught us:

All **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.**

Breaking of the Bread

President The perfect gift from above
is given for the life of the world.

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.**

All **Jesus, Lamb of God,
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, bearer of our sins,
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, redeemer of the world,
grant us peace.**

Giving of Communion

President Draw near with faith.
Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ
which he gave for you,
and his blood which he shed for you.
Eat and drink
in remembrance that he died for you,
and feed on him in your hearts
by faith with thanksgiving.

All **Most merciful Lord,
your love compels us to come in.
Our hands were unclean,
our hearts were unprepared;
we were not fit
even to eat the crumbs from under your table.
But you, Lord, are the God of our salvation,
and share your bread with sinners.**

**So cleanse and feed us
with the precious body and blood of your Son,
that he may live in us and we in him;
and that we, with the whole company of Christ,
may sit and eat in your kingdom.**

Amen.

The President and people receive communion

Words at the distribution:

The body of Christ, the hope for the world.

The blood of Christ, the cup of blessing.

The people respond:

Amen.

During communion a hymn or anthem may be sung

Prayer after Communion

President Generous God,
you have fed us at your heavenly table.
Kindle us with the fire of your Spirit
that when Christ comes again
we may shine like lights before his face;
who with you and the Spirit lives forever.

All **Amen.**

All **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.

The Dismissal

President May God the Father,
who loved the world so much that he sent his only Son
to come among us in great humility,
open our eyes to look for his coming;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

Final hymn

Deacon Go forth to prepare and proclaim.

All **We go to prepare for the birth of God in our midst.
We go to proclaim Christ's coming.**

Deacon The Lord go with you.

All **And also with you.**