**Morning Prayer Christmas Day**

Wednesday 25th December 2024 at 9.00am (call in from 8.45am)

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85649430168?pwd=QzFzNytXM01TQTc5cTROaHc2aElvZz09

Meeting ID: 856 4943 0168

Passcode: 336782

**Telephone instructions:**

\* Dial: 0131 460 1196  
  
\* You are then welcomed to Zoom and asked to type in the meeting ID ie. 856 4943 0168  
  
\* If the next instruction is to add your personal ID just press # to ignore  
  
\* When passcode requested type numbers i.e. 336782 plus #.  
  
\* At this point you should be admitted to the call.

**Preparation**

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.**

He is Christ the Lord. Alleluia.

*All* **We worship and adore him. Alleluia.**

Blessed are you, Sovereign God,

creator of heaven and earth,

to you be praise and glory for ever.

As your living Word, eternal in heaven, assumed the frailty of our mortal flesh, may the light of your love be born in us to fill our hearts with joy as we sing:

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

*All*  **Blessed be God for ever.**

*A Song of the Bride*

1    I will greatly rejoice in the Lord,

my soul shall exult in my God;

2    **Who has clothed me with the garments of salvation,**

**and has covered me with the cloak of integrity,**

3    As a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,

and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

4    **For as the earth puts forth her blossom,**

**and as seeds in the garden spring up,**

5    So shall God make righteousness and praise

blossom before all the nations.

6    **For Zion’s sake I will not keep silent,**

**and for Jerusalem’s sake I will not rest,**

7    Until her deliverance shines out like the dawn,

and her salvation as a burning torch.

8    **The nations shall see your deliverance,**

**and all rulers shall see your glory**;

9    Then you shall be called by a new name

which the mouth of God will give.

10  **You shall be a crown of glory in the hand of the Lord,**

**a royal diadem in the hand of your God.**

*Isaiah 61.10,11; 62.1-3*

***All***   **Glory to the Father and to the Son**

**and to the Holy Spirit;**

**as it was in the beginning is now**

**and shall be for ever. Amen.**

**Act of Penitence**

Hear the words of the angel to Joseph:

‘You shall call his name Jesus,

for he will save his people from their sins.’

Therefore let us seek the forgiveness of God

through Jesus the Saviour of the world.

Lord of grace and truth,

We confess our unworthiness

to stand in your presence as your children.

We have sinned:

*All* **forgive and heal us.**

The Virgin Mary accepted your call

to be the mother of Jesus.

Forgive our disobedience to your will.

We have sinned:

*All* **forgive and heal us.**

Your Son our Saviour

was born in poverty in a manger.

Forgive our greed and rejection of your ways.

We have sinned:

*All* **forgive and heal us.**

The shepherds left their flocks

to go to Bethlehem.

Forgive our self-interest and lack of vision.

We have sinned:

*All* **forgive and heal us.**

The wise men followed the star

to find Jesus the King.

Forgive our reluctance to seek you.

We have sinned:

*All* **forgive and heal us.**

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.**

The Word was made flesh and lived among us:

*All* **and we have seen his glory.**

*Canticle A Song of Hannah*

*Refrain:*

*All*   **Blessed are those who believe,**

**for what God has promised will be fulfilled.**

1    My heart exults in the Lord;

my strength is exalted in my God.

2    My mouth derides my enemies,

because I rejoice in your salvation.

3    There is no Holy One like you, O Lord,

nor any Rock like you, our God.

4    For you are a God of knowledge

and by you our actions are weighed.

5    The bows of the mighty are broken,

but the feeble gird on strength.

6     Those who were full now hire themselves out for bread,

but those who were hungry are well fed.

7   The barren woman has borne sevenfold,

but she who has many children is forlorn.

8     Both the poor and the rich are of your making;

you bring low and you also exalt.

9     You raise up the poor from the dust,

And lift the needy from the ash heap.

10   You make them sit with the rulers

and inherit a place of honour.

11   For the pillars of the earth are yours

and on them you have set the world.

*1 Samuel 2.1,2,3b-5,7,8*

*All*    **Glory to the Father and to the Son**

**and to the Holy Spirit;**

**as it was in the beginning is now**

**and shall be for ever. Amen**.

*All*    **Blessed are those who believe,**

**for what God has promised will be fulfilled**.

The Word of God

*First reading: Isaiah 9.2, 6, 7*

**2**The people walking in darkness  
    have seen a great light;  
on those living in the land of deep darkness  
    a light has dawned.  
**6**For to us a child is born,  
    to us a son is given,  
    and the government will be on his shoulders.  
 And he will be called  
    Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God,  
    Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.  
**7** Of the greatness of his government and peace  
    there will be no end.  
 He will reign on David’s throne  
    and over his kingdom,  
 establishing and upholding it  
    with justice and righteousness  
    from that time on and forever.  
 The zeal of the Lord Almighty  
    will accomplish this.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God**

**Canticle**

*Gloria in Excelsis – A Song of God’s Glory*

**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.**

*Second reading: Luke 2: 1-14*

### The Birth of Jesus

**2**In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. **2**(This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) **3**And everyone went to their own town to register.

**4**So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. **5**He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. **6**While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, **7**and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

**8**And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. **9**An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. **10**But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. **11**Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. **12**This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”

**13**Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

**14**“Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
    and on earth peace to those on whom his favour rests.”

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God**

**Intercessions**

Today, in all the demands,  
we pray for those who are facing a Christmas  
without someone they love.  
God of goodness,  
**hear us and be with us.**  
  
Today, in all the delights,  
we pray for those who are facing a Christmas alone.  
God of goodness…  
**hear us and be with us.**

Today, in all the celebration, we pray for those who are facing conflicts.  
God of goodness…  
**hear us and be with us.**

Today, in all the time at tables, we pray for those who are hungry.  
God of goodness…

**hear us and be with us.**  
**Amen.**

*Collect for Christmas Day*

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 forever.

*All* **Amen.**

*The Lord’s Prayer*

Rejoicing in the presence of God here among us,

let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has 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.**

*Blessing*

May God, who has called us out of darkness

into his marvellous light,

bless us and fill us with peace.

And the blessing of God almighty,

the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,

be among us and remain with us

and those we love and pray for

now and always.

*All* **Amen**.

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