



The Holy Eucharist
in the
Christmas Season

at 09:00 and 11:00



The Christmas Season, which we are now celebrating, extends from Christmas Day right through to the Feast of the Presentation of Christ (Candlemas) on 2 February. This season of forty days was established in the Christian calendar in the fourth century – though celebrations on the two principal days within it – 25 December and 6 January – had a longer history.

In the West, the emphasis has been on the birthday of the Lord and so Christmas has become the major celebration. The other feasts in the Christmas Season are important but do not rank with Christmas Day itself and do not have the same popular associations. In the East the Church has laid the emphasis on the Epiphany – the making known of Christ to the Gentiles. This feast is rich in imagery: not only is the visit of the Wise Men commemorated, as in the West, but also the Baptism of Christ, and the miracle of the water transformed into wine at Cana. Each of these is seen as a moment of epiphany, a manifestation of the transforming power of God's love in Jesus Christ.

The liturgy of the Church during this time draws from the best of these traditions and in our services during this season we use texts which draw on this rich inheritance of faith and practice.

The Collect for the Second Sunday of Epiphany:

Almighty God,
in Christ you make all things new:
transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace,
and in the renewal of our lives
make known your heavenly glory;
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.

Please see the notice sheet for details of the President and Preacher.

Please observe social distancing rules and follow the directions of the stewards at all times.

Please inform one of the stewards if you require a gluten-free host.

There will be no collection during the service, but there will be a retiring collection. Please give as generously as you are able at the contactless or cash donation points at the north porch door.

The Gathering

Please stand as the choir and clergy enter. The ministers stand before the Nativity Scene. One of the following or a different prayer is prayed:

President We pray you, Lord, to purify our hearts,
that they may be worthy to become your dwelling place.
Let us never fail to find room for you,
but come and abide in us,
that we also may abide in you,
for as at this time you were born into the world for us,
and live and reign, King of kings and Lord of lords,
now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

or

President Lord, by the song of the angels
you disclosed your birth to your own people,
and by the leading of a star
you revealed your glory to strangers.
Teach us to know you now,
and to make you known to all.

All **Amen.**

The Greeting

President In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

All **Amen.**

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

Prayer of Penitence

The Deacon introduces the penitential rite with these or other words:

Deacon The grace of God has dawned upon the world
through our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who sacrificed himself for us to purify a people as his own.
Let us confess our sins.

A period of silence is kept.

Deacon

All

Almighty God,
our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you,
through our own fault,
in thought, and word, and deed,
and in what we have left undone.
We are heartily sorry,
and repent of all our sins.
For your Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,
forgive us all that is past;
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name.
Amen.

President

May the God of all healing and forgiveness
draw you to himself
and cleanse you from all your sins,
that you may behold the glory of his Son,
the Word made flesh,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

All

Amen.

Gloria in Excelsis

The choir sings Gloria in Excelsis Deo.

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

A short period of silence is introduced with the words:

President Let us pray.

*The Collect is said, then **please respond:***

All Amen.

Please sit.

The Liturgy of the Word

Old Testament Reading

At the end of the reading the reader says:

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Psalm

The choir sings the psalm. When there is no choir, the psalm is said and the response is on the notice sheet.

Gospel Reading

*As the Book of the Gospels is carried before the Altar, **please stand**. The choir sings this or another acclamation which heralds the Gospel reading:*

Choir Alleluia, alleluia.

Christ was revealed in flesh, proclaimed among the nations
and believed in throughout the world.

Alleluia

Deacon The Lord be with you.

All And also with you.

Deacon Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to N.

All Glory to you, O Lord.

At the end there is a short period of silence; then the Deacon says

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

Please sit.

Sermon

After the sermon, please stand.

The Creed

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.**

Please kneel or sit.

Prayers of Intercession

During the intercessions, these responses may be used:

Intercessor Lord, in your mercy
All **hear our prayer.**

or

Intercessor Lord, hear us.
All **Lord, graciously hear us.**

After the final petition the President uses these or other words:

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

Please stand.

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

The President introduces the Peace, using these or other words:

President Our Saviour Christ is the Prince of Peace.
Of the increase of his government and of peace
there shall be no end.

All The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Deacon Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*All may exchange a sign of peace, but please do not shake hands or
make physical contact.*

The Offertory

The President prepares the Altar and places bread and wine upon it.

Taking of the Bread and Wine

This or another prayer at the preparation may be used:

President Word made flesh, life of the world,
in your incarnation you embraced our poverty:
by your Spirit may we share in your riches.

All **Amen.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

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.**

From Christmas Day to the Eve of the Epiphany:

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere,
mighty creator, ever-living God,
through Jesus Christ our Lord;
for he is the Word before all creation,
the Life made manifest,
the Light who shines in the darkness.
He is the living Bread who has come down from heaven,
the Good Shepherd, who lays down his life for the sheep,
the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.
He stands among us in his risen power,
and shows us his hands and his side.
With joy we worship him as our Lord and our God.
Therefore with all the angels of heaven
we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name
and sing our joyful hymn of praise:

From the Epiphany to the Eve of the Presentation of Christ:
All honour and praise be yours always and everywhere,
mighty creator, ever-living God,
through Jesus Christ your only Son our Lord:
for at this time we celebrate your glory
made present in our midst.
In the coming of the magi
the King of all the world was revealed to the nations.
In the waters of baptism
Jesus was revealed as the Christ,
the Saviour sent to redeem us.
In the water made wine
the new creation was revealed at the wedding feast.
Poverty was turned to riches, sorrow into joy.
Therefore with all the angels of heaven
we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name
and sing our joyful hymn of praise:

The Feast of the Baptism of Christ:
It is truly right and just,
our duty and our salvation,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
holy Father, almighty and eternal God.
You celebrated your new gift of baptism
in signs and wonders at the Jordan.
Your voice was heard from heaven
to awaken faith in the presence among us
of your Word made flesh.
Your Spirit was seen as a dove,
revealing Jesus as your servant,
and anointing him with the oil of gladness
to preach the good news to the poor.
Therefore, as we celebrate the union of earth and heaven,
we rejoice to echo the song of the angels in heaven
for ever praising you and saying:

Choir

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 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.

Deacon Great is the mystery of faith:

All **Christ has died:**
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.

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, the mother of Jesus,
Osmund 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.**

Please kneel or sit.

A short period of silence is kept.

The Lord's Prayer

President Rejoicing in the presence of God here among us,
as our Saviour taught us so we pray:

All **Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

President We break the bread of life,
and that life is the light of the world.

All **God here among us,
light in the midst of us,
bring us to light and life.**

Giving of Communion

President Jesus is the Lamb of God
who takes away the sins 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 words of distribution are spoken to the congregation, and all
who intend to receive say 'Amen'.*

President The body and blood of Christ keep you in eternal life.
All **Amen.**

The choir sings the AGNUS DEI.

Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
grant us peace.

*The distribution of communion begins. All who are baptized
members of Christian churches are welcome to receive communion
in one kind only. Communion will be administered to you at your
seat; please stand to receive. If you would prefer to receive a
blessing, please hold this booklet in your hands as a sign to those
administering.*

During communion the choir sings an anthem.

Prayer after Communion

After the distribution of communion a period of silence is kept.

President Let us pray.

Please stand.

The President prays the Post-Communion prayer for this day. We then pray together:

All **Almighty God,**
we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out
in the power of your Spirit
to live and work
to your praise and glory.
Amen.

The Dismissal

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

The President may use this or another suitable blessing:

President Christ the Son of God perfect in you the image of his glory
and gladden your hearts with the good news of his kingdom;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always

All **Amen.**

The Deacon dismisses us with the words:

Deacon Go in the peace of Christ.
All **Thanks be to God.**

Please remain standing as the choir and clergy move in procession, then sit for the organ voluntary.

Please remain seated until the stewards invite you to move, in order that all can exit safely.

There will be a retiring collection at the North Porch. Please give as generously as you are able, either in cash or at the contactless donation point, as you leave.

Please take this booklet away with you and bring it back with you for further use, or keep or dispose of it at home.

