



## ***Welcome on Christmas Day***

*While we wait for the service to begin, do join in with singing the carols!*

*We join together in the parts **in bold text***

Welcome in the name of Christ.  
God's grace, mercy and peace be with you  
**and also with you.**

**Lord Jesus Christ,  
your birth at Bethlehem draws us to kneel in wonder  
at heaven touching earth:  
accept our heartfelt praise, as we worship you,  
our Saviour and our eternal God. Amen**

### ***We make a new start with God***

God our Father;  
You sent your Son full of grace and truth:  
Forgive our failure to receive him.  
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Jesus our Saviour,  
You were born in poverty and laid in a manger:  
Forgive our greed and rejection of your ways.  
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Spirit of Love,  
Your servant Mary responded joyfully to your call:  
Forgive the hardness of our hearts.  
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

### ***We hear God's Word***

#### **GOSPEL READINGS**

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

Matthew 2:1-2 and 9-11  
& John 1:1-14

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

**TALK**



**THE NICENE CREED**

*We affirm our faith*

**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.**

*We pray for others and ourselves*

*We may use this response*

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

*We share Christ's Peace*

To us a child is born, to us a son is given, and  
his name shall be called the Prince of Peace.

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

**CAROL** Hark the herald

*We thank God for his gifts to us*

Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendour,  
and the majesty; for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.

**All things come from you, and of your own do we give you.**

## THANKSGIVING 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.**

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:

**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.**

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.

This is his story. **This is our song: Hosanna in the highest.**

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.

This is his story. **This is our song: Hosanna in the highest**

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.

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

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.

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

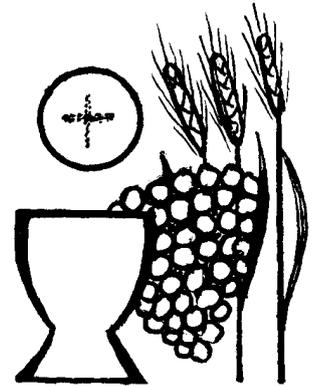


Send your Spirit on us now that by these gifts  
we may feed on Christ with opened eyes and hearts on fire.  
May we and all who share this food  
offer ourselves to live for you  
and be welcomed at your feast in heaven  
where all creation worships you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit:  
**Blessing and honour and glory  
and power be yours for ever and ever Amen.**

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**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

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.**

#### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Draw near with faith...

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION *Silence is kept.*

**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**

#### CAROL O come all you faithful

#### BLESSING PRAYER

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



*Thank you for sharing our worship today. We wish you a Happy New Year!  
To explore more about the Christian faith, why not try out our next Alpha course?  
Do speak to one of the service leaders, or phone the office for more info  
01803 214175 or look at [www.st-matthias-church.org](http://www.st-matthias-church.org)*

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