

*The Order for the Celebration of  
Holy Communion at*

# Christmas



*The Parish Church of  
St. Wilfrid, Mobberley*

## **The Gathering**

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

### **Hymn**

#### **The Greeting**

Welcome all wonders in one sight!  
Eternity shut in a span.  
Summer in winter, Day in night,  
Heaven in earth, and God in man.  
Great little one whose all-embracing birth  
Brings earth to heaven, stoops heaven to earth.

Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the Lord.  
**Now he is made flesh and laid in a narrow manger.**  
From eternity to eternity you are God,  
**And now we see you as a new-born child.**

#### **Prayer of Preparation**

**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.**

#### **Prayers 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:  
**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:  
**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:  
**Forgive and heal us.**

The shepherds left their flocks  
to go to Bethlehem.  
Forgive our self-interest and lack of vision.  
We have sinned:  
**Forgive and heal us.**

The wise men followed the star  
to find Jesus the King.  
Forgive our reluctance to seek you.  
We have sinned:  
**Forgive and heal us.**

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent,  
have mercy upon you,  
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,  
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,  
and keep you in life eternal;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## Gloria in Excelsis

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

Our Preparation concludes with the Collect for the day to which  
we respond  
Amen.

### ***The Liturgy of the Word***

#### **The First Reading**

At the end the reader may say  
This is the word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

#### **Hymn**

#### **Gospel Reading**

Alleluia, alleluia. The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory.

**Alleluia.**

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

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

When the Gospel is concluded the reader says  
This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Sermon

Let us declare our faith in God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

## The Creed

**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.**

### **Prayers of Intercession**

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

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

### **The Liturgy of the Sacrament**

#### **The Peace**

Unto us a child is born, unto 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.**

#### **Hymn**

*During this hymn the collection will be received and the Table prepared*

*The President give thanks first over the Bread and then the Wine and on each occasion the people respond  
**Blessed be God for ever.***

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.**

### **The Eucharistic 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.**

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere, mighty creator, ever-living God. We give you thanks and praise for your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, who for love of our fallen race humbled himself, was born of the Virgin Mary by the power of your Spirit, and lived as one of us. In this mystery of the Word made flesh you have caused his light to shine in our hearts, to give knowledge of your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. In him we see our God made visible and so are caught up in the love of the God we cannot see. 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:

**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.**

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. Christ is the bread of life:

**When we eat this bread and drink this cup,  
we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus,  
until you come in glory.**

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 [N 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.

**Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us.

**Our Father, which art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive them that 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**

*The president breaks the consecrated bread.*

We break this bread

to share in the body of Christ.

**Though we are many, we are one body,**

**because we all share in one bread.**

## **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.**

## **Giving of Communion**

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.

**We do not presume**

**to come to this your table, merciful Lord,  
trusting in our own righteousness,  
but in your manifold and great mercies.**

**We are not worthy**

**so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table.**

**But you are the same Lord**

**whose nature is always to have mercy.**

**Grant us therefore, gracious Lord,**

**so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ**

**and to drink his blood,**

**that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body**

**and our souls washed through his most precious blood,**

**and that we may evermore dwell in him and he in us. Amen.**

*The president and people receive communion.*

Authorized words of distribution are used and the communicant replies  
**Amen.**

### **Prayer after Communion**

*Silence is kept.*

*The Post-Communion or other suitable prayer is said.*

All say together.

**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**

### **Blessing**

Christ, who by his incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with peace and goodwill and make you partakers of the divine nature; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

### **Hymn**

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