

## THE GIVING OF COMMUNION

*All are welcome to the Lord's Table, to receive communion or to receive God's blessing on this holy night.*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*The Minister prays the special prayer set for Christmas Night.*

God our Father,  
in this night you have made known to us again  
the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ:  
confirm our faith and fix our eyes on him  
until the day dawns  
and Christ the Morning Star rises in our hearts.  
To him be glory both now and for ever.

*All* **Amen**

## HYMN

### BLESSING

May the joy of the angels,  
the eagerness of the shepherds,  
the perseverance of the wise men,  
the obedience of Joseph and Mary,  
and the peace of the Christ-child  
be yours this Christmas;  
and the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and  
Holy Spirit be upon you this night, this Christmas  
and always. Amen  
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord and have  
a very happy Christmas.

*All* **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord

*All* **In the name of Christ born this day. Amen.**

# Midnight Mass



*The minister welcomes everyone to the service.  
The church is then plunged into darkness as we await  
the coming of the light of Christ.*

## HYMN

### PRAYERS OF PENITENCE

Christ the light of the world has come to dispel  
the darkness of our hearts. In his light let us  
examine ourselves and confess our sins.

God our Father, you sent your Son full of grace  
and truth: forgive our failure to receive him.  
Lord, have mercy.

*All* **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.

*All* **Christ, have mercy.**

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

*All* **Lord, have mercy.**

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

*All* **Amen**

### GLORIA - we stand to sing

*All* **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.**

*We hope you have a  
very happy Christmas*

## COLLECT

Let us pray in the peace of this Christmas celebration that our joy in the birth of Christ will last for ever.

Eternal God, who made this most holy night to shine with the brightness of your one true light: bring us, who have known the revelation of that light on earth, to see the radiance of 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..

All **Amen**

**READING** - from The Book of Isaiah

*At the end the reader says*

This is the word of the Lord

All **Thanks be to God**

## HYMN

**GOSPEL** - from the Gospel of Luke - *all remain standing*

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

All **Glory to you, O Lord**

*And at the end*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

### CREED

**We believe in God the Father,  
from whom every family  
in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,  
born in our hearts this Christmas and  
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

*After each section*

Holy God

All **Hear our prayer**

### THE PEACE

This holy night the angels sang, 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to all in whom he delights

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

## HYMN

*During the hymn a collection is taken*

## THE PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

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

The Lord is here

All **his spirit is with us**

Lift up your hearts.

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

*The minister praises God for his mighty acts and all sing*

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.**

*The president continues with the story of the Last Supper*

Great is the mystery of faith.

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

*The prayer continues and ends*

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

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.**

## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

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.**