

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Hail, the Sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings,
Risen with healing in His wings.
Mild, He lays His glory by;
Born that man no more may die;
Born to raise the sons of earth;
Born to give them second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing:
'Glory to the new-born King.'

Closing Prayer and Blessing

May the humility of the shepherds, the perseverance of the wise men, the joy of the angels, and the peace of the Christ child be God's gifts to us this Christmas time and always. And may the blessing of God almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be with us now and evermore.

Amen.

Go in peace and serve the Lord

All: in the name of Christ. Amen.



S A I N T J A M E S C H U R C H C U M M E R S D A L E

**Christmas Day 2010
9.00am Holy Communion**



Welcome to our service of Holy Communion this Christmas morning. We invite all who are baptised and love the Lord to join us at his table.

Welcome

Carol

O come, all ye faithful,
joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem,
Come and behold Him,
born the King of angels;

*O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord.*

God of God,
Light of light,
Lo, He abhors not the virgin's womb;
Very God, begotten not created;

Sing, choirs of angels,
sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above,
glory to God, in the highest;

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee,
Born this happy morning,
Jesus, to Thee be glory given;
Word of the Father
Now in flesh appearing:

**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.**

Please feel free to take this service sheet away with you

Reading

Matthew Chapter 2 verses 1-12

(page 966)

after the reading:

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Carol

O little town of Bethlehem,

How still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
The everlasting Light;
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee tonight.

O morning stars, together
Proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the King,
And peace to men on earth;
For Christ is born of Mary,
And gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep
Their watch of wondering love.

How silently, how silently
The wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of His heaven.
No ear may hear His coming;
But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive Him, still
The dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem,
Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in;
Be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Immanuel!

Sermon

Aspects of Christmas Love

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers

The Administration

These words are said at the administration of the bread:

May the body of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was given for you, preserve your body and soul to everlasting life. Take and eat this in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your heart by faith with thanksgiving.

These words are said at the administration of the cup:

May the blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was shed for you, preserve your body and soul to everlasting life. Drink this in remembrance that Christ's blood was shed for you, and be thankful.

The Lord's Prayer

**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 forever, Amen.**

**Father of all,
we give you thanks and praise,
that when we were still far off
you met us in your Son, and brought us home.
Dying and living, he declared your love,
gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.
May we who share Christ's body live his risen life
we who drink his cup bring life to others;
we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,
so we and all your children shall be free,
and the whole earth live to praise your name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Carol

**Hark! the herald angels sing:
'Glory to the new-born King!
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!'
Joyful, all ye nations rise,
Join the triumph of the skies,
With the angelic host proclaim,
'Christ is born in Bethlehem.'
Hark! the herald angels sing:
'Glory to the new-born King!'**

Christ, by highest heaven adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold Him come,
Offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see!
Hail the incarnate Deity!
Pleased as man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Immanuel.
Hark! the herald angels sing:
'Glory to the new-born King.'

Continued...

Summary of the Law

Our Lord Jesus Christ said:

The most important commandment is this. Hear O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is One. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: love your neighbour as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these. *Mark 12: 29-31*

**Lord, have mercy on us,
and incline our hearts to keep these laws.**

Invitation to Communion

Brothers and sisters in Christ, as we gather at the Lord's table we must recall the promises and warnings given to us in the Scriptures. Let us therefore examine ourselves and repent of our sins. Let us give thanks to God for his redemption of the world through his Son Jesus Christ, and as we remember Christ's death for us, and receive this pledge of his love, let us resolve to serve him in holiness and righteousness all the days of our life.

You then, who truly and earnestly repent of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbours, and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from this day forward in his holy ways: draw near with faith, and take this holy sacrament to your comfort; and make your humble confession to almighty God.

Confession

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, maker of all things, judge of all people, we acknowledge and lament our many sins and the wickedness we have committed time after time, by thought, word and deed against your divine majesty. We have provoked your righteous anger and your indignation against us.

We earnestly repent, and are deeply sorry for these our wrongdoings; the memory of them weighs us down, the burden of them is too great for us to bear. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father. For your Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that from this time forward we may always serve and please you in newness of life, to the honour and glory of your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who in his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with heartfelt repentance and true faith turn to him: have mercy on you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hear the words of comfort our Saviour Christ says to all who truly turn to him:

Come to me, all who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. *Matthew 11.28*

God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. *John 3.16*

Summary of the Law

Our Lord Jesus Christ said:

The most important commandment is this. Hear O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is One. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: love your neighbour as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these. *Mark 12: 29-31*

**Lord, have mercy on us,
and incline our hearts to keep these laws.**

Invitation to Communion

Brothers and sisters in Christ, as we gather at the Lord's table we must recall the promises and warnings given to us in the Scriptures. Let us therefore examine ourselves and repent of our sins. Let us give thanks to God for his redemption of the world through his Son Jesus Christ, and as we remember Christ's death for us, and receive this pledge of his love, let us resolve to serve him in holiness and righteousness all the days of our life.

You then, who truly and earnestly repent of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbours, and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from this day forward in his holy ways: draw near with faith, and take this holy sacrament to your comfort; and make your humble confession to almighty God.

Confession

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, maker of all things, judge of all people, we acknowledge and lament our many sins and the wickedness we have committed time after time, by thought, word and deed against your divine majesty. We have provoked your righteous anger and your indignation against us.

We earnestly repent, and are deeply sorry for these our wrongdoings; the memory of them weighs us down, the burden of them is too great for us to bear. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father. For your Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that from this time forward we may always serve and please you in newness of life, to the honour and glory of your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who in his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with heartfelt repentance and true faith turn to him: have mercy on you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hear the words of comfort our Saviour Christ says to all who truly turn to him:

Come to me, all who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. *Matthew 11.28*

God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. *John 3.16*

Hear what Saint Paul says: This saying is true and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.
1 Timothy 1.15

Hear what Saint John says: If anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the propitiation for our sins.
1 John 2.1,2

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.

It is indeed right, it is our duty and our joy, at all times and in all places to give you thanks and praise, holy Father, heavenly King, almighty and eternal God.

And now we give you thanks because, by the power of the Holy Spirit, he took our nature upon him and was born of the Virgin Mary his mother, that being himself without sin, he might make us clean from all sin.

**Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you, and saying**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Glory be to you, O Lord most high.**

**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.**

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who in your tender mercy, gave your only Son our Saviour Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there by his one oblation of himself once offered a full, perfect and sufficient sacrifice, oblation and satisfaction for the sins of the whole world; he instituted, and in his holy gospel commanded us to continue, a perpetual memory of his precious death until he comes again.

Hear us, merciful Father, we humbly pray, and grant that we receiving these gifts of your creation, this bread and this wine, according to your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed body and blood; who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread and gave you thanks; (*the minister takes the paten*) he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: (*the minister breaks the bread*) 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; (*he takes the cup*) and when he had given 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. **Amen.**

Hear what Saint Paul says: This saying is true and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.
1 Timothy 1.15

Hear what Saint John says: If anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the propitiation for our sins.
1 John 2.1,2

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.

It is indeed right, it is our duty and our joy, at all times and in all places to give you thanks and praise, holy Father, heavenly King, almighty and eternal God.

And now we give you thanks because, by the power of the Holy Spirit, he took our nature upon him and was born of the Virgin Mary his mother, that being himself without sin, he might make us clean from all sin.

**Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you, and saying**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Glory be to you, O Lord most high.**

**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.**

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who in your tender mercy, gave your only Son our Saviour Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there by his one oblation of himself once offered a full, perfect and sufficient sacrifice, oblation and satisfaction for the sins of the whole world; he instituted, and in his holy gospel commanded us to continue, a perpetual memory of his precious death until he comes again.

Hear us, merciful Father, we humbly pray, and grant that we receiving these gifts of your creation, this bread and this wine, according to your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed body and blood; who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread and gave you thanks; (*the minister takes the paten*) he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: (*the minister breaks the bread*) 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; (*he takes the cup*) and when he had given 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. **Amen.**