

St Swithun's, Hither Green

Eucharist



Christmas 1

27th December 2020

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The Gathering

The Greeting

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

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you

Mother Juliet says some words of welcome

We come from scattered lives to meet with God.

Let us recognise God's presence with us.

As God's people we have gathered:

let us worship God together.

Prayers of penitence

Christ the light of the world has come to dispel the darkness of our hearts. In this light let us examine ourselves and confess the times when we have gone astray.

You were born through Mary's labour;
we look for answers that cost us nothing.

Lord have mercy: **Lord have mercy**

You were greeted by shepherds and angels;
we close our doors on those outside.

Christ have mercy: **Christ have mercy**

You share our whole humanity and delight in your creation;
we make your love too small and take your gift for granted.

Lord have mercy: **Lord have mercy**

The Absolution

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.**

The Gloria

Please listen to the music as we glorify God together

The Liturgy of the Word

The Collect

God in Trinity, eternal unity of perfect love:
gather the nations to be one family,
and draw us into your holy life
through the birth of Emmanuel,
our Lord Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Gospel Reading *Luke 2.15-21*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke
Glory to you, O Lord.

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them. After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you O Christ.

Sermon *Rev Frances*

Affirmation of faith

**We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.
We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with 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

Let us pray:

After each bidding:

God of love: **Hear our prayer.**

*Especially we remember: those who are in need or have asked for our prayers – Martin, Rossy and family, Kevin, Gwen, Karen, Paulette, Maureen and family, Pamela, Neil, Debbie, Elaine and family, Clinton, Francis, Cynthia, Diane, Harold, Ivy, Sean, Taneisha, Talabi, Susan, Sydney, Edith, Vanda, Lorna, Ena and Stephen.
Those who have died*

Rest eternal grant unto them O Lord

And let light perpetual shine upon them

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

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 with you

And also with you.

Let us wave to one another the sign of peace.

Carol

While shepherds watched their flocks by night
all seated on the ground
the angel of the Lord came down
and glory shone around

‘Fear not,’ said he, (for mighty dread
had seized their troubled mind)
‘glad tidings of great joy I bring
to you and humankind’.

The heavenly babe you there shall find
to human view displayed
and meanly wrapped in swathing bands
And in a manger laid

‘All glory be to God on high
and on the earth be peace;
goodwill henceforth from heav’n to all
begin and never cease.

Prayer over the gifts

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

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.



It is right to praise you, Father, Lord of all creation; in your love you made us for yourself.

When we turned away you did not reject us,
but came to meet us in your Son.

**You embraced us as your children
and welcomed us to sit and eat with you.**

In Christ you shared our life
that we might live in him and he in us.

**He opened his arms of love upon the cross
and made for all the perfect sacrifice for sin.**

On the night he was betrayed, at supper with his friends
he took bread, and gave you thanks;

he broke it and gave it to them saying: *Take, eat;
this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.*

**Father, we do this in remembrance of him:
his body is the bread of life.**

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine,
he gave you thanks, and said: *Drink this, all of you:
this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you for
the forgiveness of sins: do this in remembrance of me.*

**Father, we do this in remembrance of him:
his blood is shed for all.**

As we proclaim his death and celebrate his rising in glory,
send your Holy Spirit that this bread and this wine may be to us
the body and blood of your dear Son.

**As we eat and drink these holy gifts
make us one in Christ, our risen Lord.**

With your whole Church throughout the world
we offer you this sacrifice of praise
and lift our voice to join the eternal song of heaven:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

The Lord's Prayer

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

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

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

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

Agnus Dei

Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.

Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us peace.

Giving of Communion

God's holy gifts for God's holy people.

**Jesus Christ is holy, Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

Communion will be brought to you in one kind. Please stay seated in your place whilst we come to you safely – alternatively a prayer can be said at a physical distance with you as we move round the church.

Silence is kept.

Prayer after Communion

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son shared at Nazareth the life of an earthly home: help your Church to live as one family, united in love and obedience, and bring us all at last to our home in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

May we who have been touched by the Word made flesh be his body for the world, his hands to bring blessing, his senses to glory, in the promise of creation restored. Amen.

The Notices

- *Our worship services will continue within the guidelines. The church can be opened for private prayer on request.*
- *We will continue to upload the services and the sermons on the website for those who are unable to come in person.*
- *Happy Birthday to all those who have a birthday.*



Dismissal and Blessing

The Blessing

May the humility of the shepherds, the perseverance of the wise men, the joy of the angels, the faith of Mary and Joseph, and the peace of the Christ child, be yours this Christmastide; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

The Dismissal

Go in peace. Proclaim the Word made flesh.

Glory, thanks and praise to God!

Amen.