

**ST MARY'S CHURCH,
CHARTHAM**

**HOLY COMMUNION
FOR THE SEASON OF
ADVENT**

THE GATHERING

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

All: **And also with you.**

Lighting the advent candle, and the Advent Wreath Prayer

THE OPENING HYMN

Please remain standing

Leader:
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.

Invitation to confession

Leader: When the Lord comes, He will bring to light the things now hidden
in darkness, and will disclose the purposes of the heart.
Therefore, in the light of Christ, let us confess our sins.

(1 Corinthians 4:5)

We say the confession together:

**Lord God, we have sinned against You;
we have done evil in Your sight.
We are sorry and repent.
Have mercy on us according to Your love,
wash away our wrongdoing, and cleanse us from our sin.
Renew a right spirit within us, and restore us to the joy of Your salvation.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

Absolution

Leader: May the Father of all mercies cleanse us from our sins,
and restore us in His image, to the praise and glory of His name.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

The Collect for the day

Please sit

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

The Bible readings

After the first reading

the reader says: This is the word of the Lord

We respond: **Thanks be to God**

THE GRADUAL HYMN

Please remain standing for the Gospel.

Reader: Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to

All: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

After the Gospel reading

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord

All: **Praise to You, O Christ**

THE SERMON

The Creed

We say together:

**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

Responses:

Leader: Lord, in your mercy...

All: Hear our prayer.

To end the time of prayer:

Prayer Leader: Merciful Father...

**All: Accept these prayers,
for the sake of Your Son,
our Saviour, Jesus Christ.
Amen**

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

The Peace

Leader: In the tender mercy of our God,
the dayspring from on high shall break upon us,
to give light to those who dwell in darkness
and in the shadow of death,
and to guide our feet into the ways of peace.

(Luke 1:78-79)

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

THE OFFERTORY HYMN

We say together: Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power,
the glory, the splendour, and the majesty.
Everything in heaven and on earth is Yours,
all things come from you,
and of Your own do we give You. Amen

The Communion

Leader: With this bread that we bring

All: We shall remember Jesus.

Leader: With this wine that we bring

All: We shall remember Jesus.

Leader: Bread for His body,
wine for His blood,
gifts from God to His table we bring.

All: We shall remember Jesus.

Please remain standing

The Eucharistic Prayer

Leader: The Lord is here.

All: His Spirit is with us.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Leader: You are worthy of our thanks and praise, Lord God of truth, for
by the breath of Your mouth You have spoken Your word, and all
things have come into being.

You fashioned us in Your image and placed us in the garden of
Your delight. Though we chose the path of rebellion You would
not abandon Your own.

Again and again, you drew us into Your covenant of grace. You
gave Your people the law and taught us, by Your prophets, to
look for Your reign of justice, mercy, and peace.

As we watch for the signs of Your kingdom on earth, we echo
the song of the angels in heaven, evermore praising You and
singing:

We sing: **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.**

Please sit or kneel

Leader: Lord God, You are the most holy one,
enthroned in splendour and light.
Yet in the coming of Your Son, Jesus Christ,
You reveal the power of Your love
made perfect in our human weakness.

All: **Amen. Lord we believe.**

Leader: Embracing our humanity, Jesus showed us the way of salvation;
Loving us to the end, He gave Himself to death for us;
Dying for His own, He set us free from the bonds of sin,
that we might rise and reign with Him in glory.

All: **Amen. Lord we believe.**

Leader: On the night He gave up Himself for us all,
He 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.”*

All: **Amen. Lord we believe.**

Leader: Therefore, we proclaim the death that He suffered on the cross;
We celebrate His resurrection, His bursting from the tomb;
We rejoice that He reigns at Your right hand on high,
and we long for His coming in glory.

All: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Leader: As we recall the one perfect sacrifice of our redemption, Father,
by Your Holy Spirit let these gifts of Your creation be to us the
body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

Form us into the likeness of Christ,
and make us a perfect offering in Your sight.

All: **Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

Leader: Look with favour on Your people and, in Your mercy,
hear the cry of our hearts.
Bless the earth, heal the sick, let the oppressed go free,
and fill Your church with power from on high.

All: **Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

Leader: Gather Your people from the ends of the earth to feast with
Mary and all Your saints at the table in Your kingdom, where the
new creation is brought to perfection in 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, forever
and ever.

All: **Amen.**

We keep a moment of silence before the Lord's Prayer

Leader: 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;
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,
forever and ever. Amen**

Breaking the bread

Leader: Every time we eat this bread and drink this cup...

All: **we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.**

*As the bread is broken we sing the **Agnus Dei** together:*

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.

Sharing Communion

Leader: Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to His supper.

All: **Lord, I am not worthy to receive You,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

After Communion

The Post Communion Prayer

A Prayer after Communion

All: **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 CLOSING HYMN

THE DISMISSAL

Leader: Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you,
scatter the darkness from before your path,
and make you ready to meet Him when He comes in glory.

And the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be among you,
and remain with you always.

All: **Amen**

Leader: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: **In the name of Christ.
Amen**