

24th December 2023 Morning Worship – “where is it that God lives?”

Welcome

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

And also with you.

This is the day that the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

We have come together in the name of Christ to offer our praise and thanksgiving, to hear and receive God’s holy word, to pray for the needs of the world, and to seek the forgiveness of our sins, that by the power of the Holy Spirit we may give ourselves to the service of God.

We light the advent candles - LOVE

God of love, you sent your Son, Jesus, to light the way for all who walk in darkness.

May the light of his hope, peace, joy and love shine bright in us as we get ready to welcome him on Christmas day and every day.

Amen.

We say sorry to God and one another

Jesus says, ‘Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.’ So let us turn away from our sin and turn to Christ, confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

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 to us the joy of your salvation, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

We are forgiven

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.**

Songs – O let the Son of God Enfold You and We stand and lift up our hands

We affirm our faith in God.

Though he was divine, he did not cling to equality with God, but made himself nothing.

Taking the form of a slave, he was born in human likeness. He humbled himself, and was obedient to death even the death of the cross. Therefore God has raised him on high, and given him the name above every name: that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, and every voice proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Philippians 2.9-11

Collect

Eternal God, as Mary waited for the birth of your Son, so we wait for his coming in glory; bring us through the birth pangs of this present age to see, with her, our great salvation in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Old Testament Reading

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

This is the word of the Lord; **Thanks be to God**

Instrumental music

Gospel Reading

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

Luke 1:26-38

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Talk

Song – Into your hands I commit again

Prayers

Gathering our prayers and praises into one, let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

**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.

Notices

Song – Let it be to me (Kendrick)

Let it be to me - according to your word

Let it be to me - according to your word

I am your servant, no rights shall I demand,

Let it be to me

Let it be to me

Let it be to me

According to your word.

Blessing

May the Father from whom every family in earth and heaven receives its name strengthen you with his Spirit in your inner being. And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord

In the name of Christ, Amen



**CHRISTMAS
BLESSINGS!**

**PEACE
JOY
LOVE
HOPE**