

Sunday 7th January 2024: Holy Communion Service

Welcome

We come from scattered lives to meet with God.

Let us recognise his presence with us.

As God's people we have gathered:

let us worship him together.

We pray for Flames and their leaders

We say sorry to God and one another

Lord Jesus, illuminate the darkness in our hearts:

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, open our eyes to your saving love:

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, unstop our ears to hear your living word:

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Prayer of forgiveness

May the God of all healing and forgiveness draw us to himself, and cleanse us from all our sins that we may behold the glory of his Son, the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Songs Thank you for Saving Me and The Lord is My Salvation

Prayers of intercession

Merciful Father, **accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

The church's prayer for today:

Creator of the heavens, who led the Magi by a star to worship the Christ-child: guide and sustain us, that we may find our journey's end in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 60:1-6

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

Song The Light of Christ

Gospel Reading

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew;

Glory to you, O Lord.

Matthew 2:1-12

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

Sermon

Song The Splendour of The King

Declaration of Faith

Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of 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.

The Peace

Christ is our peace.

If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation.

The old has passed away: behold, everything has become new.

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

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Communion

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.

... with saints and angels praising you, and saying:

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.

...Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation, we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory:

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

...Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father, forever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

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

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ; **Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.**

We share bread and wine together

Prayer after communion

Lord God, the bright splendour whom the nations seek: may we who with the wise men have been drawn by your light discern the glory of your presence in your Son, the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Notices

Song To God be The Glory

The Blessing

Christ our Lord, to whom kings bowed down in worship and offered gifts, reveal to you his glory and pour upon you the riches of his grace; 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