

25th December 2023

All Age Communion for Christmas Day

Rev Rob Powell will be leading and speaking, and Rev Mark Pybus will be Presiding

WELCOME & LIGHTING OF CANDLES



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:

18th C. TR. F. Oakley, W.T. Brooke & others Public Domain



RESPONSIVE PRAISE

Let us praise Jesus.
Eternal King of Heaven, you were
born a tiny baby.

**Lord Jesus,
we praise and adore you.**

You have been endlessly worshipped by
angels, but you were seen by humble
shepherds.

**Lord Jesus,
we praise and adore you.**

The whole world is yours for you created
it, yet you were laid in a manger.

**Lord Jesus,
we praise and adore you.**

You are the glorious Lord of all, yet you
came to earth crying and helpless.

**Lord Jesus,
we praise and adore you.**

Accept the praises of those you came to
serve and save.

**Lord Jesus,
we praise and adore you.
Amen.**

CONFESSION

Christ the light of the world has come to
dispel the darkness of our hearts. In his
light let us examine ourselves and confess
our sins.

Lord of grace and truth, we confess our
unworthiness to stand in your presence as
your children. We have sinned:

Forgive and heal us.

The Virgin Mary accepted your call to be
the mother of Jesus. Forgive our
disobedience to your will.

We have sinned:

Forgive and heal us.

Your son our Saviour was born in poverty
in a manger. Forgive our greed and
rejection of your ways. We have sinned:

Forgive and heal us.

The shepherds left their flocks to go to Bethlehem. Forgive our self-interest and lack of vision. We have sinned:

Forgive and heal us.

The wise men followed the star to find Jesus the King. Forgive our reluctance to seek you. We have sinned:

Forgive and heal us.

Amen.

ABSOLUTION

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

CHILDREN SHOW THEIR PRESENTS

ACTION SONG

 **THE SHEPHERDS CAME TO SEE THE BABY,**

Stood by his mother's side.
Here laid the Saviour
Inside a manger
Oh, what a glorious night,
Oh, what a glorious night.

*I hear the angels singing halleluiah,
Let the earth receive her King.
I know that love has come,
Sing it out
Jesus Christ is born!
Jesus Christ is born!*

The shepherds wondered,
They couldn't hide it,
Told everyone in sight.
All were amazed when they heard how
God came down on the glorious night,
God came down on this glorious night.

*I hear the angels singing halleluiah,
Let the earth receive her King.
I know that love has come,
Sing it out
Jesus Christ is born!
Jesus Christ is born!*

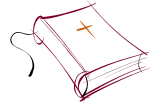
Glorious, Glorious
What a Glorious night! (repeat)

All is calm now, all is quiet,
A star shining in the sky.
Below in Bethlehem,
The King is sleeping.
Oh, What a Glorious Night
Oh, What a Glorious Night.

Casey Brown, Ben McDonald, Jonathan Smith, David Frey © Sidewalk Prophets

TIME IN THE WORD

Luke 2:1-20



DRAMA

TALK by Rev. Rob Powell

THE PEACE (we share the sign of the peace)



WHAT HOPE WE HOLD THIS STARLIT NIGHT

A King is born in Bethlehem
Our journey long we seek the light
That leads to the hallowed manger ground

What fear we felt in the silent age
Four-hundred years can He be found
But broken by a baby's cry
Rejoice in the hallowed manger ground

*Emmanuel, Emmanuel
God incarnate here to dwell
Emmanuel, Emmanuel
Praise His name, Emmanuel*

The Son of God here born to bleed
A crown of thorns would pierce His brow
And we beheld this offering
Exalted now the King of kings
Praise God for the hallowed manger ground

THE COMMUNION 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

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.**

WORDS OF INVITATION

God's holy gifts for God's holy people.
**Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

Every time we eat this bread
and drink this cup,
**we proclaim the Lord's death
until he comes.**



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**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.
and the whole earth
Amen.**

NOTICES



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 Emmanuel.

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.

C. Wesley (1707-1788) and others Public Domain

OFFERTORY PRAYER & BLESSING

THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

St James Church: 236 Mitcham Lane, Streatham, London SW16 6NT

☎ 020 8677 3947 ✉ admin_stjameschurch@btinternet.com 🌐 www.stjames-streatham.org.uk

St James Church Charity Registration Number: 1133859 Songs & Hymns used by permission CCL No. 4958