

10th December 2023

Holy Communion with Children's Groups

Rev. Rob Powell will be leading and presiding,
and Rev. Mark Pybus will be preaching on
'Preparing for Christmas #2 – Mary Visits Elizabeth (Luke 1:39-56)

WELCOME & LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLES

 **LET OUR PRAISE BE YOUR WELCOME,**
Let our songs be a sign:

We are here for You,
We are here for You.
Let Your breath come from heaven,
Fill our hearts with Your life.
We are here for You,
We are here for You.


*To You, our hearts are open,
Nothing here is hidden.
You are our one desire.
You alone are holy,
Only You are worthy,
God, let Your fire fall down.*

Let our shout be Your anthem,
Your renown fill the skies.
We are here for You,
We are here for You.
Let Your Word move in power,
Let what's dead come to life.
We are here for You,
We are here for You.

We welcome You with praise,
We welcome You with praise.
Almighty God of love,
Be welcomed in this place.
(Repeat)

Let every heart adore,
Let every soul awake.
Almighty God of love,
Be welcome in this place.

We welcome You with praise,
We welcome You with praise.
Almighty God of love,
Be welcome in this place.
Matt Maher, Matt Redman, © 2011 Said And Done Music

 **LIGHT OF THE WORLD**
You stepped down into darkness
Opened my eyes, let me see
Beauty that made this heart adore You,
Hope of a life spent with You.

*So here I am to worship,
Here I am to bow down,
Here I am to say that You're my God;
You're altogether lovely,
Altogether worthy,
Altogether wonderful to me.*

King of all days,
Oh so highly exalted
Glorious in heaven above;
Humbly You came
To the earth You created,
All for love's sake became poor

And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross.
(Repeat)

Tim Hughes © 2000 Kingsway's Thankyou Music©



PRAYER OF PREPARATION
Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known, and from whom no
secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts

**by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Christ our Lord. 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

ACTION SONG



ALL THE ANGELS SING

That Christ has come
To a manger bare

Mary laid him there
Come on fill the sky
With shouts of praise
Lift your voice with me
And sing, sing, sing, sing, sing!

*Emmanuel, Emmanuel
God is with us
It's the true meaning of Christmas
Jesus has come
And changed life forever
Emmanuel, Emmanuel
God is with us
Every day and not just Christmas
Jesus has come
And changed our lives forever more*

All the angels sing
That Christ has come
To a world in need
Good news indeed
Love wrapped as a babe
Gave everything
For you and I
Let's sing, sing, sing, sing, sing!

Join with all the angels singing
Giving glory unto him
One and all now lift your voices
To him praises bring
All of heaven sings together
All creation worships him
He is Jesus Holy one
He is Christ the King

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BIBLE READING:

Luke 1:39-56



SERMON by Rev. Mark Pybus



THE SPLENDOUR OF THE KING,

Clothed in majesty;
Let all the earth rejoice,
Let all the earth rejoice.
He wraps Himself in light,
And darkness tries to hide,
And trembles at His voice,
And trembles at His voice.

How great is our God, sing with me,
How great is our God, and all will see
How great, how great is our God.

And age to age He stands,
And time is in His hands;
Beginning and the End,
Beginning and the End.
The Godhead, Three in One,
Father, Spirit, Son,
The Lion and the Lamb,
The Lion and the Lamb.

Name above all names,
You are worthy of all praise;
My heart will sing:
How great is our God
(Repeat)

*Then sings my soul,
My Saviour God, to Thee,
How great Thou art!
How great Thou art!
(Repeat)*

Chris Tomin, Jesse Reeves & Ed Cash © 2004 Worshiptogether.com
songs/ | Six steps



PRAYERS

THE PEACE *(we share the sign of the peace)*

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.
Amen.**

NOTICES



O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM,

How still we see thee lie!
Above Thy deep and dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by.
Yet in Thy dark streets shineth
The everlasting Light;
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in Thee tonight.

O morning stars, together
Proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the King,
And peace to men on earth.
For Christ is born of Mary,
And gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep
Their watch of wondering love.

How silently, how silently
The wondrous gift is given!
So, God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of His heaven.
No ear may hear His coming;
But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive Him,
Still, the dear Christ enters in.

O holy child of Bethlehem,
Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in;
Be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Emmanuel.

OFFERTORY PRAYER & BLESSING

THE DISMISSAL

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

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