

**Christmas
Communion Service
2020**



Welcome and Greeting

Lead Welcome all wonders in one sight!
Eternity shut in a span
Summer in winter, day in night
Heaven in earth, and God in man
Great little one whose all-embracing birth
Brings earth to heaven stoops heaven to earth
Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord
Jesus Christ be with you.

All And also with you.

Carol: Silent Night

Prayer of Preparation

All O Loving Lord, be near us in this time of worship.
Open our ears to hear your voice.
Open our eyes to behold your glory.
Open our hearts to receive your grace.
Open our lips to sing forth your praise.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who was born at
Bethlehem for us and now lives and reigns in the unity
of the Father, one God now and forever.
Amen

Prayers of Penitence

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

God our Father you sent your Son full of grace and truth forgive our failure to receive him.

Lord have mercy.

All **Lord have mercy.**

Jesus our Saviour, you were born in poverty and laid in a manger. Forgive our greed and rejection of your ways.

Christ have mercy.

All **Christ have mercy.**

Spirit of Love, your servant Mary responded joyfully to your call. Forgive the hardness of our hearts.

Lord have mercy.

All **Lord have mercy.**

May the God of all healing and forgiveness draw you to himself that you may behold the glory of his Son, the Word made flesh and be cleansed from all your sins through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen**

Gloria in Excelsis

All Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only son of the Father,
Lord God Lamb of God;
you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen

The Collect

Lead Let us pray in the peace of this Christmas celebration that
our joy in the birth of Christ will last for ever.

Eternal God who made this most holy night to shine with
the brightness of your one true light. Bring us, who have
known the revelation of that light on earth to see the

radiance of your heavenly glory through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit one God now and forever.

All Amen

Readings

At the end of the reading the reader says:

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God

Lead This night Christ is born.

All Alleluia!

This night the Saviour comes.

All Alleluia!

This night the angels sing on earth.

All Alleluia!

Glory to God in the highest!

Gospel Reading

When the Gospel is announced the reader says

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to...

At the end: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you O Christ.

Sermon

The Creed

All 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

The Peace

Lead This Holy night the angels sang 'Glory to God in the highest heaven and on earth peace to all in whom he delights'.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All And also with you

Carol: Once in Royal David's City

Lighting of the Christmas Candle

Lead God our Father, today the Saviour is born and those who live in darkness are seeing a great light. Help us, who greet the birth of Christ with joy to live in the light of your Son

and to share the good news of your love.

We ask this through Jesus Christ the light of the world.

All Amen

Taking of the Bread and Wine

Lead Word made flesh, life of the world, in your incarnation you embraced our poverty, by your Spirit may we share in your riches.

All Amen

The Eucharist Prayer

Lead The Lord be with you.

All And also with you.

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.

Lead Blessed are you, Lord God, our light and our salvation, to you be glory and praise for ever. From the beginning you have created all things and all your works echo the silent music of your praise. In the fullness of time you made us in your image the crown of all creation. You give us breath and speech that with angels and archangels and all the powers of heaven we may find a voice to sing your praise.

All 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.

Lead How wonderful the work of your hands O Lord. As a mother tenderly gathers her children you embraced a people as your own. When they turned away and rebelled your love remained steadfast. From them you raised up Jesus our Saviour born of Mary, to be the living bread in whom all our hungers are satisfied. He offered his life for sinners and with a love stronger than death he opened wide his arms on the cross. On the night before he died he came to supper with his friends and, taking bread, he 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

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 and for many for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this as often as you drink it in remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

Lead Father we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross. We remember his dying and rising in glory and we rejoice that he intercedes for us at your right hand.

Pour out your Holy Spirit as we bring before you these gifts of your creation; may they be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

As we eat and drink these holy things in your presence form us in the likeness of Christ and build us into a living temple to your glory.

Remember Lord your Church in every land. Reveal her unity, guard her faith and preserve her in peace.

Bring us at the last with all the saints to the vision of that eternal splendour for which you have created us, through Jesus Christ our Lord by whom, with whom and in whom, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven we worship you Father almighty in songs of everlasting praise.

All Blessing and honour and glory and power,
be yours for ever and ever.
Amen

The Lord's Prayer

Lead 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

Breaking of the Bread

Lead We break the bread of life and that life is the light of the world.

All God here among us,
light in the midst of us,
bring us to light and life.

Christ is the true bread which has come down from heaven.

Lord, give us this bread always

Prayer after Communion

A post communion prayer is said followed by:

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.

Carol: Hark the Herald Angels Sing

Blessing and Dismissal

Lead May the joy of the angels,
the eagerness of the shepherds,
the perseverance of the wise men,
the obedience of Joseph and Mary,
and the peace of the Christ child be yours this Christmas,
and the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit
be among you and remain with you always.

All Amen

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



023 8073 7617

www.acnb-church.org

@acnbchurch

