

Christmas Day – Order of Service – Uplyme (Livestream @ 10am)

We celebrate not only the infant's birth in Bethlehem but also the hope for all time given to us by the 'becoming flesh' of God's Son.

Opening Sentence

Luke 2:10-11

'Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord'.

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Opening Responses

The people who walked in darkness:

have seen a great light.

For to us a child is born:

to us a Son is given.

His name will be called Wonderful Counsellor, mighty God,

the everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.

Glory to God in the highest:

and peace to his people on earth.

Hymn: Joy to the World

Joy to the World, the Lord is come!

Let earth receive her King;

Let every heart prepare Him room,

And Heaven and nature sing,

And Heaven and nature sing,

And Heaven, and Heaven, and nature sing.

Joy to the World, the Saviour reigns!

Let all their songs employ;

While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains

Repeat the sounding joy,

Repeat the sounding joy,

Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace,

And makes the nations prove

The glories of His righteousness,

And wonders of His love,

And wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders, of His love.

Prayer of Preparation

We meet to celebrate the coming of Christ into the world. **Lord speak to us that we may hear your word. Move among us that we may behold your glory. Receive our prayers that we may learn to trust you, Amen.**

Invitation to Confession

As we kneel with the shepherds before the new born Christ child, we open our hearts in penitence and faith.

Silence is kept.

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

Forgive us 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 us 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 us and heal us.

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

Forgive us and heal us.

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

Forgive us and heal us.

Absolution

May God who loved the world so much that he sent his Son to be our Saviour, forgive us our sins and make us holy to serve him in the world, through Jesus Christ our Lord, **Amen.**

Collect for Christmas Day

Almighty God, **you have given us your only begotten Son to take our nature upon him and as at this time to be born of a pure virgin; grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; 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 for ever, Amen.

Bible Readings

Reading Isaiah 52: 7-10

How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, "Your God reigns!"

⁸ Listen! Your watchmen lift up their voices; together they shout for joy.

When the Lord returns to Zion, they will see it with their own eyes.

⁹ Burst into songs of joy together, you ruins of Jerusalem, for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem.

¹⁰ The Lord will lay bare his holy arm in the sight of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth will see the salvation of our God.

This is the word of the Lord: **thanks be to God**

Hymn: Look to the Skies

Look to the skies, there's a celebration
Lift up your heads, join the angel song
For our Creator becomes our Saviour
As a baby born!
Angels, amazed, bow in adoration
'Glory to God in the highest heaven!'
Send the good news out to every nation
For our hope has come

Worship the King - come, see His brightness

Worship the King, His wonders tell

Jesus our King is born today

We welcome You, Emmanuel

Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God
Father for ever, the Prince of Peace
There'll be no end to Your rule of justice
For it shall increase
Light of Your face, come to pierce our darkness
Joy of Your heart come to chase our gloom
Star of the morning, a new day dawning
Make our hearts Your home

Worship the King - come, see His brightness
Worship the King, His wonders tell
Jesus our King is born today
We welcome You, Emmanuel

Quietly He came as a helpless baby
One day in power He will come again
Swift through the skies He will burst with splendour
On the earth to reign
Jesus, I bow at Your manger lowly
Now in my life let Your will be done
Live in my flesh by Your Spirit holy
Till Your kingdom comes

Worship the King - come, see His brightness
Worship the King, His wonders tell
Jesus our King is born today
We welcome You, Emmanuel

Reading John 1: 1-14

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John:
Glory to you O Lord.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was with God in the beginning. ³Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. ⁴In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome^[a] it.

⁶There was a man sent from God whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. ⁸He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

⁹The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. ¹¹He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. ¹²Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— ¹³children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

¹⁴The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

This is the gospel of the Lord, **praise to you O Christ**

Address

Prayers

Response: God with us, **hear our prayer**

Lord, hear our prayers.

Son of God, Child of Mary, born in the stable in Bethlehem, be born again in us this day, that through us the world may know the wonder of your love. Amen.

Sharing the Peace

Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given, and his name shall be called the Prince of Peace. *Isaiah 9:6*

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

Hymn: Go Tell it on the Mountain (Gospel Singers)

The Eucharistic 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.

Father, you made the world and love your creation.

You gave your Son Jesus Christ to be our Saviour.

His dying and rising have set us free from sin and death.

And so we gladly thank you,

with saints and angels praising you, and singing:

**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.**

We praise and bless you, loving Father
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;
and as we obey his command,
send your Holy Spirit,
that broken bread and wine out-poured
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends,
and, taking bread, he praised you.
He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.
Again he praised you, gave it to them 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.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice
made once for all upon the cross.

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

Great is the mystery of faith:
Christ has died:
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.

And now we give you thanks because, in the incarnation of the Word, a new light has dawned upon the world; you have become one with us that we might become one with you in your glorious kingdom.

Lord of all life,
help us to work together for that day
when your kingdom comes.
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth,

Look with favour on your people,
gather us in your loving arms and bring us
with Peter and Paul and all the saints
to feast at your table in heaven.

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

Rejoicing in the presence of God here among us, as our Saviour has 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 the bread of life and that bread is the light of the world.
God here among us, light in the midst of us, bring us to light and life

Christ is the true bread of life, and that life is the light of the world.
Lord, give us this bread always.

Please remain in your seats, the bread will be brought to you.

Prayer after communion

*God our father, whose Word has come among us
in the holy child of Bethlehem: may the light of faith*

*illumine our hearts and shine in our words and deeds;
through him who is Christ our Lord. Amen*

Notices

Final Hymn: O Come all Ye Faithful

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 (x3),
Christ the Lord.

O Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing all ye citizens of heav'n above;
Glory to God in the Highest;
O come, let us adore Him (x3),
Christ the Lord.

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee,
Born this happy morning,
Jesu, to thee be glory giv'n;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing;
O come, let us adore Him (x3),
Christ the Lord.

Blessing

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 ours this Christmas; and may the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among us and remain with us always, Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord:

In the name of Christ, Amen.