

## Prayer After Communion

**Father of all,  
we give you thanks and praise,  
that when we were still far off  
you met us in your Son and brought us home.  
Dying and living, he declared your love,  
gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.  
May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;  
we who drink his cup bring life to others;  
we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.  
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,  
so we and all your children shall be free,  
and the whole earth live to praise your name;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## We Pray For God's Blessing

The Lord bless you and watch over you,  
the Lord make his face shine upon you  
and be gracious to you,  
the Lord look kindly on you  
and give you peace;  
and the blessing of God Almighty,  
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit  
be among you and remain with you always.  
**Amen**

## **Hymn: 532 WE HAVE A GOSPEL TO PROCLAIM**

### We Go In God's Strength

Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord  
**In the name of Christ. Amen**



## **Holy Communion - 15<sup>th</sup> December 2024** **Spirit of the Lord Upon Me**

### Welcome

### Lighting the Advent Candles

*The first two Candles are re-lit*

We light today our third red candle remembering John the Baptist.  
A man ready to commit all he had and all he was to proclaiming  
the coming of the Messiah.

*Light third Candle.*

**Remind us Lord to be like John the Baptist.  
Ready to proclaim your love with all we are  
and using all we have so that more may know  
about you. Amen**

### **Hymn: 481 THE HOLLY AND THE IVY (C,1,2,3,C)**

### We confess our sins

Our Lord Jesus Christ said:  
The first commandment is this:  
'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is the only Lord.  
You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,  
with all your soul, with all your mind,  
and with all your strength.'

The second is this: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.'  
There is no other commandment greater than these.  
On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.  
**Amen. Lord, have mercy.**

Jesus says, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.'  
So let us turn away from sin and turn to the Lord,  
confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

*We share a moment of quiet to recall our need for forgiveness.*

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
we have sinned against you and against our neighbour,  
in thought and word and deed,  
through negligence, through weakness,  
through our own deliberate fault.  
We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us,  
forgive us all that is past,  
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life,  
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

Almighty God,  
who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you,  
pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen  
you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Hymn: 358 O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL**

The Collect

**God for whom we watch and wait,  
you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son:  
give us courage to speak the truth,  
to hunger for justice,  
and to suffer for the cause of right,  
with Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

**Most merciful Lord,  
your love compels us to come in.  
Our hands were unclean, our hearts were unprepared;  
we were not fit  
even to eat the crumbs from under your table.  
But you, Lord, are the God of our salvation,  
and share your bread with sinners.  
So cleanse and feed us  
with the precious body and blood of your Son,  
that he may live in us and we in him;  
and that we, with the whole company of Christ,  
may sit and eat in your kingdom. Amen.**

Giving of Communion

*You will be invited forward. We welcome all those who are  
baptised and who love and follow the Lord Jesus to share in the  
bread and wine.*

*At Communion, we are invited to feed on Christ in our hearts by  
faith with thanksgiving, so if we opt to abstain from the wine and  
receive the bread alone we still obtain the full spiritual benefit of  
the sacrament. If you are at all uncomfortable with sharing the  
Common Cup, then, please do not feel under any pressure.*

*If you do not wish to receive the bread and wine, you are welcome  
to come forward to receive a prayer of blessing. Please keep your  
hands by your side to indicate this to the minister.*

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 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.**

Breaking of the Bread

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.**

Draw near with faith.  
Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ  
which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you.  
Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you,  
and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

Readings

Isaiah 61:1-11  
Luke 4:16-21

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

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

Sermon

**Hymn: 329 MAKE WAY**

Affirmation of Faith

Let us declare our faith in God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit  
**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.**

#### The Intercessions

#### The Peace

May the God of peace make you completely holy,  
ready for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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

**Hymn: 219 HOW LOVELY ON THE MOUNTAINS**

#### We Celebrate Holy 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 our 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.**

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.**