

# **St Bridget's West Kirby with Caldy Church**



## **Holy Communion Epiphany Season**

**The Church of England operates an "open table" policy and Christians of all Churches are welcome to make their communion with us. We seek to be an inclusive Church and people of all faiths, ages, race, and sexuality are welcome in our midst. Jesus seeks to unite all peoples, not divide with false barriers of prejudice and ignorance.**

## THE GATHERING

### Opening Hymn

*Please stand as the ministers enter*

Grace mercy and peace from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you

*A//* **and also with you.**

### Prayer of Preparation

*A//* **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.**

### Prayers of Penitence

The grace of God has dawned upon the world  
through our Saviour Jesus Christ  
who sacrificed himself for us  
to purify a people as his own.

*A time of quiet*

Let us confess our sins

**All Most merciful God,  
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
we confess that we have sinned  
in thought, word and deed.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart.  
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.  
In your mercy forgive what we have been,  
help us to amend what we are,  
and direct what we shall be;  
that we may do justly, love mercy,  
and walk humbly with you, our God.  
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.

**All Amen.**

## **The Collect**

*please remain standing*

*This prayer or another prayer for the day follows*

Creator of the heavens,  
who led the magi by a star to worship the Christ-child:  
guide and sustain us, that we may find our journey's end  
in Jesus Christ our Lord

**All Amen.**

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

### Readings

*please sit for the readings*

*After each reading*

This is the word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

### Gradual Hymn

*please stand for the hymn*

### The Gospel

*please remain standing for the Gospel*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *N*

**All Glory to you, O Lord.**

*and at the end*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**All Praise to you, O Christ.**

### Sermon

### The Apostles Creed

*please stand*

**All I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,**

**suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.  
Amen.**

## **Prayers of Intercession**

*please kneel or sit*

*The following response may be used*

Lord in your mercy,  
*All* **hear our prayer.**

*And at the end*

**Merciful Father,  
accept these prayers  
for the sake of your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ.  
Amen.**

## THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

### The Peace

*please stand*

Our Saviour Christ is the Prince of Peace.  
Of the increase of his government and of peace  
there shall be no end.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*A//* **and also with you.**

*A sign of peace may be exchanged*

### Offertory Hymn

*The priest prepares the offerings on the Altar*

### Offertory Prayer

Lord, accept your people's gifts,  
not gold, frankincense or myrrh,  
but hearts raised in praise of Jesus Christ,  
our light and our salvation.

*A//* **Amen**

The Lord be with you

*A//* **and also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

*A//* **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*A//* **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere,  
mighty creator, ever-living God.

We give you thanks and praise for your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
who for love of our fallen race humbled himself,  
was born of the Virgin Mary by the power of your Spirit,  
and lived as one of us.

In this mystery of the Word made flesh  
you have caused his light to shine in our hearts,  
to give knowledge of your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.  
In him we see our God made visible and so are caught up  
in the love of the God we cannot see.

Therefore with all the angels of heaven  
we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name  
in this our joyful hymn of praise:

*A//* **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.**

Accept our praises, heavenly Father,  
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
and as we follow his example and obey his command,  
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit  
these gifts of bread and wine  
may be to us his body and his blood;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,  
took bread and gave you thanks;  
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper  
he took the cup and gave you thanks;  
he gave it to them, saying: 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.

Therefore, heavenly Father,  
we remember his offering of himself  
made once for all upon the cross;  
we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;  
we look for the coming of your kingdom,  
and with this bread and this cup  
we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Great is the mystery of faith

*A//* **Christ has died:  
Christ is risen:  
Christ will come again.**

Accept through him, our great high priest,  
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,  
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts  
in the presence of your divine majesty,  
renew us by your Spirit, inspire us with your love  
and unite us in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord  
Through him, and with him, and in him,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,  
we worship you, Father almighty,  
in songs of everlasting praise:

*A//* **Blessing and honour and glory and power  
be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**



## **The Lord's Prayer**

*please kneel or sit.*

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**A// 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 this bread to share in the body of Christ.

**A// Though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.**

**A// Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,  
grant us peace.**



God's holy gifts for God's holy people.

**All Jesus Christ is holy,  
Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.**

*Please come forward to receive communion. The Church of England operates an "open table" policy and all are welcome to make their communion with us.*

*If you would prefer a blessing, please simply keep your hands down.*

## **Communion Hymn**

## **Post Communion Prayer**

*This Post-Communion or another suitable prayer is said*

Lord God,  
the bright splendour whom the nations seek:  
may we who with the wise men  
have been drawn by your light,  
discern the glory of your presence in your Son,  
the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord

**All Amen.**

*Notices may be given out at this point.*

## The Blessing

*Please stand*

*The following or another seasonal blessing may be used*

Christ the Son of God,  
perfect in you the image of his glory and gladden your hearts  
with the good news of his kingdom;  
and the blessing of God Almighty,  
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be with you,  
now and always.

*All* **Amen.**

## Final Hymn

## The Dismissal

We have seen his glory,  
the glory revealed to the nations.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord

*All* **In the name of Christ. Amen**



*We are currently unable to take collections during services. If you feel able to support our churches and ministry in the parish there are a number of ways to do so. We have a card payment machine available in St Bridget's church, you can leave an offering in the plate at the back of church or visit our website for alternative means of giving. Please consider gift aid if you are able.*

*Thank you. [www.stbridgetschurch.org.uk](http://www.stbridgetschurch.org.uk)*

***Acknowledgement:***

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