

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP AT CHRIST CHURCH

THE WELCOME

A GREETING

(please stand)

I bring you good news of great joy -
a Saviour has been born to you.

Unto us a child is born,
unto us a Son is given.

He is Christ the Lord.
We worship and adore him



CAROL

As the Paschal Candle is lit the minister says:

Jesus Christ is the Light of the world,
a light no darkness can quench.

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

(please sit or kneel to pray)

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.

(a short time for silent reflection)

**God our Father, long suffering, full of grace and truth,
you created us from nothing and you give us life;
You do not turn your face from us.
We confess that we have sinned against you and our neighbours.
Renew a right spirit within us and bring us to heavenly joy
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

ABSOLUTION

PERUVIAN GLORIA

(please stand and repeat each line after it's been sung)

Glory to God, glory to God, Glory to the Father.

To God be glory for ever.

Alleluia Amen, Alleluia Amen, Alleluia Amen,

Glory to God, glory to God, Glory to Christ Jesus.

To God be glory for ever.

Alleluia Amen, Alleluia Amen, Alleluia Amen,

Glory to God, glory to God, Glory to the Spirit.

To God be glory for ever.

Alleluia Amen, Alleluia Amen, Alleluia Amen.

A SPECIAL PRAYER FOR CHRISTMAS TIME

A BIBLE READING

at the end the reader says...

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

CAROL

THE CHRISTMAS GOSPEL READING

(please remain standing)

When the Gospel is announced, please sing joyfully 3 times:

Halle Halle Halle lu jah

Halle Halle Halle lu jah

Halle Halle Halle lu jah

Hallelujah, Hallelujah

at the end the reading the Priest will say:

This is the Christmas Gospel

Again, even more joyfully, sing 3 times:

Halle Halle Halle lu jah

Halle Halle Halle lu jah

Halle Halle Halle lu jah

Hallelujah, Hallelujah

THE SERMON

(followed by a short time for silent reflection)

STATEMENT OF FAITH

(Please Stand)

Let us declare our Christian Faith

We believe in God the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named. We believe in God the Son, who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love. We believe in God the Holy Spirit, who strengthens us with power from on high. We believe in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

PRAYERS AT CHRISTMAS

(Please sit or kneel)

THE PEACE

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace on earth to all on whom his favour rests.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

(please pass on Christmas greetings to those around you)

CAROL

(during which a collection is taken for the work of the Church)

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.

PRAYER OF INVITATION

Father God, thank you that you are a gracious, abundant and generous host. Thank you that you became our guest; the creator became: the guest of animals in the stable, the villagers of Bethlehem, the religious leaders in the temple, the prostitutes, drunkards, tax collectors. You became one of us, shared your life with us. You ate the same bread, drank the same wine, all are equal in your presence. You shared stories, shared our story. And when you left the table, you left bread and wine to remember you by, so we join our voices to those of the church on earth and in heaven singing:

Holy, holy, holy Lord

God of all power and might

Heaven and earth are full of your glory

Hosanna in the highest

A Priest blesses the Bread and Wine, recounting the Bible story ...

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

PRAYER OF RECEIVING

The table of Jesus is our place of gathering. Here we are all welcome, wanted, loved. Here there is a place set for all of us. So come if you are thirsty, if you hunger for the bread of life, if your soul is crying out for healing. Come all of you if you are weary, you who are bowed down with worry, all you who ache with the simple tiredness of living. Come also if you are lost, if you are searching for meaning but cannot find it. If you have no place of belonging, come, not because I invite you, but because Jesus invites you. It is His will that those who want him should come and meet with him here.

Please sit or kneel to pray

Let us pray as Jesus as our Saviour has taught us the family prayer:

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.**

**And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass
against us.**

And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.

**For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and
ever.**

Amen

THE BREAKING OF 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.**

Everyone is welcome to receive communion or a simple prayer of blessing

After the choir has sung, we will all sing a Carol.

A PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**God our Father,
whose word has come among us in the Holy child of Bethlehem,
may the light of faith shine in our hearts
and in our words and actions,
through Jesus who is Christ the Lord. Amen**

FINAL CAROL

THE BLESSING

THE DISMISSAL

**Go in the peace of Jesus Christ this Christmas morning
Thanks be to God.**

~ Happy Christmas ~

