

**Morning Service Sunday 13th December
St Michael's Blundellsands**

Carol Oh Come Emanuel

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2rMWSwLAjQ8>

Print off this service sheet then click on the next link and join in with the responses.

<https://youtu.be/XzRQc34aJfY>

Welcome and Notices

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.

Confession

Father eternal, giver of light and grace, we have sinned against you and against our neighbour, in what we have thought, in what we have said and done, through ignorance, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault.

**We have wounded your love and marred your image in us.
We are sorry and ashamed and repent of our sins.**

**For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past and lead us out from darkness to walk as children of light.
Amen.**

Absolution

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.

Lighting the Advent Candles

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned. Isaiah 9v2

Reading: Matthew 1v 18-25

This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

All this took place to fulfil what the Lord had said through the prophet: "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us").

When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Talk by Neil

Prayers

Lord, thank you for the community of St Michaels to which we belong; for its strength and its challenges. Thank you for those who have been alongside us in the struggles of life and especially during this difficult period. Help us to see all people through your loving gaze and to speak of your love beyond these walls to those in our wider community. **Amen**

Lord's 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

St Michael's Prayer for Growth

God of Mission
Who alone brings growth to your Church,
Send your Holy Spirit to give
Vision to our planning,
Wisdom to our actions
And power to our witness.
Help our church to grow in numbers,
In spiritual commitment to you,
And in service to our local community,
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The Peace

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

Music: All to Jesus I surrender

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 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.

**You embraced us as your children
and welcomed us to sit and eat with you.**

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.

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.**

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.

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.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you;
the Lord make his face shine on you
and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace and the blessing of God Almighty, Father Son and Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always
Amen.

Hymn: Here is love, vast as the Ocean

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v8YOPj5TnUM>