

Evening Prayer on Sunday 26th December – Christmas Season

*Welcome, Unmute (*1)*

Preparation

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
on them has light shined. *Isaiah 9.2*

O God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

You laid the foundation of the earth
and the heavens are the work of your hands.

Blessed are you, Sovereign God,
our light and our salvation,
to you be glory and praise for ever.
To dispel the darkness of our night
you sent forth your Son, the firstborn of all creation, to
be the Christ, the light of the world.
Rejoicing in the mystery of the Word made flesh, we
acclaim him Emmanuel, as all creation sings to you:
Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Blessed be God for ever.

Confession

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

You were born for our salvation:
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

You came as Saviour to bring wholeness
and peace:
Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

You come to bring light into the darkness
of our lives:
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Absolution

May the God of all healing and forgiveness
draw *us* to himself and cleanse *us* from
all *our* sins, that *we* may behold the glory
of his Son, the Word made flesh,
Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Word of God

Psalms 123, 128

Isaiah 49: 14-25

Canticle

**Christ is the image of the invisible God,
the firstborn of all creation.**

1 The Father has delivered us from the dominion of
darkness, ♦
and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son;

2 In whom we have redemption, ♦
the forgiveness of our sins.

3 He is the image of the invisible God, ♦
the firstborn of all creation.

4 For in him all things were created, ♦
in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible.

5 All things were created through him and for him, ♦
he is before all things and in him all things hold together.

6 He is the head of the body, the Church, ♦
he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead.

7 In him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell; ♦
and through him God was pleased to reconcile all things.

**Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

**Christ is the image of the invisible God,
the firstborn of all creation.**

Mark 10:13-16

Responsory

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us,
full of grace and truth.

**The Word became flesh and dwelt among us,
full of grace and truth.**

And we have seen his glory,
the glory as of a father's only son,

full of grace and truth.

Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit.

**The Word became flesh and dwelt among us,
full of grace and truth.** *from John 1*

The Magnificat

1 My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit
rejoices in God my Saviour; ♦
he has looked with favour on his lowly servant.

**2 From this day all generations will call me blessed; ♦
the Almighty has done great things for me and holy is
his name.**

3 He has mercy on those who fear him, ♦
from generation to generation.

**4 He has shown strength with his arm ♦
and has scattered the proud in their conceit,**

5 Casting down the mighty from their thrones ♦ and
lifting up the lowly.

**6 He has filled the hungry with good things ♦
and sent the rich away empty.**

7 He has come to the aid of his servant Israel, ♦ to
remember his promise of mercy,

**8 The promise made to our ancestors, ♦
to Abraham and his children for ever.**

**Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

Affirmation of Faith

Let us declare our faith in God:

**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

God in your mercy: **Hear our prayer**

The Lord's Prayer

Rejoicing in the presence of God here among us,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us
**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 prayer of Christ the King

**Christ Our King
Fill us with your love
that we may gladly speak for you,
work for you and live our whole life for you
until all join with us in endless praise of you. Amen**

The Collect

Heavenly Father,
whose children suffered at the hands of Herod,
though they had done no wrong:
by the suffering of your Son
and by the innocence of our lives
frustrate all evil designs
and establish your reign of justice and peace;
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.

Reflection

The Conclusion

Father of all,
you have given us your Son to be the Saviour of the
world. Welcome us your children into your kingdom to
enjoy your presence for ever.
Amen.

Notices

Lines are unmuted (*1)

The Grace

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with us all, evermore. Amen.**