All Saints' Church Parish of Sanderstead and Hamsey Green

O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord!



CAROLS AND COMMUNION for Christmas Day 2021, 9.30am

Welcome to all, with an invitation to wonder and worship God. He loved the world so much that he gave his only Son to be born for us.

If you need a gluten-free Communion wafer, speak to one of the stewards.

Collection

The collection today will be split equally between Croydon Refugee Day Centre, Charity No.1064465 and Growbaby, Charity No 1176660.

LIGHTING THE ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS CANDLES

After counting the weeks of Advent we have come to Christmas Day.

"The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness – on them light has shined." (Isaiah 9:2)

The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John 1:14)

O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL, joyful and triumphant, O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem; Come and behold Him, born the King of angels;

O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

God of God, light of light, Lo, He abhors not the virgin's womb; Very God, begotten, not created:

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation, Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above; Glory to God in the highest:

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning, Jesus, to Thee be glory given; Word of the Father now in flesh appearing:

Tr. Frederick Oakeley, altd.

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

Prayers of Penitence:

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

Lord, have mercy.

May almighty God, who loved the world so much that He sent His Son to be our Saviour, forgive you your sins, bring you His pardon and peace, and make you holy to serve Him in the world. **Amen.**

Glory to God in the highest and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us. You are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord. You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen

We say together the special prayer (the 'Collect') for today

Let us pray in the peace of this Christmas celebration that our joy in the birth of Christ will last forever.

Lord Jesus Christ, your birth at Bethlehem draws us to kneel in wonder at heaven touching earth; accept our heartfelt praise, as we worship you, our Saviour and our eternal God. Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word



The Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 9:2-7

² The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.

³ You have enlarged the nation and increased their joy; they rejoice before you as people rejoice at the harvest, as warriors rejoice when dividing the plunder.

⁴ For as in the day of Midian's defeat, you have shattered the yoke that burdens them, the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor.

⁵ Every warrior's boot used in battle and every garment rolled in blood

will be destined for burning, will be fuel for the fire.

⁶ For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders.

And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,

Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

⁷ Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end.

He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever.

The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.

This is the Word of the Lord **Thanks be to God**

The Epistle: Titus 2:11-14

¹¹ For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. ¹² It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, ¹³ while we wait for the blessed hope—the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, ¹⁴ who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.

This is the Word of the Lord Thanks be to God

Gospel Reading: Luke 2:1-20



Today Christ is born: **Alleluia** Today the Saviour has come: **Alleluia** Today the angels sing on earth: **Alleluia. Glory to God in the highest.**

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

2 In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. ² (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) ³ And everyone went to their own town to register.

⁴ So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. ⁵ He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, ⁷ and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

⁸ And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹ An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. ¹¹ Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

¹³ Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest heaven,

and on earth peace to those on whom his favour rests."

¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

¹⁶ So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this

child, ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

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

Sermon



Apostles' Creed

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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

Father, there was no room for your Son in the inn. Protect with your love those who have no home and all who live in poverty.

Holy God, hear our prayer.

Mary, in the pain of labour, brought your Son to birth. Hold in your hand all who are in pain or distress. Holy God, **hear our prayer**.

Christ came as a light shining in the darkness. Bring comfort to all who suffer in the sadness of our world. Holy God, **hear our prayer.**

The angels sang, 'Peace to God's people on earth.' Strengthen those who work for peace and justice in all the world. Holy God, **hear our prayer**.

Shepherds in the field heard good tidings of joy. Give us grace to preach the gospel of Christ's redemption. Holy God, **hear our prayer**.

Today, Christians the world over celebrate Christ's birth. Open our hearts that he may be born in us today. Holy God, **hear our prayer**.

Father, angels and shepherds worshipped at the manger throne. Receive the worship we offer, through him who is your Word made flesh, our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Sacrament



The priest greets the people in peace

This day heaven comes down; we are one with our God; the Word is made flesh and dwells among us. The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

The Communion Table is prepared.

Carol: See amid the winter's snow

SEE AMID THE WINTER'S SNOW

Born for us on earth below, See, the tender Lamb appears, Promised from eternal years.

> *Hail, thou ever-blessed morn! Hail, redemption's happy dawn! Sing through all Jerusalem, Christ is born in Bethlehem!*

Lo, within a manger lies He who built the starry skies, He who, throned in height sublime, Sits amid the cherubim.

Say, ye holy shepherds, say, What your joyful news today; Wherefore have ye left your sheep On the lonely mountain steep?

'As we watched at dead of night, Lo, we saw a wondrous light: Angels singing peace on earth, Told us of the Saviour's birth.'

Sacred infant, all divine, What a tender love was thine, Thus to come from highest bliss Down to such a world as this!

Edward Caswall (1814-1878)

The Lord be with you. And also with you. 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 on 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 voices 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.

Let us pray

As our Saviour 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.

The priest breaks the consecrated bread

We break the bread of life, and that life is the light of the world God here among us, light in the midst of us, bring us to light and life.

The Invitation

Christ is the true bread which has come down from heaven. Lord, give us this bread always.

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.

The Holy Communion is distributed.

Everyone is invited. All who receive Holy Communion in their own churches are welcome. The stewards will guide you. If you do not wish to receive Communion bow your head for a prayer of blessing. If you would prefer to partake in just one form - a wafer - please indicate by saying "one" to the Priest. If you would like both bread and wine please say "both" and the Priest will then dip your wafer in the wine and place it in your hands.

When receiving communion, it is customary to say 'Amen' as you receive the elements.

Time of Quiet

Prayer after Communion

God our Father, whose Word has come among us in the Holy Child of Bethlehem; may the light of faith illuminate our hearts and shine in our words and deeds; through him who is Christ the Lord. Amen

Prayer of God's Blessing

May the joy of the angels be yours, the eagerness of the shepherds be yours, the perseverance of the wise men be yours, the obedience of Mary and Joseph be yours, and the peace of the Christ child be yours this Christmas time.

And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.** Closing Carol: Hark the herald angels sing



HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING

'Glory to the new-born King! Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!' Joyful, all ye nations rise, Join the triumph of the skies, With the angelic host proclaim, 'Christ is born in Bethlehem.'

Hark! the herald angels sing: 'Glory to the new-born King!'

Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord, Late in time behold Him come, Offspring of a virgin's womb. Veiled in flesh the Godhead see! Hail the incarnate Deity! Pleased as man with man to dwell, Jesus, our Immanuel.

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of righteousness! Light and life to all He brings, Risen with healing in His wings, Mild, He lays His glory by; Born that man no more may die; Born to raise the sons of earth; Born to give them second birth.

Charles Wesley (1707-1788), George Whitefield (1714-1770), Martin Madan (1726-1790)

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. In the name of Christ. Amen.

Voluntary: Renaissance Rondel - Andrew Fletcher

Remember the cash collection for Growbaby and Refugee Centre.

A very blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year to all!



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