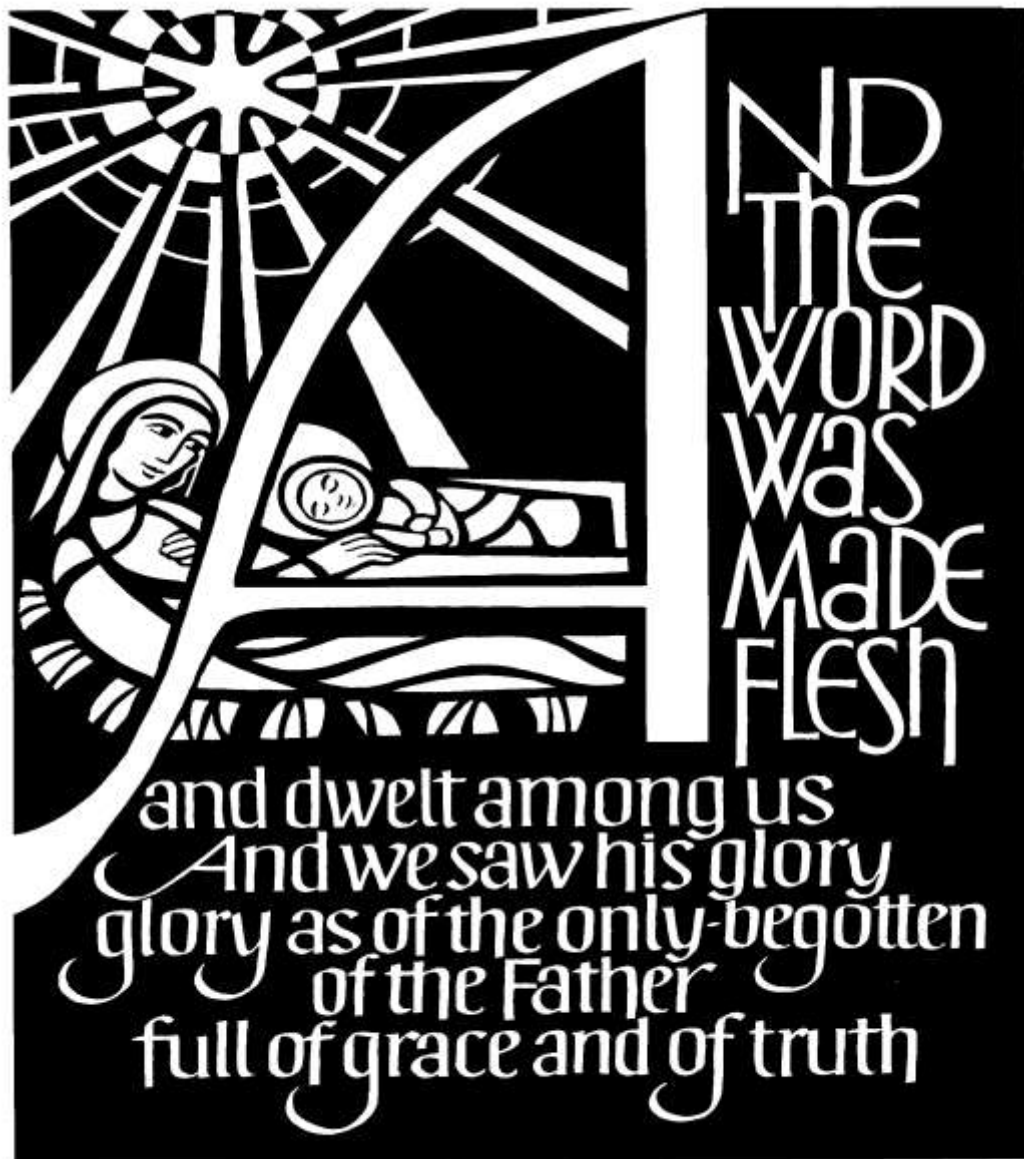


The Parish Church of St George the Martyr,
Waterlooville



The Eucharist for Christmas Morning

INTROIT CAROL:

INTRODUCTION AND GREETING

Priest: I bring you good news of great joy
a Saviour has been born to you. Alleluia!

People: Unto us a child is born, a son is given. Alleluia!

Priest: Hear the words of St. Luke:

When the angels had gone from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another: 'Let us go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened which the Lord has made known to us.' So they hastened, and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger.

He is the Christ the Lord, Alleluia!

People: We worship and adore him, Alleluia!

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Each candle reminds us of those who prepared for the coming of Christ:

Week 1: The Patriarchs

Week 2: The Prophets

Week 3: John the Baptist

Week 4: The Virgin Mary

Week 5: The Christ Child.

Each week we begin by singing the appropriate verse(s) of the Advent wreath hymn (week 1 verse 1; week 2 verses 1 and 2 etc). The candle is then lit and an appropriate prayer is said:

The Advent wreath hymn (NEH tune 336)

Advent 1

Advent candles tell their story
as we watch and pray,
longing for the Day of Glory,
'Come, Lord, soon,' we say.
Pain and sorrow, tears and sadness
changed for gladness
on that Day.

Advent 2

Prophet voices loudly crying,
making pathways clear;
glimpsing glory, self-denying,
calling all to hear.
Through their message - challenged, shaken –
hearts awaken:
God is near!

Advent 3

John the Baptist, by his preaching
and by water poured,
brought to those who heard his teaching
news of hope restored:
'Keep your vision strong and steady,
and be ready
for the Lord.'

Advent 4

Mary's gift, beyond all telling,
was to give Christ room.

She gave God a human dwelling in a mother's womb.
Who could guess the final story?
– cross and glory;
empty tomb!

-3-

Christmas Day

Advent candles tell their story
on this Christmas Day.
Those who waited for God's glory:
they prepared the way.
Christ is with us: loving, giving,
in us living,
here today!

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PRAYERS OF PENITENCE

Priest: As we stand with the shepherds before the newborn Christ child, we open our hearts in penitence and faith.

A brief period of silence is kept.

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

May Almighty God, who sent his Son into the world to save sinners, bring you his pardon and peace, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE GLORIA (This or an alternative version is used)

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.

THE OPENING PRAYER

Let us pray in the peace of this Christmas celebration that our joy in the birth of Christ will last for ever/

All praise to you,
Almighty God and heavenly king,
who sent your Son into the world
to take our nature upon him, and to be born of a pure virgin.
Grant that, as we are born again in him,

so he may continually dwell in us
and reign on earth as he reigns in heaven
with you and the Holy Spirit,
now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

All sit for the readings and psalm (on the separate sheet)

At the end of each reading the reader says:
This is the word of the Lord.
To which all reply:
Thanks be to God.

We stand for the Gospel Acclamation and the reading of the Gospel

We sing an 'Alleluia' acclamation

Deacon/priest: The Lord be with you

All: And also with you

Deacon/priest: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to *N*

All: Glory to you O Lord

At the end of the Gospel

Deacon/priest: This is the Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you O Christ

We sing the 'Alleluia' acclamation once more

At the end of the Gospel

All sit for the Homily

We stand and say the Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the
dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and
glorified,**

who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Response to 'Lord in your mercy': 'Hear our prayer'.

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

We Stand for THE PEACE

Priest: Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and his name is called the Prince of Peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Deacon/Priest: Let us offer each other a sign of peace

OFFERTORY CAROL

