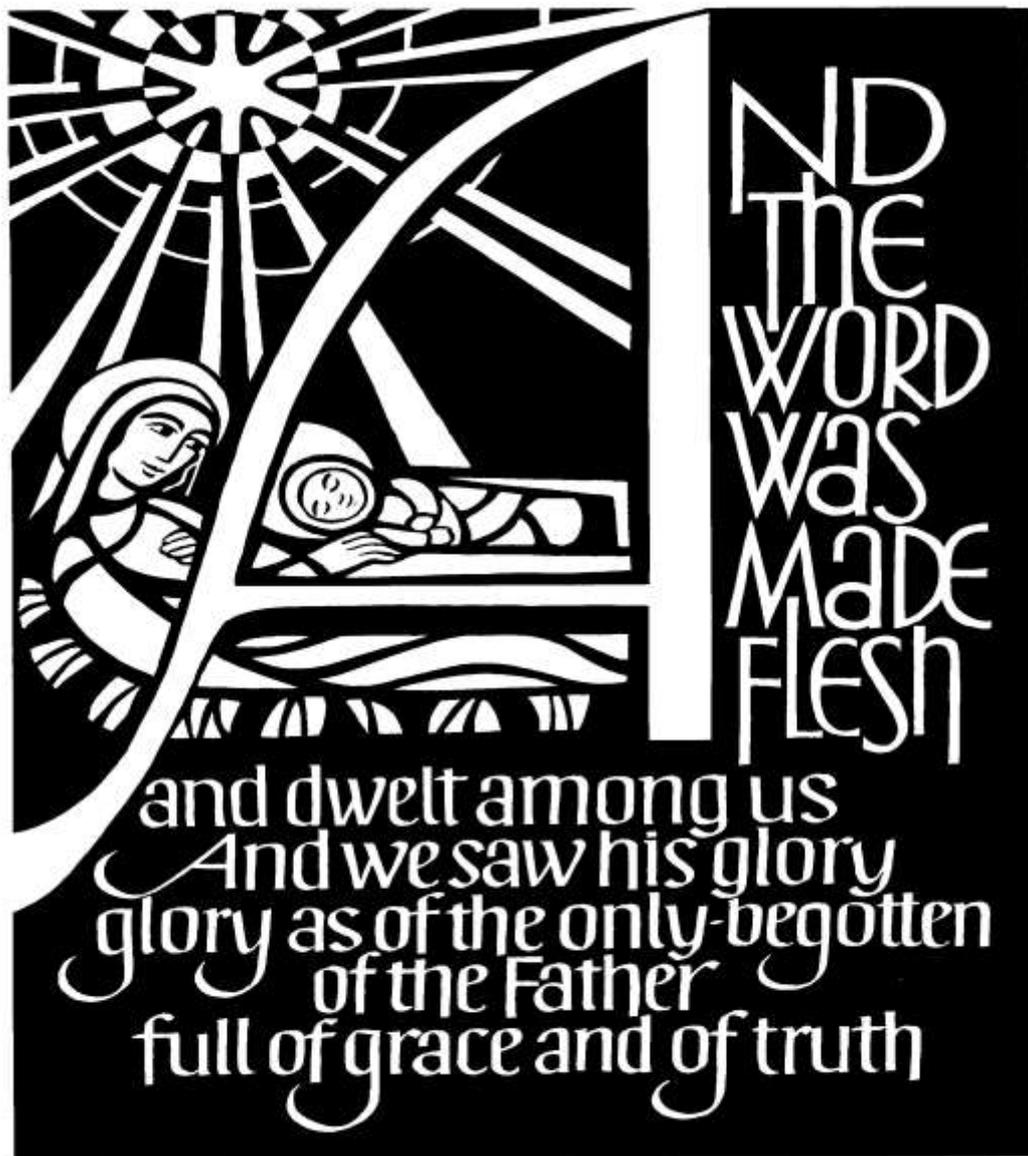


The Parish Church of St George the Martyr,  
Waterlooville



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

## THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

At the Offering of the gifts:

**Priest:** Blest are you, Lord, God of all creation, thanks to your goodness this bread we offer. Fruit of the earth, work of our hands, it will become the bread of life.

**People:** Blessed be God! Blessed be God! Blessed be God forever, Amen, Blessed be God! Blessed be God! Blessed be God forever, Amen.

**Priest:** Blest are you, Lord, God of all creation, thanks to your goodness this wine we offer, Fruit of the vine, work of our hands, it will become the cup of life.

**People:** Blessed be God! Blessed be God! Blessed be God forever, Amen, Blessed be God! Blessed be God! Blessed be God forever, Amen.

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.**

Father, we give you thanks and praise  
through your beloved Son Jesus Christ, your  
living word, through whom you have created all things;  
who was sent by you in your great goodness to be our Saviour.

By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh;  
as your Son, born of the blessed Virgin,  
he lived on earth and went about among us;

he opened wide his arms for us on the cross;  
he put an end to death by dying for us;  
and revealed the resurrection by rising to new life;  
so he fulfilled your will and won for you a holy people.

And now we give you thanks  
because in the incarnation of the Word  
a new light has dawned upon the world;  
you have become one with us  
that we might become one with you  
in your glorious kingdom.

Therefore with angels and archangels,  
and with all the company of heaven,  
we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and  
singing:

***Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.***

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;  
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,  
and according to your holy will,  
these gifts of bread and wine  
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;  
who, in the same night that he was betrayed,  
took bread and gave you thanks;  
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper  
he took the cup and gave you thanks;  
he gave it to them, saying:

Drink this, all of you;  
this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it,  
in remembrance of me.

Great is the mystery of Faith:

All:     **Christ has died:**  
          **Christ is risen:**  
          **Christ will come again.**

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,  
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world;  
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,  
and looking for his coming in glory,  
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,  
we bring before you this bread and this cup  
and we thank you for counting us worthy  
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people  
and gather into one in your kingdom  
all who share this one bread and one cup,  
so that we, in the company of the Blessed Virgin Mary, St George,  
and all the saints,  
may praise and glorify you for ever,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,  
for ever and ever.

**People:   Amen.**

*Please kneel or be seated*

*THE LORD'S PRAYER*

Let us pray for the coming of the Kingdom in the words our Saviour gave us:

**All: 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 Priest breaks the consecrated bread.*

We break this bread  
to share in the body of Christ.

**All Though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.**

*The Agnus Dei is sung*

**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**

**Priest:** Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away  
the sin of the world.  
blessed are those who are called to his supper.

**All:** **Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
But only say the word and I shall be healed**

*The Church of England welcomes to Holy Communion baptized and communicant members of other Trinitarian churches. Others, including those prevented by conscience or the rules of their own church from receiving Holy Communion are invited to come forward for a blessing. Please keep your hands together and your head bowed to indicate your wish to receive a blessing. During the Communion, members of the congregation are asked to leave their places as directed by a sidesperson.*

*POST COMMUNION CAROL:*

*Please remain standing*

**CONCLUSION**

*Post-Communion prayer*

Gracious Father,  
our eyes have seen the King in his beauty;  
by this living bread and saving cup  
let his likeness be formed in us  
and grow until the end of time;  
through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## ***THE BLESSING***

**Priest:** The Lord be with you.

**People: and also with you**

**Priest:** May the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the perseverance of the wise men, the obedience of Joseph and Mary, and the peace of the Christ-child be yours this Christmas

And the blessing of God Almighty ....

Deacon/Priest: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**People: In the name of Christ. Amen.**

## ***The RECESSIONAL CAROL***

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