

## Prayer after Communion

*stand*

Grant, O merciful God,  
that, just as the Saviour of the world, born this day,  
is the author of divine generation for us,  
so he may be the giver even of immortality.  
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## Solemn Blessing and Dismissal *stand and bow your head*

The Lord be with you.

**All And with thy spirit.**

May the God of infinite goodness,  
who by the Incarnation of his Son has driven darkness  
from the world  
at by that glorious birth has illumined this most holy night,  
drive far from you the darkness of vice  
and illumine your hearts with the light of virtue. **Amen.**

May God, who willed that the great joy of his Son's saving  
birth be announced to shepherds by the Angel,  
fill your minds with the gladness he gives  
and make you heralds of his Gospel. **Amen.**

And may God, who by the Incarnation  
brought together the earthly and heavenly realm,  
fill you with the gift of his peace and favour  
and make you sharers with the Church in heaven. **Amen.**

And may the blessing of almighty God,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
come down on you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

The Mass is ended.

Go in the peace of Christ.

**All Thanks be to God.**

## Final Hymn

*stand*

*hymnbook* 24 Hark! the herald angels sing

*There is the opportunity to donate to the ongoing work  
of the church on a plate by the door.*

*If you would prefer to donate by BACS (online),  
the account for St John's Bathwick  
(Nat West Bank) is 50935607  
and the sort code is 600205.*

*Many thanks for your generosity*

**Thank you for joining us for worship this morning.**

**Please take this service-sheet and the weekly notice-  
sheet home with you to inform your prayer and  
reflection during the coming week.**

***The Clergy and Church Officers  
of St John's Bathwick  
wish you all a Peaceful and Blessed  
Christmas and New Year***

## The Parish Church of St John the Baptist, Bathwick

25 December 2022

### Mass of Christmas morning



Federico Barocci (1535-1612), *The Nativity* (1597)

## THE MEMORIAL OF THE INCARNATION

*The Angelus is said before Mass*

Priest The Angel of the Lord brought tidings to Mary.

**All And she conceived by the Holy Ghost.**

Priest Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee:  
blessed art thou among women,  
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

**All Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners,  
now and at the hour of our death.**

Priest Behold the handmaid of the Lord.

**All Be it unto me according to thy word.**

Priest Hail Mary, etc

Priest And the Word was made flesh.

**All And dwelt among us.**

Priest Hail Mary, etc

Priest Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God.

**All That we may be made worthy  
of the promises of Christ.**

Priest Let us pray.

We beseech thee, O Lord, pour thy grace into our  
hearts: that, as we have known the Incarnation of  
thy Son, Jesus Christ, by the message of an angel,  
so by his cross and passion we may be brought to  
the glory of his resurrection.

Through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## THE MASS

**Opening Hymn** *stand as the bell rings*  
*hymnbook 30* While shepherds watched their flocks by night

### Welcome and Introduction

✠ In the name of the Father, and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Lord be with you.

**All** And with thy spirit.

### Invitation to confession

*The priest uses this or another similar invitation to confession:*

Christ the Light of the World has come  
to dispel the darkness of our hearts.  
In his light let us examine ourselves and confess our sins.

**All** Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
we have sinned against thee,  
through our own fault,  
in thought and word and deed,  
and in what we have left undone.  
We are heartily sorry,  
and repent of all our sins.  
For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ,  
who died for us,  
forgive us all that is past:  
and grant that we may serve thee  
in newness of life,  
to the glory of thy name. **Amen.**

**Kyrie eleison.** *Lord, have mercy.*

**Christe eleison.** *Christ, have mercy.*

**Kyrie eleison.** *Lord, have mercy.*

*The celebrant proclaims God's forgiveness in these or similar words:*

May almighty God have mercy upon us,  
forgive us our sins,  
and bring us to everlasting life. **Amen.**

### Gloria in excelsis

**All** 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 Lord's Prayer

*The priest introduces the Lord's Prayer in these or similar words:*

Let us pray with confidence to the Father 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.

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil,  
graciously grant us peace in our days,  
that, by the help of your mercy,  
we may be always free from sin and safe from all  
distress, as we await the blessed hope  
and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

**All** For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are  
yours, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### Breaking of the Bread

*The priest breaks the consecrated bread, saying*

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.

### Agnus Dei

**All** Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the  
world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the  
world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the  
world; Grant us peace.

### Invitation to Communion

*The priest invites us to receive the communion of Jesus' body and blood:*

Behold the Lamb of God,  
behold him that takest away the sin of the world.  
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

**All** Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldst  
come under my roof: but speak the word only,  
and my soul shall be healed.

### Distribution of Holy Communion

*All who are baptized are welcome to receive the consecrated bread and  
wine or to come to the altar rail for a blessing.*

*If you would prefer a blessing, please hold a copy of this service paper as  
a sign that this is your preference.*

In response to the words 'The Body of Christ' and  
'The Blood of Christ' the communicant replies **Amen.**

*Worshippers are reminded that the entirety  
of the sacrament is received when only the Blessed  
Sacrament (the consecrated bread) is consumed –  
please refrain from receiving the Precious Blood  
if suffering from cold/flu symptoms  
or if anxious about Covid or other infectious diseases*

## Prayers of the Faithful

*sit*

*The prayers are introduced by the priest*

*One of these responses may be used*

Lord, in thy mercy. (or) Lord, hear us.

**All** hear our prayer. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

*And at the end*

Merciful Father,

**All** accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

## THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

### The Peace

*stand*

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

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**All** and with thy spirit.

### Offertory Hymn

*The gifts of the people are gathered and presented at the altar  
whilst a hymn is sung.*

*card 12* Unto us a boy is born

### Prayer over the Gifts

Pray, my brothers and sisters, that our sacrifice  
may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

**All** May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands,  
for the praise and glory of his name,  
for our good, and the good of all his holy Church.

Make acceptable, O Lord, our oblation on this solemn day,  
when you manifested the reconciliation  
that makes us wholly pleasing in your sight  
and inaugurated for us the fullness of divine worship.  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### The Eucharistic Prayer

Priest The Lord be with you

**All** and with thy spirit.

Priest Lift up your hearts.

**All** We lift them up unto the Lord.

Priest Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All** It is meet and right so to do.

*The priest praises God for his mighty acts and we respond:*

**All** 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.

*kneel as the bell rings*

*The priest recalls Jesus' words at the Last Supper, and this  
acclamation is used*

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

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

*The prayer of consecration ends:*

...for ever and ever. Amen.

## The Collect

*the prayer of the day*

*The priest introduces a period of silent prayer with the words*

*'Let us pray' or a more specific bidding.*

O God, who wonderfully created the dignity  
of human nature  
and still more wonderfully restored it,  
grant, we pray, that we may share in the divinity of Christ,  
who humbled himself to share in our humanity.  
Who lives and reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

*sit as we listen to the scriptures of the day*

### First Reading

*Isaiah 52:7-10*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

How beautiful on the mountains,  
are the feet of one who brings good news,  
who heralds peace, brings happiness, proclaims salvation,  
and tells Zion, 'Your God is King!'

Listen! Your watchmen raise their voices,  
they shout for joy together,  
for they see the Lord face to face,  
as he returns to Zion.

Break into shouts together, you ruins of Jerusalem;  
for the Lord is consoling his people, redeeming  
Jerusalem.

The Lord bares his holy arm  
in the sight of all the nations,  
and all the ends of the earth shall see  
the salvation of our God.

This is the word of the Lord.

**All** Thanks be to God.

### Psalm

*verses from Psalm 98*

R/ **All the ends of the earth have seen  
the salvation of our God.**

- 1 Sing a new song to the Lord  
for he has worked wonder.  
His right hand and his holy arm  
have brought salvation. R/
- 2 The Lord has made known his salvation;  
has showed his justice to the nations.  
He has remembered his truth and love  
for the house of Israel. R/
- 3 All the ends of the earth have seen  
the salvation of our God.  
Shout to the Lord, all the earth,  
ring out your joy! R/
- 4 Sing psalms to the Lord with the harp,  
with the sound of music.  
With trumpets and the sound of the horn  
acclaim the King, the Lord. R/

## Epistle Reading

*Hebrews 1:1-6*

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

At various times in the past and in various different ways, God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets; but in our own time, the last days, he has spoken to us through his Son, the Son that he has appointed to inherit everything and through whom he made everything there is. He is the radiant light of God's glory and the perfect copy of his nature, sustaining the universe by his powerful command; and now that he has destroyed the defilement of sin, he has gone to take his place in heaven at the right hand of divine Majesty. So he is now as far above the angels as the title that he has inherited is higher than their own name.

God has never said to any angel, 'You are my Son, today I have become your father,' or, 'I will be a father to him and he a son to me.' Again, when he brings the First-born into the world, he says: 'Let all the angels of God worship him.'

This is the word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Acclamation

*stand*

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

A hallowed day has *dawned* upon us:  
Come, you nations, worship the Lord,

for today a great light has shone down *upon* the earth.

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

## Gospel Reading

*John 1:1-14*

The Lord be with you.

**All And with thy spirit.**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

**All Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

In the beginning was the Word:

the Word was with God and the Word was God.

He was with God in the beginning.

Through him all things came to be,

not one thing had its being but through him.

All that came to be had life in him

and that light was the light of men,

a light that shines in the dark,

a light that darkness could not overpower.

A man came, sent by God:

his name was John.

he came as a witness,

as a witness to speak for the light,

so that everyone might believe through him.

He was not the light,

only a witness to speak for the light.

The Word was the true light

that enlightens all men;

and he was coming into the world.

He was in the world that had its being through him,

and the world did not know him.

He came to his own domain

and his own people did not accept him.

But to all who did accept him

he gave power to become children of God,

to all who believe in the name of him

who was born not out of human stock

or urge of the flesh or will of man

but of God himself.

The Word was made flesh and lived among us,

and we saw his glory,

the glory that is his as the only Son of the Father,

full of grace and truth.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**All Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

## Sermon

*sit*

## The Creed

*stand*

**All I believe in one God, the Father almighty,**

**maker of heaven and earth,**

**and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord, Jesus Christ,**

**the only-begotten Son of God.**

**Begotten of the Father before all worlds.**

**God of God, light of light,**

**very God of very God.**

**Begotten, not made,**

**being of one substance with the Father:**

**by whom all things were made.**

**Who for us men, and for our salvation came**

**down from heaven.**

**And was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the**

**Virgin Mary: and was made man.**

**And was crucified also for us, under Pontius**

**Pilate, he suffered and was buried.**

**And the third day he rose again,**

**according to the scriptures.**

**And ascended into heaven:**

**and sitteth on the right hand of the Father.**

**And he shall come again with glory to judge**

**both the quick and the dead:**

**whose kingdom shall have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Ghost,**

**the Lord the giver of life:**

**who proceedeth from the Father and the Son.**

**Who with the Father and the Son together**

**is worshipped and glorified:**

**who spake by the prophets.**

**And I believe one holy, catholic and apostolic**

**church.**

**I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of**

**sins.**

**And I look for the resurrection of the dead.**

**And the life of the world to come. Amen.**