

Welcome

Worship in Song

In the bleak midwinter frosty wind made moan
Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone
Snow had fallen snow on snow, snow on snow
In the bleak midwinter long ago

Our God heaven cannot hold him, nor earth sustain
Heaven and earth shall flee away when he
comes to reign

In the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed
The Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ

Angels and archangels, may have gathered there
Cherubim and seraphim thronged the air
But his mother only in her maiden bliss
Worshipped the Belovèd, with a kiss

What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb
If I were a wise man, I would do my part
Yet what can I give him, give my heart

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.

Lord of grace and truth, we confess our unworthiness to
stand in your presence as your children.

We have sinned; forgive and heal us.

The Virgin Mary accepted your call to be the mother
of Jesus. Forgive our disobedience to your will.

We have sinned; forgive and heal us.

Your Son our Saviour was born in poverty in a manger.
Forgive our greed and rejection of your ways.

We have sinned; forgive and heal us.

The shepherds left their flocks to go to Bethlehem.
Forgive our self-interest and lack of vision.

We have sinned; forgive and heal us.

The wise men followed the star to find Jesus
the King. Forgive our reluctance to seek you.

We have sinned; forgive and heal us.

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.**

Prayer for Today

Almighty God, who wonderfully created us in
your own image and yet more wonderfully
restored us through your Son Jesus Christ:
grant that, as he came to share in our
humanity, so we may share the life of his
divinity; who is alive and reigns with you, in the
unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for
ever. **Amen.**

Bible Reading

Luke 2.41-52 (*New Testament p858*)

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ

Sermon

Worship in Song

Silent night holy night
All is calm all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and child
Holy infant so tender and mild
Sleep in heavenly peace
Sleep in heavenly peace

Silent night holy night
Shepherds quake at the sight
Glories stream from heaven afar
Heavenly hosts sing 'Alleluia'
Christ the Saviour is born
Christ the Saviour is born

Silent night holy night
Son of God love's pure light

Radiant beams from thy holy face
With the dawn of redeeming grace
Jesus Lord at thy birth
Jesus Lord at thy birth

Silent night holy night
Wondrous star lend thy light
With the angels let us sing
Alleluia to our King
Christ the Saviour is born
Christ the Saviour is born

Affirmation of Faith

Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of God:
Though he was divine, he did not cling to equality with God, but made himself nothing. Taking the form of a slave, he was born in human likeness. He humbled himself and was obedient to death, even the death of the cross. Therefore God has raised him on high, and given him the name above every name: that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, and every voice proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Prayers

At the end: Merciful Father,
accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Peace

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
and also with you.

Worship in Song

Joy to the world the Lord is come
Let earth receive her King
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room
And heav'n and nature sing
And heav'n and nature sing
And heav'n and heav'n and nature sing

Joy to the earth the Saviour reigns
Let men their songs employ
While fields and floods
Rocks hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat repeat the sounding joy

He rules the world with truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness
And wonders of his love
And wonders of his love
And wonders wonders of his love

Offertory Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, for our sake you became poor. May our lives and gifts enrich the life of your world. Amen.

The Eucharistic Prayer

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

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere, mighty creator, ever-living God. We give you thanks and praise for your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, who for love of our fallen race humbled himself, was born of the Virgin Mary by the power of your Spirit, and lived as one of us.

In this mystery of the Word made flesh you have caused his light to shine in our hearts, to give knowledge of your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. In him we see our God made visible and so are caught up in the love of the God we cannot see. Therefore with all the angels of heaven we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and saying:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Accept our praises, heavenly Father, through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, and as we follow his example and obey his command, grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these gifts of bread and wine may be to us his body and his blood;

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.

Therefore, heavenly Father, we remember his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross; we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; we look for the coming of your kingdom, and with this bread and this cup we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Great is the mystery of faith:
**Christ has died. Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

Accept through him, our great high priest, this our sacrifice of thanks and praise, and as we eat and drink these holy gifts in the presence of your divine majesty, renew us by your Spirit, inspire us with your love and unite us in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

Blessing and honour and glory and power be yours for ever and ever. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Breaking of the Bread

Every time we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Giving of Communion

Draw near with faith. Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you. Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

We receive communion

Worship in Song

From the squalor of a borrowed stable
By the Spirit and a virgin's faith
To the anguish and the shame of scandal
Came the Saviour of the human race
But the skies were filled with the praise of heaven
Shepherds listen as the angels tell
Of the gift of God come down to man
At the dawning of Immanuel

King of heaven now the friend of sinners
Humble servant in the Father's hands
Filled with power and the Holy Spirit
Filled with mercy for the broken man
Yes He walked my road and He felt my pain
Joys and sorrows that I know so well
Yet His righteous steps give me hope again
I will follow my Immanuel

Through the kisses of a friend's betrayal
He was lifted on a cruel cross
He was punished for a world's transgressions
He was suffering to save the lost
He fights for breath He fights for me
Loosing sinners from the claims of hell
And with a shout our souls are free
Death defeated by Immanuel

Now He's standing in the place of honour
Crowned with glory on the highest throne
Interceding for His own beloved
'Til His Father calls to bring them home
Then the skies will part as the trumpet sounds
Hope of heaven or the fear of hell
But the bride will run to her Lover's arms
Giving glory to Immanuel

Prayer after Communion

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son shared at
Nazareth the life of an earthly home: help your
Church to live as one family, united in love and
obedience, and bring us all at last to our home
in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Worship in Song

Angels from the realms of glory,
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Ye who sang creation's story,
Now proclaim Messiah's birth!

Come and worship,
Christ the new-born King:
Come and worship,
Worship Christ the new-born King.

Shepherds in the fields abiding,
Watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with man is now residing:
Yonder shines the infant light!

Wise men, leave your contemplations!
Brighter visions beam afar;
Seek the great 'Desire of nations'
Ye have seen his natal star.

Saints, before the altar bending,
Watching long in hope and fear,
Suddenly the Lord, descending,
In his temple shall appear.

Blessing

The joy of the angels, the wonder of the
shepherds, and the peace of the Christ child, fill
your hearts this Christmas time; and the
blessing of God, the Father, God the Son and
God the Holy Spirit, be with you now and
always. **Amen. Amen.**

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