

Welcome

Lighting of Advent Candles

Worship in Song

Amazing grace how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost but now I'm found
Was blind but now I see

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed

My chains are gone I've been set free
My God my Saviour has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy rains
Unending love amazing grace

The Lord has promised good to me
His word my hope secures
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow
The sun forbear to shine
But God who called me here below
Will be forever mine
Will be forever mine
You are forever mine

Saying Sorry

God of mercy, we acknowledge that we are sinners.
We turn from the wrong that we have thought and
said and done, and are mindful of all that we have
failed to do. For the sake of Jesus, who died for us,
forgive us for all that is past, and help us to live each
day in the light of Christ our Lord. Amen.

The almighty and merciful Lord grant you
pardon and forgiveness of all your sins, time
for amendment of life, and the grace and
strength of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Special Prayer for Today

God for whom we watch and wait, you sent John the
Baptist to prepare the way of your Son: give us courage
to speak the truth, to hunger for justice, and to suffer
for the cause of right, with Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Bible Reading

Isaiah 35:1-10 (*Bible page 595*)

Sermon

Worship in Song

In Christ alone my hope is found,
He is my light, my strength, my song;
This cornerstone, this solid ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease
My comforter, my all in all,
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone who took on flesh,
Fullness of God in helpless babe.
This gift of love and righteousness,
Scorned by the ones he came to save:
Till on that cross as Jesus died,
The wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on him was laid;
Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground his body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain:
Then bursting forth in glorious day
Up from the grave he rose again.
And as he stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
For I am his and he is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death,
This is the power of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man,
Can ever pluck me from his hand;
Till he returns or calls me home,
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

The Marriage

Worship in Song

The Lord's my Shepherd I'll not want
He makes me lie in pastures green
He leads me by the still still waters
His goodness restores my soul

And I will trust in you alone
And I will trust in you alone
For your endless mercy follows me
Your goodness will lead me home

He guides my ways in righteousness
And he anoints my head with oil
And my cup it overflows with joy
I feast on his pure delights

And though I walk the darkest path
I will not fear the evil one
For you are with me and your rod and staff
Are the comfort I need to know

The Liturgy of Baptism

Presentation of Candidates

Faith is the gift of God to his people. In baptism the Lord is adding to our number those whom he is calling.

People of God, will you welcome N & N and uphold them in their new life in Christ?
With the help of God, we will.

Parents and godparents, the Church receives N & N with joy. Today we are trusting God for their growth in faith. Will you pray for them, draw them by your example into the community of faith and walk with them in the way of Christ?

Parents and godparents:
With the help of God, we will.

In baptism N & N begin their journey in faith. You speak for them today. Will you care for them, and help them to take their place within the life and worship of Christ's Church?

Parents and godparents:
With the help of God, we will.

Baptismal Promises

The Paschal candle is lit.

In baptism, God calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light. To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life with them. Therefore I ask:

Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God?
Parents and godparents: I reject them.

Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?
Parents and godparents: I renounce them.

Do you repent of the sins that separate us from God and neighbour?
Parents and godparents: I repent of them.

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?
Parents and godparents: I turn to Christ.

Do you submit to Christ as Lord?
Parents and godparents: I submit to Christ.

Do you come to Christ, the way, the truth and the life?
Parents and godparents: I come to Christ.

Signing with the Cross

N & N, Christ claims you for his own. Receive the sign of the cross. Do not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified.

Fight valiantly as a disciple of Christ against sin, the world and the devil, and remain faithful to Christ to the end of your life.

May almighty God deliver you from the powers of darkness, restore in the you the image of his glory, and lead you in the light and obedience of Christ. Amen.

We proclaim what we believe

Let us affirm our common faith in Jesus Christ.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father, source of all being and life, the one for whom we exist?
We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son, who took our human nature, died for us and rose again?
We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of God and makes Christ known in the world?
We believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.
This is our faith. We believe and trust in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Baptism

I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

May God, who has received you by baptism into his Church, pour upon you the riches of his grace, that within the company of Christ's pilgrim people you may daily be renewed by his anointing Spirit, and come to the inheritance of the saints in glory. Amen.

Giving of a Lighted Candle

God has delivered us from the dominion of darkness and has given us a place with the saints in light.

N & N, you have received the light of Christ; walk in this light all the days of your life.

Shine as a light in the world to the glory of God the Father.

Welcome

N & N, God has received you by baptism into his Church.

We welcome you into the Lord's Family. We are members together of the body of Christ; we are children of the same heavenly Father; we are inheritors together of the kingdom of God. We welcome you.

Prayers

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

Worship in Song

How good it is to sing, to bring our praise to him
Whose love and mercy knows no end
He brings the sun and rain, he calls each star by name
The universe resounds with praise

O shout for joy to God and sing a new song
Extol the Lord of life for his provision
And he delights in those who love and fear him
All those who put their hope in God

He gathers families, orphans and refugees
And binds the wounds of those who mourn
The humble lifted high, the proud he casts aside
His justice faithful as the dawn

What friend or foe can last, before his icy blast
The winds and waves obey his voice
Yet mercy will prevail, his love will reconcile
The nations of the earth to him

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.

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 voice 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.

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

Songs during communion

In the bleak mid-winter all creation groans

There's a frost on the ground

What hope we hold this starlit night

Prayer after Communion

Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.

Worship in Song

Come set your rule and reign, in our hearts again
Increase in us we pray, unveil why we're made
Come set our hearts ablaze with hope
Like wildfire in our very souls
Holy Spirit come invade us now
We are your church, we need your power in us

We seek your kingdom first, we hunger and we thirst
Refuse to waste our lives, for you're our joy and prize

To see the captives' hearts released
The hurt the sick the poor at peace
We lay down our lives for heaven's cause
We are your church, we pray revive this earth

Build your kingdom here, let the darkness fear
Show your mighty hand, heal our streets and land
Set your church on fire, win this nation back
Change the atmosphere
Build your kingdom here we pray

Unleash your kingdom's power reaching the near and far
No force of hell can stop your beauty changing hearts
You made us for much more than this
Awake the kingdom seed in us
Fill us with the strength and love of Christ
We are your church, we are the hope on earth

Blessing

May the love of the Lord Jesus draw you to himself.
May the power of the Lord Jesus strengthen you in his service. May the joy of the Lord Jesus fill your hearts; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. Amen.

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