

And idol forms shall perish, And error shall decay,
 And Christ shall wield His sceptre, Our Lord and God for ay.
*Repeat the hymn again: To God on high be glory
 And peace on earth to men!*

The Lord be with you
 and also with you.

Bow your heads and pray for God's blessing.

And may the blessing... always.

Amen

Go in peace. Proclaim the Word made flesh.

Thanks be to God.

Blessing



Notices :

Christmas Communion: The clergy are very willing to bring Holy Communion to the sheltering. Please encourage those who continue to shelter to contact Fr Mark to receive their Christmas Communion.

There are no public offices this week but the Eucharist will be celebrated daily.

There is no Eucharist at 18h00 on Saturday 31st . We apologise for any inconvenience and the Eucharist in French will restart on Saturday 7th January 2023.

Giving at St George's: now is the time to consider if you would like to top-up your giving to St George's for this tax year. **Good news for tax payers!** The fiscal deduction on identifiable donations has been increased from 66% to 75% for the year to 31/12/22 (up to €562 within the limit of 20% of "revenu imposable".) Any excess is deductible at 66%. For example, increasing your donation to €130 from €100 would result in the same net cost of €34 as previously! Please consider increasing your giving, if you can, to cover our increasing operating costs.

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St George's, Paris

Solemn Eucharist of Christmas Day : 2023

A warm welcome to St George's online worship this week. Everything you need for today's service you'll find in this pamphlet. *The choir will sing **Messe fur die hl. Christnacht** by Robert Fuhrer (1807–1861) and the motet is **Stille Nacht** by Franz Xaver Gruber (1787–1863).*

Sunday 24th	4th Sunday of Advent		
0830	Holy Communion (1662 BCP)	Cel JJ	
1030	Solemn Eucharist	Cel MO	Pr JJ
1800	Crib Eucharist for all the family	Cel MO	Pr JJ
2200	Midnight Mass of Christmas	Cel MO	Pr JJ
Monday 25th	The Nativity of the Lord		
0830	Holy Communion (1662 BCP)	Cel JJ	
1030	Solemn Eucharist	Cel MO	Pr JJ
1630	Messe Malgache	Cel NR	Pr NR
Tuesday 26th	Stephen, deacon, first martyr		
1830	Eucharist		
Wednesday 27th	John, apostle and evangelist		
1200	Eucharist		
Thursday 28th	The Holy Innocents		
1830	Eucharist		
Friday 29th	Thomas à Becket, archbishop & martyr		
1830	Eucharist		
Saturday 30th	Fifth Day of Christmas		
1200	Eucharist		
1800	Eucharistie en français	Cel NR	Pr NR
Sunday 31st	1st Sunday of Christmas		
0830	Holy Communion (1662 BCP)	Cel MO	
1030	Solemn Eucharist	Cel JJ	Pr MO

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The Gathering

As the bell rings, we stand to sing (NEH 30) :

**O come, all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem.
Come and behold him, Born the king of angels.
O come let us adore him, O come let us adore him,
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.**

**God of God, Light of Light,
Lo! He abhors not the Virgin's womb;
Very God, Begotten, not created:**

**See how the Shepherds, Summoned to his cradle,
Leaving their flocks, draw night with lowly fear;
We too will thither Bend our joyful footsteps:**

**Child for us sinners Poor and in the manger,
Fain we embrace thee, with awe and love;
Who would not love thee, Loving us so dearly?**

**Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above:
Glory to God, in the Highest:**

**Yea, Lord, we greet thee, Born this happy morning,
Jesus, to thee be all glory given;
Word of the Father, Now in flesh appearing.**

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

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you
and also with you.

The celebration is introduced and we are invited to remember and confess our sins in preparation for our celebration together. The choir sings the Kyries.

Penitential Rite

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you, 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 you Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,
forgive us all that is past;
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

Kyrie eleison. Christe eleison. Kyrie eleison.

Gloria (Merbecke NEH 542)

Glory be to God on high and in earth peace, goodwill towards men. We praise thee we bless thee, we worship thee we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God,

**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.**

Breaking of the bread

We break the bread of life, and that life is the light of the world.

**God is here among us,
light in the midst of us,
bring us to light and life.**

As we prepare for Holy Communion the Choir sing the **Agnus Dei**.

*O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.*

Invitation to Communion

Christ is the true bread which has come down from heaven.

Lord, give us this bread for ever.

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion if you do so in your own church. If you would prefer, please come forward and bow your head for a blessing. If you don't want to receive Holy Communion you may like to use the following prayer:

*My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Blessed Sacrament,
I love you above all things and I desire you in my soul.*

*Since I cannot receive you now sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my soul.
As though you were already there I embrace you and unite myself wholly to you;
permit not that I should ever be separated from you. Amen.*

Please follow the directions of the Sides-people. During Communion the Choir sing the motet.

Post Communion Prayer

God our Father, whose Word has come among us in the Holy Child of Bethlehem:
may the light of faith illumine our hearts and shine in our words and deeds; through
him who is Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

Please be seated for the notices after which we sing the final hymn (NEH 21).

**A great and mighty wonder, A full and holy cure!
The virgin bears the Infant With virgin honour pure!
Repeat the hymn again: To God on high be glory
And peace on earth to men!**

**The Word becomes incarnate And yet remains on high,
And Cherubim sing anthems To shepherds from the sky.**

**While thus they sing your Monarch, Those bright angelic bands,
Rejoice, ye vales and mountains! Ye oceans, clap your hands!**

**Since all He comes to ransom, By all be he adored,
The Infant born in Beth'lem, The Saviour and the Lord!**

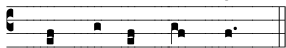
He spake; and straightway that celestial choir
In hymns of joy, unknown before, conspire;
The praises of redeeming love they sang,
And heaven's whole orb with alleluyas rang;
God's highest glory was their anthem still,
Peace on the earth, and unto men good will.

To Beth'lem straight the enlightened shepherds ran,
To see the wonder God had wrought for man;
And found, with Joseph and the blessèd Maid,
Her son, the Saviour, in a manger laid;
Joyful, the wondrous story they proclaim—
The first apostles of his infant fame.

Like Mary, let us ponder in our mind
God's wondrous love in saving lost mankind;
Trace we the Babe, who hath retrieved our loss,
From his poor manger to his bitter cross.
Then may we hope, angelic hosts among,
To sing, redeemed, a glad triumphal song.

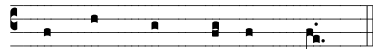
Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you



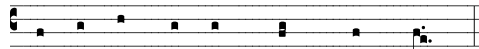
and also with you.

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.

The celebrant praises God for his mighty acts in the Preface and the Choir sings the Sanctus and Benedictus.

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of hosts, heaven and earth are full of thy glory.

Glory be to Thee, O Lord most high.

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

During the Eucharistic Prayer we proclaim the mystery of faith by using the final verse of **O Come all ye faithful**:

Great is the mystery of faith:

Yea, Lord, we greet thee,

born this happy morning;

Jesu, to thee be glory given:

word of the Father, now in flesh appearing: O come, let us adore him...

At the end of the prayer we all respond **Amen**. We remain standing to pray together

heavenly King, God the Father almighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ: O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art the Most High in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Opening Prayer

Almighty God, you have given us your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him and as at this time to be born of a pure virgin: grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**.

First Reading: Isaiah 52:7-10

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, 'Your God reigns.' Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the Lord to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Please remain seated for the choir to sing the psalm appointed for this day (Psalm 97).

The Lord is King, the earth may be glad thereof * yea, the multitude of the isles may be glad thereof. Clouds and darkness are round about him * righteousness and judgement are the habitation of his seat. There shall go a fire before him * and burn up his enemies on every side. His lightnings gave shine unto the world * the earth saw it, and was afraid. The hills melted like wax at the presence of the Lord * at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth. The heavens have declared his righteousness * and all the people have seen his glory. Confounded be all they that worship carved images, and that delight in vain gods * worship him, all ye gods. Sion heard of it, and rejoiced * and the daughters of Judah were glad, because of thy judgements, O Lord. For thou, Lord, art higher than all that are in the earth * thou art exalted far above all gods. O ye that love the Lord, see that ye hate the thing which is evil * the Lord preserveth the souls of his saints; he shall deliver them from the hand of the ungodly. There is sprung up a light for the righteous * and joyful gladness for such as are true-hearted. Rejoice in the Lord, ye righteous * and give thanks for a remembrance of his holiness.

Second Reading: Hebrews 1:1-12

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. For to which of the angels did God ever say, 'You are my Son; today I have begotten you'? Or again, 'I will be his Father, and he will be my Son'? And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, 'Let all God's angels worship him.' Of the angels he says, 'He makes his angels winds, and his

servants flames of fire.' But of the Son he says, 'Your throne, O God, is for ever and ever, and the righteous sceptre is the sceptre of your kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions.' And, 'In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands; they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like clothing; like a cloak you will roll them up, and like clothing they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will never end.'

Please stand for the gradual hymn (NEH 40):

What child is this, who, laid to rest On Mary's lap is sleeping?

Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,

While shepherds watch are keeping?

This, this is Christ, the King, Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:

Haste, haste to bring Him laud, The Babe, the Son of Mary!

Why lies He in such mean estate, Where ox and ass are feeding?

Good Christian, fear: for sinners here The silent Word is pleading.

Nails, spear, shall pierce him through, The cross be borne for me, for you:

Hail, hail, the Saviour comes, The Babe, the son of Mary.

So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh, Come, peasant, king to own Him.

The King of kings salvation brings; Let loving hearts enthrone Him.

Raise, raise your song on high While Mary sings a lullaby,

Joy, joy, for Christ is born, The Babe, the son of Mary.

Holy Gospel: John 1:1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Sermon

Please be seated for the sermon.

Creed

We stand to sing the Profession of Faith (Merbecke)

We 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 his 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.

Prayers of Intercession

We remain standing to pray together. At the end of each petition this response is used

Emmanuel, God with us: we welcome you!

After a pause for silent prayer, we conclude

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

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you and also with you.

We exchange a sign of Peace before the hymn at the Preparation of the Table is sung (NEH 24):

**Christians, awake, salute the happy morn,
Whereon the Saviour of the world was born;
Rise to adore the mystery of love,
Which hosts of angels chanted from above;
With them the joyful tidings first begun
Of God incarnate and the Virgin's son.**

**Then to the watchful shepherds it was told,
Who heard the angelic herald's voice, "Behold,
I bring you tidings of a Saviour's birth
To you and all the nations on the earth:
This day hath God fulfilled his promised word,
This day is born a Saviour, Christ the Lord."**