

**A Communion Service for Christingle**  
**2023**

**Welcome & candle lighting**

Today, we are holding our Christingle service as part of our Communion. In it, we shall celebrate the Children's Society and pray for their work with vulnerable children and show how the light of Christ has come into the world.

Leader: Christ has brought us out of darkness

**All: To live in his wonderful light.**

Leader: Christ has brought us from death to life

**All: To live in his glorious hope.**

Hymn: Christ be our Light [Longing for light]

**Confession**

In a dark and disfigured world  
We have not held out the light of life:  
Lord, have mercy.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

In a hungry and despairing world  
we have failed to share our bread:  
Christ, have mercy.

**All: Christ, have mercy.**

In a cold and loveless world  
we have kept the love of God to ourselves:  
Lord, have mercy.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

**Assurance of Pardon**

May God who loved the world so much  
that he sent his Son to be our Saviour

forgive us our sins  
and make us holy to serve him in the world,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen. Thanks be to God.**

Reading: Genesis 1 1-5

Hymn: The Light of Christ has come into the world

**Reading: John 1 1-5**

**Collection with dedication.**

God of all goodness and grace,  
receive the gifts we offer,  
and grant that our whole life  
may give you glory and praise,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen

Talk-

Distributing Christingles & materials at the end

Let us declare our faith in God

**Christ Jesus was in the form of God,  
Yet he laid no claim to equality with God,  
But made himself nothing, assuming the form of a slave.  
Bearing the human likeness. Sharing the human lot,  
He humbled himself, and was obedient,  
Even to the point of death. Death on a cross!  
Therefore God raised him to the heights  
And bestowed on him the name above all names,  
That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow-  
In heaven, on earth and in the depths-  
And every tongue acclaim  
"Jesus Christ is Lord",  
To the glory of God the Father.**

Our prayers of Intercession, ending with the Lord's prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray  
**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.**

### **The Peace,**

Jesus told his disciples, 'Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.' Then he took a little child and he said to them, 'Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not just me but the one who sent me.'

Let us greet one another with a sign of peace.

**All: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.**

Hymn : Christingle song

### **Celebration of Communion**

**As we gather at this table,  
we remember that Jesus was born of Mary;  
he lived our common life on earth;  
he suffered and died for us;  
on the third day God raised him from the dead;  
and he is always present with us through the Holy Spirit.  
In his presence, and in the company of all the people of God, past, present,  
and to come,  
we celebrate the Supper of the Lord.**

**We hear the narrative of the Institution of the Lord's Supper as it is recorded  
by St Paul in I Corinthians Chapter 11**

**For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, 'This is my body which is broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me'. In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me'. For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

### **Thanksgiving**

**God is with us! God is with us!  
We give thanks and praise to God!  
We give thanks and praise to God!**

**Loving God, the world you made is beautiful and full of wonder.  
You made us, with all your creatures,  
and you love all that you have made.  
You gave us the words of your prophets,  
the stories of your people through the generations,  
and the gathered wisdom of many years.  
You gave us Jesus, your Son,  
to be born and to grow up in difficult times when there was little peace.  
He embraced people with your love and told stories to change us all.  
He healed those in pain and brought to life those who had lost hope. He made  
friends with anyone who would listen  
and loved even his enemies.  
For these things, he suffered.  
For these things, he died.  
And he was raised from death and lives with you forever.  
You give us your Holy Spirit,  
to teach and to strengthen us,  
to remind us of Jesus Christ,  
and to make us one in him.  
For all these gifts we thank you,  
and we join with all your people on earth and in heaven,  
in joyful praise:**

**Hosanna! Hosanna!**

**We praise you that we are here today,  
around the table of Jesus.**

**We have heard the good news of your love;  
the cross is the sign of your arms stretched out in love for us  
and the empty tomb declares your love stronger than death.**

Christ has died! **Christ has died!**  
Christ is risen! **Christ is risen!**  
Christ will come again! **Christ will come again!**

**Send your Holy Spirit upon this bread and wine,  
and upon your people,  
that Christ may be with us,  
and we may be made ready to live for you  
and to do what you ask of us,  
today, and every day to come.  
We make this prayer through Jesus Christ,  
in the power of the Holy Spirit,  
in the love of the Creator, one God,  
to whom be glory and praise forever,  
Amen.**

**Eat this bread. It is the bread of life.  
Drink this wine. It is the cup of blessing.**

**The distribution takes place ( Remember to invite those at home to share with us)**

We share the bread and wine.

Hymn during Communion: \_The Lord is my light

Thanksgiving Prayer

Thanks be to God for this gift beyond words.  
**All: Thanks be to God for this gift beyond words**

Notices

Lighting Christingles

Hymn: Lord, the light of your love is shining

## **Blessing**

**Jesus said, 'Go home to your friends,  
and tell them how much the Lord has done for you,  
and what mercy he has shown you.'**

**The blessing of God be upon you,  
the One who loves you,  
the Christ who calls you,  
the Spirit who makes you holy,  
today and always. Amen.**

## **First Reading: Genesis 1:1-5 (RSV)**

1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

2 The earth was without form and void, and darkness was upon the face of the deep; and the Spirit of God was moving over the face of the waters.

3 And God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light.

4 And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness.

5 God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, one day.

## **Second Reading: John 1:1-5 (RSV)**

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

2 He was in the beginning with God;

3 all things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made.

4 In him was life, and the life was the light of men.

5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.