

Parish Church of St Alphege Solihull



The Eucharist for Christmas

Christmas Day and 1st Sunday of Christmas
Order of Service



The Gathering

Processional Hymn

Please see Pewslip

The Gathering

✙ In the name of the Father and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit.

All Amen.

The Greeting

The light and peace of God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you

All and also with you.

The Holy One has come to make a home with us.

All Let us rejoice and sing God's praise for ever!

On Christmas Day, the Baby Jesus is placed in the crib, and we light the final central candle of the Advent Wreath.

Lighting the Advent Wreath

We light the final candle to proclaim Jesus, the Light of the World,
born to bring peace, hope, and salvation.

He is the fulfilment of God's promises,
casting out darkness and bringing joy to all.
May his light shine in our hearts forever.

The final candle is lit, and we respond by saying the Prayer:

**All Lord Jesus, Light of light,
 you have come among us.
 Help us to live by your light
 to shine as lights in the world.
 Glory to God in the highest.
 Amen.**

Prayers of Penitence

Please sit or kneel

As we kneel with the shepherds before the newborn Christ-child,
we open our hearts in penitence and faith.

You were born for our salvation:

Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

You came as Saviour to bring wholeness and peace:

Christ, have mercy.

All Christ, have mercy.

You come to bring light into the darkness of our lives:

Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

Absolution

May the God of all healing and forgiveness

✚ forgive you and free you from all your sins,

that you may behold the glory of his Son,

the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

Gloria in Excelsis

Please stand

On Christmas Day we sing this Coventry setting, the congregation sings the words in bold:

Glory to God, glory in the highest. Peace to his people, peace on earth.

Glory to God, glory in the highest. Peace to his people, peace on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father.

Glory to God, glory in the highest. Peace to his people, peace on earth.

We worship you,

Glory in the highest

Give you thanks

Glory in the highest

Praise you for your glory.

Glory to God, glory in the highest. Peace to his people, peace on earth.

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,

Have mercy on us;

You are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer,

Receive our prayer.

Glory to God, glory in the highest. Peace to his people, peace on earth.

Glory to God, glory in the highest. Peace to his people, peace on earth.

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 glory of God the Father.

Glory to God, glory in the highest. Peace to his people, peace on earth.

Amen.

(Music: Coventry Mass – Peter Jones)

On the Sunday after Christmas we sing the Bell setting, singing together:

Glory, glory to God, glory in the highest;

Peace to his people on earth, peace to his people on earth.

Glory, glory to God, glory in the highest;

Peace to his people on earth, peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty and God and Father,

We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Glory, glory to God, glory in the highest;

Peace to his people on earth, peace to his people on earth.

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 God, the right hand of God 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 glory of God the Father.

Amen, Amen, Amen.

Glory, glory to God, glory in the highest;

Peace to his people on earth, peace to his people on earth.

(Music: Mass of St John the Baptist – Chris Bell)

The Collect

Please remain standing

Let us pray in the peace of this season of Christmas
that our joy in the birth of Christ will last for ever.

A moment of silence before the Collect is read (printed on the Pewslip).

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

At the end of the reading:

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

The Psalm

Please see insert for Christmas Day, and Pewslip for hymn number on Christmas 1.

Second Reading

At the end of the reading:

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

The Gospel

Please stand. The Choir and Congregation sing the Gospel acclamation.



The Word became flesh and dwelt among us,
and we have seen his glory.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

At the end of the Gospel reading:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Creed

We proclaim the Church's faith in Jesus Christ

All **We believe and declare that our Lord Jesus Christ,
the Son of God, is both divine and human.**

God, of the being of the Father,
the only Son from before time began;
human from the being of his mother, born in the world;

All **fully God and fully human;
human in both mind and body.**

As God he is equal to the Father,
as human he is less than the Father.

All **Although he is both divine and human
he is not two beings but one Christ.**

One, not by turning God into flesh,
but by taking humanity into God;

All **truly one, not by mixing humanity with Godhead,
but by being one person.**

For as mind and body form one human being
so the one Christ is both divine and human.

All **The Word became flesh and lived among us;
we have seen his glory,
the glory of the only Son from the Father,
full of grace and truth.**

Prayers of Intercession

This response may be used:

Lord, hear us

All Lord, graciously hear us

The prayers may conclude as follows:

Merciful Father,

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

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

Please 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 also with you.

Offertory Hymn

Please see Pewslip

Prayer at the Preparation of the Table

Blessed be God,
by whose grace creation is renewed,
by whose love heaven is opened,
by whose mercy we offer our sacrifice of praise.

All Blessed be God for ever

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here.
All His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.
All We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to
the Lord our God.
All 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 lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name
and sing our joyful hymn of praise.

On Christmas Day the Choir sings the Sanctus (text in Latin, translation below):

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus	<i>Holy, Holy, Holy</i>
Dominus Deus Sabaoth.	<i>Lord God Almighty.</i>
Pleni sunt cæli et terra gloria tua.	<i>Heaven and earth are full of your glory.</i>
Hosanna in excelsis.	<i>Hosanna in the highest.</i>

On the First Sunday after Christmas we sing:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heav'n 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.**

We praise and bless you, loving Father,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;
and as we obey his command,
send your Holy Spirit,
that broken bread and wine outpoured
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he praised you.
He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:
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.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice
made once for all upon the cross.
Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,
we proclaim his death and resurrection
until he comes in glory.

Great is the mystery of faith:

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

Lord of all life, help us to work together for that day
when your kingdom comes
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people,
gather us in your loving arms
and bring us with Blessèd Virgin Mary, Alphege,
and all the saints to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours,
O loving Father, for ever and ever.

All **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

We sit or kneel

Rejoicing in the presence of God here among us,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught 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.
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of Bread

The celebrant breaks the consecrated bread.

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

The Invitation

God's holy gifts, for God's holy people.

All Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

We are all invited to draw near to God today. If you, or your children, regularly receive the bread and wine at any Christian church, you are most welcome to do so. If you do not usually receive the bread and wine, or prefer not to do so today, you are invited to come forward to receive a prayer of blessing.

Agnus Dei

Whilst those helping with the administration receive, the Choir sings the Agnus Dei in Latin, translation below.

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.

On the first Sunday after Christmas, the congregation sings:

Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, give us your peace.

The Giving of Communion

On Christmas Day, the Choir will sing Angels' Carol by John Rutter.

Communion Hymn

Please see Pewslip

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.

All Amen.

All 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.

Dismissal

Notices

Final Hymn

Please see Pewslip

The Blessing

May the Father,
who has loved the eternal Son from before the foundation of the world,
shed that love upon you his children.

All Amen.

May Christ,
who by his incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly,
fill you with joy and peace.

All Amen.

May the Holy Spirit,
by whose overshadowing Mary became the God-bearer,
give you grace to carry the good news of Christ.

All Amen.

And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All Amen.

The Sending

Go in peace to proclaim the Word made flesh.

All Glory, thanks and praise to God.

Organ voluntary (please see Pewslip for details).