

Eglwys St Ffagan, Aberdâr
St Fagan's Church, Aberdare

ORDER FOR THE HOLY EUCHARIST
SUNDAY 1ST DECEMBER 2024

The First Sunday of Advent
Christingle Service

ENTRANCE HYMN

Colours of day dawn into the mind,
The sun has come up, the night is behind.
Go down in the city, into the street,
And let's give the message to the people we meet

Chorus:

*So light up the fire and let the flame burn,
Open the door, let Jesus return,
Take seeds of His Spirit, let the fruit grow,
Tell the people of Jesus, let His love show.*

Go through the park, on into the town;
The sun still shines on, it never goes down.
The light of the world is risen again;
The people of darkness are needing a friend.

Chorus:

Open your eyes, look into the sky,
The darkness has come, the sun came to die,
The evening draws on, the sun disappears,
But Jesus is living, His Spirit is near.

Chorus:

THE GATHERING

Vicar In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All **Amen.**

Vicar: Grace and peace be with you

All: **and keep you in the love of Christ.**

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

A member of the congregation says

God of Abraham and Sarah, and all the patriarchs of old, you are our Father too. Your love is revealed to us in Jesus Christ, Son of God and Son of David. Help us in preparing to celebrate his birth to make our hearts ready for your Holy Spirit to make his home among us. We ask this through Jesus Christ, the light who is coming into the world. **Amen.**

The first candle of the Advent wreath is lit, then all say together

Lord Jesus, light of the world, born in David's city of Bethlehem, born like him to be a king: be born in our hearts at Christmas, be King of our lives today. Amen.

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

All remain standing. The Vicar introduces the theme of the service and invites everyone to call to mind the wrong things we have done and said.

All: **Heavenly Father, we have sinned in thought, word and deed, and have failed to do what we ought to have done. We are sorry and truly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ who died for us, forgive us all that is past and lead us in his way to walk as children of light. Amen.**

Vicar: Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy on you and set you free from sin, strengthen you in goodness and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: **Amen.**

(The Gloria is not sung in Advent)

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: Thessalonians 3. 9-13

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Thessalonians.

Now we can give thanks to our God for you. We thank him for the joy we have in his presence because of you. Day and night we ask him with all our heart to let us see you personally and supply what is needed in your faith. May our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus prepare the way for us to come to you! May the Lord make your love for one another and for all people grow more and more and become as great as our love for you. In this way he will strengthen you, and you will be perfect and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all who belong to him.

This is the word of the Lord:

Thanks be to God.

All stand

GOSPEL READING: Luke 21. 25-36

Vicar: The Lord be with you

All: **and also with you.**

Vicar: Listen to the Gospel of Christ according to St Luke.

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

“There will be strange things happening to the sun, the moon, and the stars. On earth whole countries will be in despair, afraid of the roar of the sea and the raging tides. People will faint from fear as they wait for what is coming over the whole earth, for the powers in space will be driven from their courses. Then the Son of Man will appear, coming in a cloud with great power and glory. When these things begin to happen, stand up and raise your heads, because your salvation is near.” Then Jesus told them this parable: “Think of the fig tree and all the other trees. When you see their leaves beginning to appear, you know that summer is near. In the same way, when you see these things happening, you will know that the Kingdom of God is about to come. “Remember that all these things will take place before the people now living have all died. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away. “Be careful not to let yourselves become occupied with too much feasting and drinking and with the worries of this life, or that Day may suddenly catch you like a trap. For it will come upon all people everywhere on earth. Be on watch and pray always that you will have the strength to go safely through all those things that will happen and to stand before the Son of Man.”

Vicar: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

All sit for the talk

All stand to say The Creed together

THE CREED

I believe and trust in God the Father, who created all that is. I believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ, who redeemed humankind. I believe and trust in his Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of God. I believe and trust in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

All sit or kneel for the prayers. The following response is used

Vicar: Lord, in your mercy:

*All: **Hear our prayer.***

THE PEACE

All stand. The priest introduces The Peace and then says:

The peace of the Lord be with you always:

*All: **And also with you.***

Vicar: Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

We greet each other with a sign of peace.

During the preparation of the altar, all sing the following hymn:

HYMN

The Christingle begins with an orange,
like the world which the Lord God made.
For creation is full of his glory;
all around we see his love displayed.

Chorus:

*Sing Christingle! Sing Christingle!
Sing Christingle, it's the light of Christ.
Sing Christingle! Sing Christingle!
Sing Christingle, light of Christ.*

Every year we give thanks for the seasons,
and the fruits of the earth to share.
The Christingle is here to remind us
that the love of God is everywhere.

Chorus:

God of love, we give thanks now for Jesus;
we remember his birth again.
But the red ribbon round the Christingle
tells the story of his cross and pain.

Chorus:

To complete the Christingle:
a candle, telling us of the world's true light.
For the darkness shall not overcome it,
Jesus shines on in the darkest night.
Chorus:

THE THANKSGIVING

The priest takes the bread and wine

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this bread to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the bread of life.

All: Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become our spiritual drink.

All: Blessed be God for ever.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Vicar: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Vicar: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

Vicar: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is always right, wherever we are, to thank you and to praise you, God our Father and King for ever, through Jesus Christ, your Son. Through him you made us and the whole universe. Who in the fullness of time came among us opening to us the way of salvation. Now we watch for the day when he comes again to judge the world, revealing the light of his presence that we may behold his power and glory. So here on earth, with the angels and archangels and with everyone in heaven we praise your name and sing:

All: Holy, holy, holy, holy; holy, holy, Lord God Almighty; and we lift our hearts before you as a token of our love, Holy, holy, holy, holy. Gracious Father, gracious Father, blessed is the one who comes to us in your name; and we lift our hearts before you as a token of our love, gracious Father, gracious Father.

We sit or kneel

Father in heaven, listen to the prayer we make in Jesus' name; through the Holy Spirit's power, gentle as a dove, may this bread and this wine be for us Jesus' body and blood. Father, we remember when Jesus had supper with his friends the night before he died, he took the bread; he thanked you, broke it, gave it to his friends and said: Take this and eat it – this is my body, given for you. Do this to remember me. After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine; he thanked you, gave it to his friends and said: All of you drink from this cup, because this is my blood – the new promise of God's love. Do this every time you drink it to remember me.

Together we remember that Jesus is always with us and say:

All: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come in glory.

Father, as we remember your Son, Jesus Christ, who died on the cross and rose again, we offer you these and all the gifts you freely give to us. Send your Holy Spirit to be with us and all who share this bread and drink from this cup. Help us to trust you, bring us closer together and welcome us, with all your people, into Jesus' glorious kingdom

The priest sings: By him, with him, through him, in him, in the unity
of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour is yours
almighty Lord, Amen, Amen, Alleluia!

All sing: **Amen, Amen, Alleluia! Amen, Amen, Alleluia!**
And we lift our hearts before you as a token of our
love, Amen, Amen, Alleluia!

Vicar: As our Saviour taught us, we boldly pray:

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 COMMUNION

Vicar: We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

All: Though we are many, we are one body, for we all share in one bread.

All sing: **Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy;
bearer of our sins, Lord Jesus, show us mercy;
Jesus, Lamb of God you take away the sins of the whole
world:
give us peace, Lord, give us peace, Lord.**

Vicar: Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Happy are those who are called to his supper.

All: Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and I shall be healed.

We go to the altar to receive Holy Communion or a blessing.

COMMUNION HYMNS

Kum ba yah, my lord, Kum ba yah!
Kum ba yah, my lord, Kum ba yah!
Kum ba yah, my lord, Kum ba yah.
O Lord, Kum ba yah

Someone's crying, Lord, Kum ba yah!
Someone's crying, Lord, Kum ba yah!
Someone's crying, Lord, Kum ba yah!
O Lord, Kum ba yah

Someone's singing, Lord, Kum ba yah!
Someone's singing, Lord, Kum ba yah!
Someone's singing, Lord, Kum ba yah!
O Lord, Kum ba yah

Someone's praying, Lord, Kum ba yah!
Someone's praying, Lord, Kum ba yah!
Someone's praying, Lord, Kum ba yah!
O Lord, Kum ba yah

As the deer pants for the water,
So my soul longs after You.
You alone are my heart's desire
And I long to worship You.

Chorus:

*You alone are my strength, my shield,
To You alone may my spirit yield.
You alone are my heart's desire
And I long to worship You.*

I want You more than gold or silver,
Only You can satisfy.
You alone are the real joy-giver
And the apple of my eye.

Chorus:

You're my Friend and You are my brother,
Even though You are a King.
I love You more than any other,
So much more than anything.

Chorus:

We keep a time of silence after the hymns

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

After the notices, all stand

Vicar: Give thanks to the Lord for he is gracious:

All: His love is everlasting

All: God our deliverer, awaken our hearts to prepare the way for the advent of your Son; that, with minds purified by the grace of his coming, we may serve you faithfully all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE BLESSING

Vicar: The Lord be with you

All: And also with you.

The priest gives a blessing.

Vicar: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: In the name of Christ. Amen

We sing the following hymn when the collection will also be taken

FINAL HYMN

Lord the light of Your love is shining,
in the midst of the darkness, shining;
Jesus, Light the world, shine upon us,
set us free by the truth you now bring us,
shine on me, shine on me

Chorus:

*Shine, Jesus, shine,
fill this land with the Father's glory;
blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire.
flow, river, flow,
flood the nations with grace and mercy;
send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light.*

Lord, I come to your awesome presence,
from the shadows into your radiance;
by the blood I may enter your brightness,
search me, try me, consume all my darkness.
Shine on me, shine on me.

Chorus:

*Shine, Jesus, shine,
fill this land with the Father's glory;
blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire.
flow, river, flow,
flood the nations with grace and mercy;
send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light.*

As we gaze on your kingly brightness
so our faces display your likeness,
ever changing from glory to glory,
mirrored here may our lives tell your story.
Shine on me, shine on me.

Chorus:

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