



Collect and Readings for Holy Communion Services
please remember to bring this with you each week if attending church

Registered Charity 1132975

Note Readings for Christmas

Midnight are in the back of the special booklet

25 December 2022

Christmas Day

The Collect

Lord Jesus Christ,
your birth at Bethlehem
draws us to kneel in wonder at
heaven touching earth:
accept our heartfelt praise
as we worship you,
our Saviour and our eternal God.

First Reading *Isaiah 52.7-10*

⁷How 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.'
⁸Listen! Your sentinels lift up their
voices, together they sing for joy; for
in plain sight they see the return of
the LORD to Zion. ⁹Break forth
together into singing, you ruins of
Jerusalem; for the LORD has
comforted his people, he has
redeemed Jerusalem. ¹⁰The 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.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God

Gospel *Luke 2.(1-7)8-20*

⁸In that region there were shepherds
living in the fields, keeping watch over
their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of
the Lord stood before them, and the
glory of the Lord shone around them,
and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel
said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for
see – I am bringing you good news of
great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is
born this day in the city of David a
Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord.
¹²This will be a sign for you: you will
find a child wrapped in bands of cloth
and lying in a manger.' ¹³And suddenly
there was with the angel a multitude of
the heavenly host, praising God and
saying,

¹⁴'Glory to God in the highest
heaven, and on earth peace among
those whom he favours!'

¹⁵When the angels had left them and
gone into heaven, the shepherds said
to one another, 'Let us go now to
Bethlehem and see this thing that has
taken place, which the Lord has made
known to us.' ¹⁶So they went with
haste and found Mary and Joseph, and
the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When
they saw this, they made known what
had been told them about this child;
¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at
what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But
Mary treasured all these words and
pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The
shepherds returned, glorifying and



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praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

01 January 2023

Second Sunday of Christmas

(First Sunday readings)

The Collect

Almighty God,
in the birth of your Son
you have poured on us the new light of
your incarnate Word,
and shown us the fullness of your love:
help us to walk in his light and dwell in
his love that we may know the fullness
of his joy; who is alive and reigns with
you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

First Reading Isaiah 63.7-9

⁷I will recount the gracious deeds of the LORD, the praiseworthy acts of the LORD, because of all that the LORD has done for us, and the great favour to the house of Israel that he has shown them according to his mercy, according to the abundance of his steadfast love.

⁸For he said, 'Surely they are my people, children who will not deal falsely'; and he became their saviour ⁹in all their distress. It was no messenger or angel but his presence that saved them; in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God**

Gospel Matthew 2.13-23

¹³After the wise men had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, 'Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.'

¹⁴Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, ¹⁵and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, 'Out of Egypt I have called my son.' ¹⁶When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. ¹⁷Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah:

¹⁸'A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation,

Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more.'

¹⁹When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, ²⁰'Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead.' ²¹Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel.

²²But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. ²³There



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he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, 'He will be called a Nazorean.'



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08 January 2023

Baptism of Christ

The Collect

Eternal Father,
who at the baptism of Jesus
revealed him to be your Son,
anointing him with the Holy Spirit:
grant to us, who are born again by
water and the Spirit,
that we may be faithful to our calling
as your adopted children;
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.

Second Reading

Acts 10.34-43

³⁴Peter began to speak to those
assembled in the house of Cornelius.
'I truly understand that God shows no
partiality, ³⁵but in every nation anyone
who fears him and does what is right
is acceptable to him. ³⁶You know the
message he sent to the people of
Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ
– he is Lord of all. ³⁷That message
spread throughout Judea, beginning in
Galilee after the baptism that John
announced: ³⁸how God anointed Jesus
of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and
with power; how he went about

doing good and healing all who were
oppressed by the devil, for God was
with him. ³⁹We are witnesses to all
that he did both in Judea and in
Jerusalem. They put him to death by
hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰but God
raised him on the third day and
allowed him to appear, ⁴¹not to all the
people but to us who were chosen by
God as witnesses, and who ate and
drank with him after he rose from the
dead. ⁴²He commanded us to preach
to the people and to testify that he is
the one ordained by God as judge of
the living and the dead. ⁴³All the
prophets testify about him that
everyone who believes in him
receives forgiveness of sins through
his name.'

Gospel Matthew 3.13-17

¹³Jesus came from Galilee to John at
the Jordan, to be baptized by him.
¹⁴John would have prevented him,
saying, 'I need to be baptized by you,
and do you come to me?' ¹⁵But Jesus
answered him, 'Let it be so now; for
it is proper for us in this way to fulfil
all righteousness.' Then he consented.
¹⁶And when Jesus had been baptized,
just as he came up from the water,
suddenly the heavens were opened to
him and he saw the Spirit of God
descending like a dove and alighting
on him. ¹⁷And a voice from heaven



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said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.'

15 January 2023

Second Sunday of Epiphany

Almighty God, in Christ you make all things new: transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your heavenly glory; 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.

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 1.1-9

¹From Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes, ²To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: ³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind – ⁶just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you – ⁷so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸He will also strengthen you to

the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Gospel *John 1.29-42*

²⁹John the Baptist saw Jesus coming towards him and declared, 'Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! ³⁰This is he of whom I said, "After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me." ³¹I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel.' ³²And John testified, 'I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. ³³I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, "He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit." ³⁴And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God.'

³⁵The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, ³⁶and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, 'Look, here is the Lamb of God!' ³⁷The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. ³⁸When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, 'What are you looking for?' They said to him, 'Rabbi' (which translated means Teacher), 'where are you staying?' ³⁹He said to them, 'Come and see.' They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. ⁴⁰One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother.



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⁴¹He first found his brother Simon and said to him, 'We have found the Messiah' (which is translated Anointed).

⁴²He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, 'You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas' (which is translated Peter).

22 January 2023

Third Sunday of Epiphany

Almighty God, whose Son revealed in signs and miracles the wonder of your saving presence: renew your people with your heavenly grace, and in all our weakness sustain us by your mighty power; 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.

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1.10-18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same purpose. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. ¹²What I mean is that each of you says, 'I belong to Paul,' or 'I belong to Apollos,' or 'I belong to Cephas,' or 'I belong to Christ.' ¹³Has Christ been

divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else. ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power. ¹⁸For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

Gospel *Matthew 4.12-23*

¹²When Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. ¹³He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the lake, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵*'Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles –* ¹⁶*the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned.'*

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to proclaim, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.' ¹⁸As he



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walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the lake – for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, ‘Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.’

²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him.....

²¹As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him.

²³Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

29 January 2023

5 February 2023

Presentation of Christ

The Collect

Almighty and ever-living God,
clothed in majesty,
whose beloved Son was this day
presented in the Temple,
in substance of our flesh:
grant that we may be presented to

you with pure and clean hearts,
by your Son Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Second Reading

Hebrews 2.14-18

¹⁴Since the children share flesh and blood, Jesus himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, ¹⁵and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. ¹⁶For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. ¹⁷Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. ¹⁸Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

Gospel *Luke 2.22-40*



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²²When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, Mary and Joseph brought Jesus up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord. ²³(as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord'), ²⁴and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.'

²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. ²⁶It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. ²⁷Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, ²⁸Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

²⁹'Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; ³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation, ³¹which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, ³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.'

³³And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said

about him. ³⁴Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed ³⁵so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed – and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

³⁶There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.

05 February 2023

Third Sunday before Lent

The Collect



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Almighty God, who alone
can bring order to the unruly wills and
passions of sinful humanity: give your
people grace
so to love what you command
and to desire what you promise,
that, among the many changes of this
world, our hearts may surely there be
fixed where true joys are to be found;
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.



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05 February 2023

First Reading I Cor 2.1-12

¹When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. ²For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. ³And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. ⁴My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

⁶Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. ⁷But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. ⁸None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹But, as it is written, 'What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him' – ¹⁰these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. ¹¹For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. ¹²Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we

may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

Gospel *Matthew 5.13-20*

Jesus went up the mountain and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to teach them: ¹³'You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

¹⁴You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

¹⁷Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfil. ¹⁸For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.'