



Parish of Timperley
Christ Church and Holy Cross



Liturgy for
Christmas

PLEASE TAKE THIS BOOKLET AWAY WITH YOU

Today we remember Jesus and the story of his birth;

Jesus is our King.

Jesus Christ is the light of the world;

Jesus is our Way.

With Jesus even dark places are light;

Jesus is the Truth.

In Jesus we shall live for ever;

Jesus is our Life.

We meet to celebrate the coming of Christ into the world.

The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us

and we beheld his glory.

Confession

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

God our Father, you sent your Son full of grace and truth:
forgive our failure to receive him.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Jesus our Saviour,
you were born in poverty and laid in a manger:
forgive our greed and rejection of your ways.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Spirit of Love,
your servant Mary responded joyfully to your call:
forgive the hardness of our hearts.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Mary by Joan Rae Mills

It wasn't that long ago
that he'd spoken these stars
into being
and this woman's life
was just a thought in his mind.
He'd smiled down on her birth
and entered her name in her pages
perhaps with an asterisk
denoting plans too sacred to be spoken
but pondered in his heart.
Now, newborn,
in wide-eyed wonder
he gazes up at his creation.
His hand that hurled the world
holds tight his mother's finger.
Holy light
spills across her face
and she weeps
silently wondering tears
to know she holds the One
who has so long held her.



From *Light Upon Light* edited by Sarah Arthur, 2014

Praise

Blessed are you, God of all glory,
through your Son Jesus Christ.

We worship and adore you.

He is the heavenly king, born of Mary.

We worship and adore you.

He is the Word of the Father, crying as a baby.

We worship and adore you.

He is robed in glory, wrapped in infant clothes.

We worship and adore you.

He is Lord of heaven and earth, laid in a manger.

We worship and adore you.

Strong in weakness, glorious in humility,
to him be all praise and glory.

We join with all the company of heaven, worshipping you and saying:

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Prayers

Almighty God,
who wonderfully created us in your own image
and yet more wonderfully restored us
through your Son Jesus Christ:
grant that, as he came to share our humanity,
so we may share the life of his divinity;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

God our Father,
your 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

Son of Mary, Son of God,
we have joined the worship of the angels;
may we never lose that heavenly vision.
Like the shepherds,
we have rejoiced at the news of your birth;
help us to proclaim that message in word and deed,
to your praise and glory.

Amen.

**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.**

Dismissal and blessing

God sent his angels from glory to bring to shepherds
the good news of Jesus' birth.

We thank you Lord.

You have heard his story, the story of God's own Son.

We thank you Lord.

May he fill you with joy to bring this good news to others today.

We thank you Lord.

When the Word became flesh
earth was joined to heaven in the womb of Mary:
may the love and obedience of Mary be your example.

Amen.

May the peace of Christ
rule in your hearts and homes.

Amen.

May you be filled with the joy of the Spirit
and the gifts of your eternal home.

Amen.



Keep updated and connected with us:

**<https://timperleyparish.wordpress.com/>
facebook.com/parishoftimperley**

Common Worship: New Patterns for Worship material from which is included in this service, is copyright © The Archbishops' Council 2002.

Common Worship: Times and Seasons material from which is included in this service, is copyright © The Archbishops' Council 2006.