



St Mary's Ewell

www.stmarysewell.com

Midnight Mass of Christmas

in the year of our Lord 2020



Ring out, wild bells, to the wild sky,
The flying cloud, the frosty light:
The year is dying in the night;
Ring out, wild bells, and let him die.

Ring out the old, ring in the new,
Ring, happy bells, across the snow:
The year is going, let him go;
Ring out the false, ring in the true.

Ring out the grief that saps the mind
For those that here we see no more;
Ring out the feud of rich and poor,
Ring in redress to all mankind.

Ring out a slowly dying cause,
And ancient forms of party strife;
Ring in the nobler modes of life,
With sweeter manners, purer laws.

Ring out old shapes of foul disease;
Ring out the narrowing lust of gold;
Ring out the thousand wars of old,
Ring in the thousand years of peace.

Ring in the valiant man and free,
The larger heart, the kindlier hand;
Ring out the darkness of the land,
Ring in the Christ that is to be.

Alfred Lord Tennyson, 1850

Please be respectful of those around you and observe social distancing. Please sit or kneel as you prefer throughout the service, except for the reading of the Gospel and the Creed, when you are invited to stand.

We are required to wear face coverings in church, unless exempt or while receiving Holy Communion. Sadly, we cannot sing Christmas carols as congregational singing is not currently permitted.

This service is being livestreamed to those watching at home. Please speak to a welcomer if you have any queries.

¶ **The Gathering**

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

Amen.

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

The priest introduces the service and the Crib is blessed.

Prayers of Penitence

(Deacon:) Christ the light of the world has come
to dispel the darkness of our hearts.
In his light let us examine ourselves and confess our sins.

We kneel or sit to say together.

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour,
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,**

through our own deliberate fault.
**We are truly sorry
and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
forgive us all that is past,
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name.
Amen.**

The priest gives the absolution.

May the God of all healing and forgiveness draw you to himself, that you may behold the glory of his Son, the Word made flesh, and be cleansed + from all your sins, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The choral setting is Hassler's Missa Secunda, sung by the Parish Choir. The Gloria is sung:

Gloria in excelsis deo, et in terra pax hominibus bonae voluntatis.
Glory be to God on high, and in earth peace, good will towards men.

Laudamus te. Benedicimus te. Adoramus te. Glorificamus te. Gratias agimus tibi propter magnam gloriam tuam. Domine Deus, Rex caelestis, Deus Pater omnipotens.

We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father almighty.

Domine fili unigenite, Jesu Christe. Domine Deus, Agnus Dei, Filius patris. Qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis. Qui tollis peccata mundi suscipe deprecationem nostram. Qui sedes ad dexteram patris miserere nobis.
O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ: O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.

Quoniam tu solus sanctus. Tu solus Dominus. Tu solus Altissimus, Jesu Christe. Cum Sancto Spiritu in gloria Dei Patris. Amen.

For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art the Most High, in the glory of God the Father.

Amen.

The Collect

Let us pray

Eternal God, who made this most holy night
to shine with the brightness of your one true light:
bring us, who have known the revelation of that light on earth,
to see the radiance of 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.
Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

Readings

We sit for the reading.

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

(Isaiah 9.2-7)

The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.
You have multiplied the nation,
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.
For the yoke of their burden,
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.
For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.
For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders;

and he is named
Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
His authority shall grow continually,
and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.
He will establish and uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time onwards and for evermore.

The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The choir sings the Alleluia verse.

Alleluia. The Lord said unto me : Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee.
Alleluia.

We remain standing and turn to face the Holy Gospel in our midst:

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke. *(Luke 2.1-14)*

Glory to you, O Lord.

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

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

'Glory to God in the highest heaven,

and on earth peace among those whom he favours!'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

The sermon is preached by the Vicar, the Revd Russell Dewhurst.

The Creed

We stand and all are invited to proclaim together the ancient faith of the church, in the words of the Nicene Creed:

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven**

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**



**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.
Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

Please kneel or sit for the prayers of intercession, which use this response:

Jesus, Saviour
hear our prayer.

and at the end:

**Jesus, Saviour, child of Mary,
you know us and love us,
you share our lives
and hear our prayer.
Glory to you for ever.
Amen.**

¶ The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The priest explains the arrangements for Holy Communion at this service.

The Peace

This holy night the angels sang,
'Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace to all in whom he delights.'

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

There are no collections in services at the moment, but if you are able to give, your contributions to the work of the church are gratefully received. A contactless giving machine, information about online giving, and cash collection boxes are all available at the back of church when you leave.

You can now also give by text. Text EWELL 5 to 70085 to donate £5. Texts cost your donation plus one standard rate message. Change the 5 to the amount you'd like to give, up to EWELL 20 to give £20.

The choir sings the Offertory verse:

Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad : before the Lord, for he is come.

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
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:

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus Dominus Deus Sabaoth.

Pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua. Hosanna in excelsis.

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts,

heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Glory be to thee, O Lord most high.

Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini. Hosanna in excelsis. *Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.*

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
and according to your holy will,
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:
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.

Great is the mystery of faith.

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

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world;
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.
As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,
we bring before you this bread and this cup
and we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom

all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we, in the company of the Blessed Virgin Mary and all the saints,
may praise and glorify you for ever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,
for ever and ever.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**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.**

Breaking of the Bread

We break the bread of life,
and that life is the light of the world.

**God here among us,
light in the midst of us,
bring us to light and life.**

Christ is the true bread which has come down from heaven.

Lord, give us this bread always.

These words are said once for everyone, with everyone joining in 'Amen', then we receive communion silently:

The Body and Blood of Christ. **Amen.**

Holy Communion

The Church of England welcomes all baptized Christians who usually receive Communion at their own church to receive Communion with us. All are welcome to receive a blessing instead: please come forward at the same time, holding this booklet in your hands as a sign that you prefer a blessing.

Please leave 2m between you and other households in the queue. Holy Communion is administered under one kind only at this time.

During Communion, the choir sings Agnus Dei and the anthem O Magnum Mysterium – Victoria.

O magnum mysterium et admirabile sacramentum, ut animalia viderent Dominum natum jacentem in praesepio. O beata Virgo, cujus viscera meruerunt portare Dominum Jesum Christum. Alleluia!

O great mystery and wonderful sacrament, that animals should see the new-born Lord lying in a manger! O blessed is the Virgin, whose womb was worthy to bear Christ the Lord. Alleluia!

Prayers after Communion

Let us pray.

God our Father, in this night you have made known to us again the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ: confirm our faith and fix our eyes on him until the day dawns and Christ the Morning Star rises in our hearts. To him be glory both now and for ever.

Amen.

The Dismissal

Christ, who by his incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with peace and goodwill and make you partakers of the divine nature; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

(Deacon:) Go in the peace of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

Please take this order of service away with you, and do have a happy and blessed Christmas

Very many thanks to our parish choir who sang the mass this evening, and to our Director of Music, Jonathan Holmes. Many thanks also to the sidesmen and all involved in this midnight service.

NOTE: On Sunday 27 December and Sunday 3 January there is a 9:30am Parish Eucharist service only.



WHAT'S ON: For more information about what's going on, see our website www.stmarysewell.com or our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/stmarysewell (please "Like" the page!) or keep an eye on our church noticeboards.

Please ask for a **WELCOME PACK** from the welcome desk— it contains lots of information about all our regular groups, activities and services, and everything else that goes on at church.

Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England, material from which is included in this service, is copyright © The Archbishops' Council 2000. All songs covered by CCLI have been reproduced under the CCL Licence No. 6486.



KEEP IN TOUCH

You can sign up to receive regular emails about our musical events, or children's activities & family services here: www.stmarysewell.com/newsletter

The Vicar sends out an email to the general list a few times a month with updates on what's going on, in particular changes resulting from COVID restrictions.

(We are fully GDPR compliant and won't use your email for anything else! See our privacy policy at www.stmarysewell.com)

We are also on Facebook and Instagram.