

Holy Trinity Headington Quarry



All-Age Nativity Service

18th December 2022

The Gathering

Words of welcome

Hymn 62

*Come and join the celebration, it's a very special day;
come and share our jubilation, there's a new King born today!*

See, the shepherds hurry down to Bethlehem,
gaze in wonder at the Son of God who lay before them
Come and join the celebration ...

Wise men journey, led to worship by a star
Kneel in homage, bringing precious gifts from lands afar, so
Come and join the celebration ...

"God is with us," round the world the message bring
God is with us, "Welcome", all the bells on earth are peeling
Come and join the celebration

Gathering Prayer

Welcome in the name of Christ.
God's grace, mercy and peace be with you
and also with you.

**Lord Jesus, as we gather in your name
to sing your praise,
to hear your story,
and to receive your gifts,
fill us with your love,
your peace and your joy.
Amen.**

Lighting of the Advent Candles

*On each Sunday of Advent, we light a new candle on the
Advent Wreath.*

Advent 4: Mary

**Mary's gift beyond all telling
we recall today:
Son of God within her dwelling,
born to show the way.
Who could guess the final story?
—cross and glory, Easter Day!**

After the candle is lit:

The people who walked in darkness
Have seen a great light
Jesus is the light of the world
A light no darkness can ever put out.

Receiving God's Forgiveness

The coming of Christ brings hope and healing to our world.
As sisters and brothers in God's family,
we come together to ask God's forgiveness.

Christ came in humility to share our lives:
forgive our pride.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Christ came with good news for all people:
forgive our silence.
Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

Christ came in love to a world of suffering:
forgive our self-centredness.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

The president says

The God of all mercies forgive you your sins,
and pour upon you the healing spirit of love, peace and
gentleness. **Amen.**

The Collect - A Prayer for the Day

Eternal God,
as Mary waited for the birth of your Son,
so we wait for his coming in glory;
bring us through the birth pangs of this present age
to see, with her, our great salvation
in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

Please sit

The Nativity Story

Christmas is a time when we remember how Jesus, God's son, was born in a stable in Bethlehem. This morning we are going to tell the story of Jesus' birth together...

Hymn 79

O little town of Bethlehem,
How still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and
dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
The everlasting Light;
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee tonight.

O morning stars together
Proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the King,
And Peace to men on earth.
For Christ is born of Mary;
And, gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep
Their watch of wondering love.

How silently, how silently,
The wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts

The blessings of His heaven.
No ear may hear His coming;
But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive Him, still
The dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem,
Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in,
Be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell:
O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Emmanuel.

Phillips Brooks (1835-1894)

Affirmation of Faith

Let us declare our faith in God.

**We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and on earth is named.
We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith,
and fills us with his love.
We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us
with power from on high.
We believe in one God;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

The response is used:

God of love
Hear our prayer.

We conclude our prayers with the Grace

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ
and the love of God
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be with us all, evermore.
Amen.**

This week we also hold in our prayers:

We pray for those who are sick or in particular need:

*Naomi Lawrence, Kate Samuel, Barbara Farrar, Grace,
Bob Nind, Robert Twycross, Rosemary, Judith, Josie,
Baby Ezra, Nell Slocock, Diana Harrison, Polly Friedhoff, Evelyn Clare.
George*

Those who have died recently:

Ian Wylie, George Self, Susan Lloyd.

Those whose anniversary of death falls at this time:

*Frederick Butler, Susan Webster, Frances Arnold, Jean Rivington,
Phyllis Harvey, Jane Smith, Stuart Douglas.*

The Peace

Please stand

Jesus said: "Blessed are the peacemakers for they will be called 'Children of God'".

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

Let us offer one another a sign of peace

All may exchange a sign of peace.

Hymn 71

Jesus Christ the Lord is born
all the bells are ringing!
Angels greet the holy One
and shepherds hear them singing,
and shepherds hear them singing.

'Go to Bethlehem today,
find your King and saviour:
glory be to God on high,
to earth his peace and favour
to earth his peace and favour!'

Held within a cattle stall,
loved by love maternal,
see the master of us all,
our Lord of lords eternal,
our Lord of lords eternal!

Soon shall come the wise men three,
rousing Herod's anger
mothers' hearts shall broken be
and Mary's son in danger
and Mary's son in danger.

Death from life and life from death
our salvation story:
let all living things give breath
to Christmas songs of glory,
to Christmas songs of glory!

Michael Perry (1942-1996), based on Puer nobis nascitur

Taking of the Bread and Wine Prayer

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

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.

It is always right to give you thanks,
God our Creator,
loving and faithful, holy and strong.
You made us
and the whole universe,
and filled your world with life.
You sent your Son to live among us,
Jesus our Saviour, Mary's child.
He suffered on the cross;
he died to save us from our sins;
he rose in glory from the dead.

You send your Spirit
to bring new life to the world,
and clothe us with power from on high.
And so we join the angels
to celebrate and sing:

**Holy, holy, holy is the Lord;
holy is the Lord God almighty.
Holy, holy, holy is the Lord;
holy is the Lord God almighty,
who was, and is and is to come.
Holy, holy, holy is the Lord!**

**Blessed, blessed, blest the one who comes;
Blest the one who comes in the Lord's name.
Blessed, blessed, blest the one who comes;
Blest the one who comes in the Lord's name.
who was, and is and is to come.
Holy, holy, holy is the Lord!**

Father, on the night before he died,
Jesus shared a meal with his friends.
He took the bread, and thanked you.
He broke it, and gave it to them, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this to remember me.

Bells are rung

After the meal, Jesus took the cup of wine.
He thanked you, and gave it to them, saying:
Drink this, all of you.
This is my blood,
the new promise of God's unfailing love.
Do this to remember me.

Bells are rung

Great is the mystery of faith:
Christ has died:
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.

Father, as we bring this bread and wine,
and remember his death and resurrection,
send your Holy Spirit,
that we who share these gifts
may be fed by Christ's body and his blood.

Pour your Spirit on us
that we may love one another,
work for the healing of the earth,
and share the good news of Jesus,
as we wait for his coming in glory.

For honour and praise belong to you, Father,
with Jesus your Son, and the Holy Spirit:
one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Please sit or kneel

As our saviour taught us, so we pray.

**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.**

Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.
**Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

We repeat the chant a few times:

**Jesus Christ, bread of life
those who come to you will not hunger
Jesus Christ, risen Lord,
those who trust in you will not thirst.**

Taizé Community

Giving of Communion

God's holy gifts
for God's holy people.
**Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

This is God's table and all are welcome. Please follow the directions of the steward and follow the one-way system back to your seat. Those sitting towards the back will be invited to come forwards first. If you are wearing a mask, it is most practical if you remove it before receiving communion. The chalice is being administered from the Lady Chapel step. If you wish to receive the chalice, please hold the base of the chalice and guide it towards your lips – the person administering the chalice will not let go of it in the process. Please do not dip your wafer into the chalice. Please note that there is no obligation to take the chalice and it is fine still to receive communion in one kind only (the bread). If you do not wish to receive communion and would prefer a blessing instead, please do come forwards as well.

Hymn 85

The Angel Gabriel from heaven came,
his wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame;
'All hail,' said he, 'thou lowly maiden Mary,
most highly favoured lady'
Gloria!

'For known a blessed Mother thou shalt be,
all generations laud and honour thee,
thy son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold;
most highly favoured lady.'
Gloria!

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head,
'To me be as it pleaseth God', she said,
'My soul shall laud and magnify his holy name':
most highly favoured lady.
Gloria!

Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ was born
in Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn,
and Christian folk throughout the world will ever say
'Most highly favoured lady.'
Gloria!

Basque Carol, paraphrased by Sabine Baring-Gould

Prayer after Communion

**God of power,
may the boldness of your Spirit transform us,
may the gentleness of your Spirit lead us,
may the gifts of your Spirit equip us to serve and
worship you
now and always.
Amen.**

The Sending Out

Hymn 82

Please stand

See him lying on a bed of straw:
a draughty stable with an open door;
Mary cradling the babe she bore
the Prince of glory is his name.
*Oh, now carry me to Bethlehem
to see the Lord of love again:
just as poor as was the stable then,
the Prince of glory when he came.*

Star of silver sweep across the skies,
show where Jesus in the manger lies;
shepherds, swiftly from your stupor rise
to see the Saviour of the world!
Oh, now carry me to Bethlehem

Angels, sing again the song you sang,
sing the glory of God's gracious plan;
sing that Bethl'em's little baby can
be salvation to the soul.
Oh, now carry me to Bethlehem

Calypso Carol, Michael Perry (1942-1996)

The Blessing

May the joy of the angels,
the eagerness of the shepherds,
the perseverance of the wise men,
the obedience of Joseph and Mary
and the peace of the Christ-child be yours this Christmas; and
the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. Amen. be among
you and remain with you always.
Amen

The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord
In the name of Christ. Amen.

In these colder months we will serve refreshments inside church. Please be mindful of the space of others when leaving the church and when collecting refreshments – please take care not to block any aisles.

Please take this booklet away with you, and recycle it when you have finished with it. We no longer pass the collection plate around during the service, but you are welcome to use the collection plate at the back of church, or the contactless machine, if you would like to make a donation to support the work of our church.

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Notices: 18th December

Sunday December 18th : The Fourth Sunday of Advent

8am Holy Communion

10am All Age Nativity Service

6pm Christmas Carol Service (also live-streamed on YouTube)

We will be saying goodbye, and giving thanks to Rosie Tweddle our Musical Director who is leaving. Her last service will be on Christmas Day. Refreshments will be available after the service in the coach house.

Christmas Services

Saturday 24th December

2.30pm & 4pm Christingle Services

11.30pm Midnight Mass

Sunday 25th December

8am Said Communion

10am Family Eucharist

Sunday January 1st: First Sunday after Christmas

8am Holy Communion

10am Parish Eucharist

Midweek Services

Morning Prayer: 9am Monday to Thursday (will continue until December 22nd and will then resume on Monday January 9th).

Tots Service: Tuesdays at 10am (will start back on January 10th).

Midweek Communion: Wednesdays at 10am

2023: A time to build As we mark a new church year, we invite everyone to pray for our church building project: that 2023 would be a 'time to build':

God of vision and hope,

we thank you for our church building;

a place of prayer and pilgrimage,

witnessing to your love and presence in our midst.

We pray for our plans to develop the building

to further the work of your kingdom in this and future generations.

We pray for the guidance, resources and skills we need

to bring the project to completion,

and that we would be united in vision and focus

as we work towards this goal,

in the name of Jesus Christ our Cornerstone.

Amen.

Rosie Tweddle our Musical Director is leaving after 7 years of wonderful music making. There will be an opportunity to thank her at the carol service, but her last service with us will be on Christmas Day.

Warm Welcome Space: in the Coach House, on Fridays 10am – 12pm (11.30-2pm 3rd Friday of the month). Take a poster and let as many people know about this as you can. No booking required just turn up. For info contact Margaret Taylor 765051 or Elizabeth Knight 761476.

Prayers for Hope and Healing This online group has been meeting over the last year for a designated time of silent prayer for hope and healing of our world, with an opening reflection leading to a time of silence. In 2023, we have decided to focus on Richard Rohr's book 'The Universal Christ'. We will meet every *other* week, beginning on Thursday January 12th. Time: 8.30 - 9.00pm on Zoom. You'd be very welcome to join us if you would like to. Please email Felicity at felicity.hthq@gmail.com if you'd like to know more or to receive the Zoom link.

Asylum Welcome are in urgent need of donations to their food bank as stocks are currently running very low. They currently provide food to over 80 adults and children on a weekly basis, distributing up to 1000 items for tinned and fresh food every week. They rely entirely on donations for their food bank and are currently particularly in need of cooking oil, tinned tomatoes, milk (UHT) and tinned fish. Please put items in the crate at the back of church You can find a list of all the items that are needed on this page: <https://www.asylum-welcome.org/food/>. Thank you for your support.

Headington Repair Café: Don't condemn broken tools etc to landfill! As of January 10th, the Bring and Fix Café will be back every Tuesday 10.00-12.00 in the (newly-revamped) Bullingdon Community Centre, Peat Moors, OX3 7HS. The last session in their temporary home at the Gladstone Rd. Community Centre OX3 8LL will be held on Tuesday 13th December. Experts offer to fix most small electric and household items. Free tea/coffee, biscuits and parking are available. A small donation is appreciated. For further information please phone: 07792 49 13 50. Hilary Rollin for Eco Group

Eco Church Resources Take your pick! The Autumn List gives details (and links for booking) for webinars that are new this season, also a link to a list of previous webinars that you might have missed at the time: <https://www.hthq.uk/eco-church-resources/>

Eco Tips Eco Tip of the Week: When you turn off the oven, leave the oven door open and make use of the residual heat to warm the kitchen. Hilary Rollin for Eco Church Group

Pastoral care team. Are you in need of support or would you like to talk to someone? We rely on you to let us know of anyone who is ill, or in hospital or who might welcome a visit. Please contact any of the clergy (numbers below) or Helen Day, Janet Masters, Nell Slocock or Anne Tarassenko.

Holy Trinity Headington Quarry

*An open door between heaven and earth,
showing God's love to all.*

Contact us

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