



BELFAST CATHEDRAL

HOLY EUCHARIST

Sunday 2nd January 2022

11.00am

The Naming and Circumcision of Christ

Welcome to the Cathedral Church of St Anne, Belfast. Face coverings must be worn when entering and exiting the building, and when singing the hymns. We request members of the congregation to wear face coverings throughout the service. Please follow the instructions from the Churchwardens. Under government guidance for the purposes of keeping Contact Tracing Records it is essential that you complete the following information. These will be retained for 21 days, after which they will be destroyed. Thank you.

**PLEASE PLACE THIS PAGE OF THE ORDER OF SERVICE IN THE BOX
AT THE WEST END OF THE CATHEDRAL AS YOU LEAVE**

Name(s): _____

Telephone contact: _____



INSTRUCTIONS FOR RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION

Baptised members of Christian churches are welcome to join in this Eucharist.

It is the Lord's table and this invitation is given in his name.

The Eucharist will be celebrated and distributed in accordance with the Covid precautions as laid down by the Church of Ireland. As a result, Communion will be in **one kind only** today.

If you wish to receive communion, please move to the Quire Steps when directed by the cathedral wardens. Those seated on the North (left) side of the Nave will move first, then those seated on the South (right) side afterwards.

Please keep 1m social distance at all times and continue wearing your face covering until you return to your seat. Only then remove your face covering to take the wafer bread.

Please indicate if you require a Gluten-free wafer.

If you wish to receive a blessing only, please keep your hands by your side or cross your arms.

Please do not make video recordings or take photographs during the service

Organ Prelude: Fanfare on 'Antioch' Gerre Hancock (1934-2012)



THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE



Please stand to sing **HYMN 618:**



**Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,
whose trust, ever child-like, no cares could destroy,
be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,
your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.**

**Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,
whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe,
be there at our labours, and give us, we pray,
your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.**

**Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace,
your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace,
be there at our homing, and give us, we pray,
your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.**

**Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,
whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm,
be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,
your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.**

*Words: Jan Struther [Joyce Placzek, nee Torrens] (1901-53)
Tune: SLANE Irish traditional melody harm. Erik Routley (1917-82)*

THE GREETING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. *1 John 4:9*

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden; cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

PENITENCE

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ says: You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it. You shall love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the law and the prophets.

Lord, have mercy on us, and write these your laws in our hearts.

Christ the light of the world has come to dispel the darkness of our hearts. Let us turn to the light and confess our sins.

Please kneel or sit in silence

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned in thought and word and deed, and in what we have left undone. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may walk in newness of life to the glory of your name. Amen.

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy on you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Please stand whilst the cantor sings the **GLORIA IN EXCELSIS:**

Gloria in excelsis Deo et in terra
pax hominibus bonae voluntatis.

Laudamus te, benedicimus te,
adoramus te, glorificamus te,
gratias agimus tibi propter
magnum gloriam tuam,
Domine Deus, Rex caelestis,
Deus Pater omnipotens.

*Glory to God in the highest, and on
earth peace to people of goodwill.*

*We praise you, we bless you,
we adore you, we glorify you,
we give you thanks
for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.*

Domine Fili Unigenite, Iesu
Christe,
Domine Deus, Agnus Dei,
Filius Patris,
qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis;
qui tollis peccata mundi, suscipe
deprecationem nostrum.
Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris,
miserere nobis.
Quoniam tu solus Sanctus, tu
solus Dominus,
tu solus Altissimus,
Iesu Christe, cum Sancto Spiritu:
in gloria Dei Patris. Amen.

*Lord Jesus Christ,
only begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer.
You are seated at the right hand of the
Father, have mercy on us.
For you alone are the Holy One, you
alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.*

Setting: Missa de Angelis, Plainsong

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was circumcised in obedience to the law for our sake and given the Name that declares your saving love: Give us grace faithfully to bear his Name, to worship him in the freedom of the Spirit, and to proclaim him as the Saviour of the world; who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**



PROCLAIMING AND RECEIVING THE WORD



Please sit for the **EPISTLE READING:** Galatians 4:4-7

When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, 'Abba! Father!' So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand to say **PSALM 8:**

O Lord our governor, ◆

how glorious is your name in all the world!

Your majesty above the heavens is praised ◆

out of the mouths of babes at the breast.

You have founded a stronghold against your foes, ◆

that you might still the enemy and the avenger.

When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, ♦
the moon and the stars that you have ordained,

What is man, that you should be mindful of him; ♦

the son of man, that you should seek him out?

You have made him little lower than the angels ♦

and crown him with glory and honour.

You have given him dominion over the works of your hands ♦

and put all things under his feet,

All sheep and oxen, ♦

even the wild beasts of the field,

The birds of the air, the fish of the sea ♦

and whatsoever moves in the paths of the sea.

O Lord our governor, ♦

how glorious is your name in all the world!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son; and to the Holy Spirit; ♦

as it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be for ever. Amen.

*Please remain standing to sing the **ALLELUIA:***



Glory to you, O Christ, proclaimed among Gentiles: glory to you, O Christ,
believed in throughout the world *cf. 1 Timothy 3:16*

Please remain standing

THE GOSPEL READING: Luke 2:15-21

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Luke.



When 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.' So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



SERMON by the Reverend Canon Mark Niblock, Dean's Vicar

Please stand and face east to say 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 by the Holy Spirit of 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.



THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE



Please kneel or sit

At the birth of the year, let us pray for the Church and for the world.

May the Church for ever praise and honour the holy Name of Jesus her Lord. As the shepherds told of his Nativity, let all Christian people glorify God and bear witness to his love.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the needs of the world, remembering especially those whose work is hard, that they may be given strength and joy. Grant to those in authority the light of wisdom and the grace to govern with care and justice.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bless us, our families, friends and neighbours, with the love which was in the Holy Family. We pray for the children in this community, especially those within the Children's and Songbirds Choirs, that they may be safe from all harm and grow in happiness.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Have compassion on all who suffer in body, mind or spirit and cannot feel the joy of this season. Bless all who are in despair and have lost their way, that this new year may be for them a new beginning.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We give you thanks for the departed who came like Jesus to human birth and have ended their lives in this world, especially all who we have been close to. Grant us with them a place in the eternal worship of heaven where all is praise and glory.

Merciful Father, **accept these our prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

THE PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

We do not presume to come to this your table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness but in your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord, whose nature is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him and he in us. Amen.

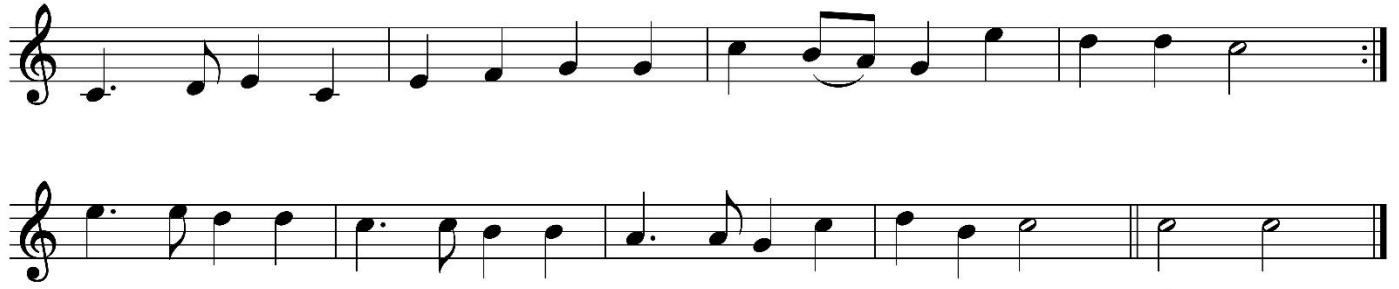
Please stand

THE PEACE

Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given, and his name shall be called the Prince of Peace. *Isaiah 9:6*

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

Please remain standing to sing **HYMN 84:**



A - men.

**Alleluia! raise the anthem,
let the skies resound with praise;
sing to him who found the ransom,
Ancient of eternal Days:
God of God, the Word incarnate,
whom the heaven of heaven obeys.**

**Long before he raised the mountains,
formed the seas or built the sky,
love eternal, free and boundless,
moved the Lord of life to die;
fore-ordained the Prince of princes
for the throne of Calvary.**

**Yet this earth he still remembers,
still by him the flock are fed;
for he gives them food immortal,
gives himself, the living Bread;
leads them where the precious fountain
from the smitten rock is shed.**

**Laud and honour to the Father,
laud and honour to the Son,
laud and honour to the Spirit,
ever Three and ever One,
consubstantial, co-eternal,
while unending ages run.**

Words: Job Hupton (1762-1849) and John Mason Neale (1818-66)

Music: NEANDER (UNSER HERRSCHER) Melody from Joachim Neander's Alpha and Omega (Bremen, 1680)



CELEBRATING AT THE LORD'S TABLE

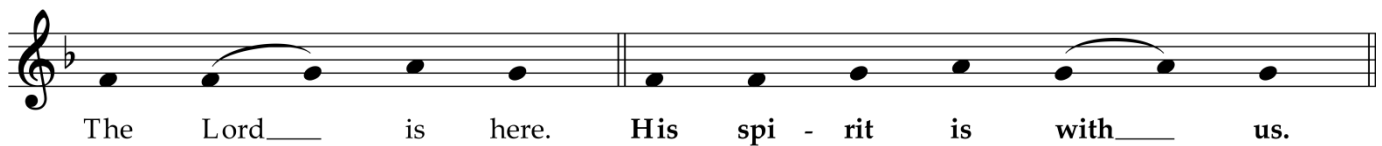


Please remain standing

Word made flesh, life of the world, in your incarnation you embraced our poverty: by your Spirit may we share in your riches. **Amen.**

THE TAKING OF THE BREAD AND WINE

Christ our passover has been sacrificed for us
therefore let us celebrate the feast.



Father, almighty and everliving God, at all times and in all places it is right to give you thanks and praise:

You have given Jesus Christ your only Son to be born of the Virgin Mary, and through him you have given us power to become the children of God:

And so with all your people, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and saying:

The cantor sings the **SANCTUS:**

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus
Dominus Deus Sabaoth.
Pleni sunt caeli et terra
gloria tua.
Hosanna in excelsis.
Benedictus qui venit
in nomine Domini.
Hosanna in excelsis.

*Holy, Holy, Holy
Lord God of Hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of
your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.*

Setting: Missa de Angelis, Plainsong

Blessed are you, Father, the creator and sustainer of all things; you made us in your own image, male and female you created us; even when we turned away from you, you never ceased to care for us, but in your love and mercy you freed us from the slavery of sin, giving your only begotten Son to become man and suffer death on the cross to redeem us; he made there the one complete and all-sufficient sacrifice for the sins of the whole world: he instituted, and in his holy Gospel commanded us to continue, a perpetual memory of his precious death until he comes again:

On the night that he was betrayed he took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, 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 when he had given thanks to you, he gave it to them, saying, Drink this, all of you, for 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.

Therefore, Father, with this bread and this cup we do as Christ your Son commanded: **we remember his passion and death, we celebrate his resurrection and ascension, and we look for the coming of his kingdom.**

Accept through him, our great high priest, this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; and as we eat and drink these holy gifts, grant by the power of the life-giving Spirit that we may be made one in your holy Church and partakers of the body and blood of your Son, that he may dwell in us and we in him:

Through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, **all honour and glory are yours, Almighty Father, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Please kneel or sit.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

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 BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The bread which we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.

We being many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

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

Lord, give us this bread always. Amen

Please sit whilst the cantor sings the **AGNUS DEI:**

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata
mundi, miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata
mundi, miserere nobis.

*Lamb of God, you take away the sins of
the world, have mercy on us.*

*Lamb of God, you take away the sins of
the world, have mercy on us.*

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata
mundi, dona nobis pacem.

*Lamb of God, you take away the sins of
the world, grant us peace.*

Setting: Missa de Angelis, Plainsong

THE COMMUNION

Please observe the guidance of the Church Wardens and follow the directions as printed at the beginning of this order of service.

*During communion the choir sings the **ANTHEM:***

Here we bring new water from the well so clear,
For to worship God with, this happy New Year.
Sing levy dew, sing levy dew, the water and the wine;
The seven bright gold wires and the bugles that do shine.

Sing reign of Fair Maid, with gold upon her toe,
Open you the West Door, and turn the Old Year go.
Sing levy dew, sing levy dew, the water and the wine;
The seven bright gold wires and the bugles that do shine.

Sing reign of Fair Maid, with gold upon her chin,
Open you the East Door, and let the New Year in.
Sing levy dew, sing levy dew, the water and the wine;
The seven bright gold wires and the bugles that do shine.

Words: 'A New Year Carol', Anonymous

Setting: Benjamin Britten (1913-1976)

THE GREAT SILENCE

When all have received communion, the presiding minister, other ministers and people keep silence for reflection



GOING OUT AS GOD'S PEOPLE



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Eternal God, whose incarnate Son was given the name of Saviour: grant that we who have shared in this sacrament of our salvation may live out our years in the power of the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.

Please stand to sing **HYMN 164:**



**It came upon the midnight clear,
that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth
to touch their harps of gold:
'Peace on the earth, good-will to all
from heaven's all-gracious King!';
the world in solemn stillness lay
to hear the angels sing.**

**Still through the cloven skies they come,
with peaceful wings unfurled;
and still their heavenly music floats
o'er all the weary world:
above its sad and lowly plains
they bend on hovering wing;
and ever o'er its Babel sounds
the blessed angels sing.**

**Yet with the woes of sin and strife
the world has suffered long;
beneath the angel-strain have rolled
two thousand years of wrong;
and warring humankind hears not
the words of peace they bring;
O hush the noise of human strife,
to hear the angels sing.**



**For lo! the days are hastening on,
by prophet bards foretold,
when with the ever-circling years,
comes round the age of gold;
when peace shall over all the earth
its ancient splendours fling,
and all the world give back the song
which now the angels sing.**

*Words: Edmund Hamilton Sears (1810-76) based on Luke 2:14
Tune: NOEL English traditional melody adpt. Arthur Sullivan (1842-1900)*

THE BLESSING

Christ, who by his incarnation gathered into one all things earthly and heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace: and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be with you and remain with you always.
Amen.

THE DISMISSAL

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

Organ Postlude: Nowell! Nowell! Christus natus est! *Andrew Fletcher (b.1950)*

Please remain in your place until the Churchwardens direct you to move



NOTICES



There will be no service held in the cathedral this afternoon

**Services Sunday 9th January 2022: The Epiphany
(transferred from 6 January)**

11.00am Choral Eucharist

Preacher: The Dean

3.30pm Choral Eucharist

Cathedral Closures:

The cathedral office will reopen on Tuesday 4 January 2022

The cathedral will remain closed until Tuesday 18 January 2022

We pray that all our cathedral parishioners and their wider families
will keep safe through the ongoing challenges
of ongoing Covid restrictions into the start of 2022