

SERVICE

Christ has brought us out of darkness to live in his marvellous light.

God's grace, mercy and peace be with you and also with you

LET US PRAY

Loving God we have come to worship you. Help us to pray to you in faith, to sing your praise with gratitude, and to listen to your word with eagerness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Our Lord Jesus Christ said:

The first commandment is this: 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord your God is the only Lord. You shall love the Lord with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength.'

The second is this:

'Love your neighbour as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets. Amen. Lord, have mercy

When the Lord comes, he will bring to light those things now hidden in darkness, and will disclose the purpose of the heart. Therefore in the light of Christ let us quietly confess our sins. SILENCE

May the God of love and power

forgive us and free us from our sins,

heal and strengthen us by his spirit,

and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord. Amen

PRAYER / REFLECTION TIME

We reflect on Advent and the journey Mary and Joseph had to make.

QUIET

Let us quieten ourselves to notice our God, here with us now, and attentive to our deepest needs.

LET US PRAY:

Father God, we thank you for the gift of the Bible, which tells us the Christmas story. We pray that all people hear the wonders of the story and learn to follow Jesus. We pray for peace in the Holy Lands, which so many people wish to claim for their own. May all people learn to live in harmony, enable us to value one another and to respond to one another's needs with love.



Father, we pray for all people who are forced to make long journeys in this time of uncertainty, and for those who have nowhere to stay.

We pray for the work of Christian Aid and The Children's Society.

Father God we pray for all families this time of year. May they be full of joy at the thought of Christmas time and may it not be marred by the restrictions caused by Covid.

May we still find a way to share our enjoyment with the less fortunate members of our society and around the world., you know the need and pain of those we love and worry about.

As you look after them, give them the sense of your caring presence to uphold and sustain them.

Father, for us death can seem so cruel; give us a better understanding of eternity, and gather into your kingdom all those whose earthly life has come to an end

Father God as we await the coming of the Light into our lives, help us to WAIT AND WATCH with great patience, and to LISTEN AND ANTICIPATE with hope and love in our hearts.

Merciful Father

Accept these prayers
your Son,
Christ. Amen

for the sake of
our Saviour Jesus

Together we say the Lord's Prayer

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

