

# CHECK IN CHRIST MAS



Thank God  
He checked in with us  
Jesus: Emmanuel  
God with us

Christmas Day, 10am  
**Christmas Communion**

Warning: Jesus as a close personal contact may lead to faith-like symptoms



St David's Cathedral

**COME**



Please be aware of the step when entering and exiting the pews.

## Hymn: Joy to the World

AHB 224 Tune: Antioch Text: Isaac Watts (1674-1748)

Joy to the world  
the Lord has come!  
let earth receive her king,  
let every heart prepare him room  
and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven, and heaven & nature sing!

He rules the world  
with truth and grace,  
and makes the nations prove  
the glories of his righteousness,  
and wonders of his love,  
and wonders of his love,  
and wonders, wonders of his love.

Joy to the earth  
the saviour reigns!  
let songs be heard on high,  
while fields and streams  
and hills and plains  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

## Introduction

*The Celebrant says*

I bring 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. *Luke 2:10-11*

*The Celebrant says*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

I bring you news of great joy: a Saviour has been born to you. Alleluia!

**To us a child is born, a son is given. Alleluia!**

God has checked in with us

**Jesus is Emmanuel, God with us.**

*The Christmas Candle is lit.*

Come Lord Jesus

**We come to you in living faith.**

Come to bring God's kingdom

**We come to you in repentance.**

Come in the power of God's Spirit

**We come to be your disciples.**

Come Lord Jesus Come

**We come to you our true hope.**

*The Deacon says*

Let us pray.

**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.**

## The Confession

*Led by the Deacon.*

The angel of the Lord announced to Joseph that Mary would give birth to a son to be named Jesus because he will save his people from their sins.  
Let us consider our need for a saviour.

*The Choir sings the Kyrie eleison*

**Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy.**

*Silence is kept.*

Lord of grace and truth, you welcome us into your family  
but we do not live as your children.

Lord Jesus,

**save us from our sins:**

The Virgin Mary accepted your call to be the mother of Jesus.

Forgive our disobedience to your will.

Lord Jesus,

**save us from our sins:**

Your Son our Saviour was born in poverty in a manger

Forgive our greed and rejection of your ways.

Lord Jesus,

**save us from our sins:**

The shepherds left their flocks to go to Bethlehem.

Forgive our self-interest and lack of vision.

Lord Jesus,

**save us from our sins:**

The wise men followed the star to find Jesus the king,

Forgive our reluctance to seek you.

Lord Jesus,

**save us from our sins:**

*The Bishop announces the Absolution*

Almighty God comes to us in grace and mercy and forgives those who come to him in repentance. Through the Lord Jesus Christ, he forgives you all your sins, calls you to walk in his light, follow his Son, and live in the power of the Spirit, knowing the joy of his coming kingdom. **Amen.**

*The people stand as the Choir sings the Gloria*

**Glory to God in the highest,  
And peace to God's people on earth.  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
Almighty God and Father,  
We worship you, we give you thanks,  
We praise you for your glory.  
Lord Jesus Christ, only son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God  
You take away the sin of the world:  
Have mercy on us;  
You are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
Receive our prayer.  
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.**

## All Age Talk

*The Dean*

## Prayer for Christmas Day

*The Bishop prays*

God most High, whose eternal Word chose a dwelling among us, that we might live in your presence: grant us a spirit of wisdom to know how rich is the glory you have given us, and how great is the hope to which we are called in the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 52:7-10

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."

<sup>8</sup> Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the Lord to Zion. <sup>9</sup> Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. <sup>10</sup> The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Hear the Word of the Lord,  
**Thanks be to God.**

## Epistle Reading: Hebrews 1:1-4

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, <sup>2</sup> but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. <sup>3</sup> He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, <sup>4</sup> having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

Hear the Word of the Lord,  
**Thanks be to God.**

## Gradual Hymn: What Child is this

*MP 749 Tune: Greensleeves Text: W. Chatterton Dix 1837-98*  
*We sing verses 1-2 prior to the Gospel and verse 3 after.*

What Child is this, who, laid to rest,  
On Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,  
While shepherds watch are keeping?  
This, this is Christ the King  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
Haste, haste to bring him praise  
The Babe, the Son of Mary!

Why lies He in such a mean estate  
Where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here  
The silent Word is pleading:  
Nails, spear, shall pierce him through  
The cross be borne, for me, for you:  
Hail, hail the Word made flesh,  
The Babe, the Son of Mary

## Gospel Acclamation

*The people remain standing*

A holy day has dawned upon us. Come you nations and adore the Lord:  
Today a great light has come upon the earth.



## The Gospel: John 1:1-14

The Lord be with you **and also with you.**

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John chapter 1 beginning at verse 1. **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup> All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being <sup>4</sup> in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. <sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

<sup>6</sup> There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup> He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup> He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. <sup>9</sup> The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

<sup>10</sup> He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup> He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. <sup>12</sup> But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, <sup>13</sup> who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

<sup>14</sup> And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

This is the Gospel of the Lord  
**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## Gradual Hymn: What Child is this

*MP 749      Tune: Greensleeves      Text: W. Chatterton Dix 1837-98*

So bring him incense, gold and myrrh,  
Come peasant, king to own Him,  
The King of Kings salvation brings,  
Let loving hearts enthrone him.  
Raise, raise the song on high,  
The virgin sings her lullaby:  
Joy, joy for Christ is born  
The Babe, the Son of Mary.

## The Sermon: Check in with Jesus

*The Dean*

# The Creed

*All stand.*

**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 of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
and became truly human.**

**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

*The people sit or kneel.*

We rejoice in the good news sung by the angels, checked out by the shepherds, and celebrated by the wisemen, that in a stable in Bethlehem our Saviour was born. In Jesus, Emmanuel, God with us, our God has checked in with us.

In confidence then we bring our prayers through Christ the Lord.

*Silence is kept*

Wonderful Counsellor, give your wisdom to the rulers of the nations to bring peace and justice to this world. Guide us so that we may welcome the stranger, protect the weak, provide sanctuary for all.

Lord Jesus, God with us

**bring your grace, truth and light.**

Mighty God, we give thanks for your creation. Help us to be good stewards of the earth and share its bounty fairly.

Lord Jesus, God with us

**bring your grace, truth and light.**

Everlasting Father, we pray for our families and those we love. Be with all who mourn, are lonely or ill, and especially for those who suffer as followers of Jesus that they may know the true hope of being your children.

Lord Jesus, God with us

**bring your grace, truth and light.**

Prince of peace, help us to follow your ways of love and service so that we may bring your good news to all. May we, with all who have followed Christ, be welcomed into the fullness of joy in your coming kingdom.

Lord Jesus, God with us

**bring your grace, truth and light.**

As you taught us we are confident to pray for the coming of your kingdom.

**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.**

**Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power and the glory**

**are yours now and for ever. Amen.**

## The Greeting of Peace *The people stand. The Celebrant says*

To us a child is born, to us a Son is given; and His name is called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Prince of Peace.

**Glory to God in the highest  
and on earth peace to those whom he favours.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

*The people welcome each other with the words "Peace be with you"*

Please do not move around the building during this time
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## Offertory Hymn: Angels from the realms of glory

*AHB 235 (with additional verse 5) Text: James Montgomery Tune: Iris*

*A collection is taken for the work and ministry of the Cathedral.*

Angels, from the realms of glory  
wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
you who sang creation's story  
now proclaim Messiah's birth;

*Come and worship*

*Christ, the newborn king:*

*come and worship,*

*worship Christ the newborn king.*

Shepherds in the field abiding,  
watching o'er your flocks by night,  
God with man is now residing;  
yonder shines the infant Light;

Wise men, leave your contemplations;  
brighter visions beam afar;  
seek the great Desire of nations;  
you have seen his natal Star:

Saints before the altar bending,  
watching long in hope and fear  
suddenly the Lord descending,  
in his temple shall appear:

Though an infant now we view him,  
he shall fill his Father's throne,  
gather all the nations to him;  
every knee shall then bow down:

## The Great Thanksgiving *The Celebrant*

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 our thanks and praise.**

Loving God, it is right to give you thanks and praise in the highest.  
We thank you for this universe, a world of wonder and delight.  
You have given it to us to enjoy and to care for.

**Glory to God in the highest**

We give you thanks for Jesus, the Word made flesh.  
In Him you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts,  
to give knowledge of your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.

**Glory to God in the highest**

We thank you that you sent Jesus  
to live and work as Emmanuel, God with us.  
He showed us how we can love you  
and he sets us free to serve one another.

**Glory to God in the highest**

We thank you that by his life, death and resurrection  
Jesus takes away sin which keeps us from each other and from you.  
He frees us from the hate and fear which destroy love and trust,  
and he welcomes us into your family.

**Glory to God in the highest**

And so with everyone who believes in you,  
with all the saints and angels, we rejoice and praise you:

*The Choir sings*

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts,  
heaven and earth are full of thy glory:  
Glory be to thee, O Lord most high.  
Blessed is he that comes in the Name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the Highest.**

And now we thank you for these gifts of bread and wine;  
may we who receive them, as Jesus said, share his body and his blood.  
On the night he was betrayed, he took bread and gave you thanks.  
He broke the bread and gave it to his friends and said,  
“Take and eat. This is my body given for you.  
Do this in remembrance of me.”  
After supper he took the cup and gave you thanks.  
He shared the cup with them and said,  
“This is my blood poured out so that sins may be forgiven.  
Do this in remembrance of me.”

CANTOR:                      ALL:

Christ has\_\_ died;    Christ is\_\_\_ ri - sen;    Christ will\_\_ come    a - gain.\_\_

The musical notation consists of a single staff in G-clef (treble clef) with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is a simple, rhythmic line of quarter notes. The lyrics are placed below the staff, with some words underlined to indicate the start of new phrases. The notation ends with a double bar line.

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again**

You have gathered us together to receive Christ's body and blood, to remember all he has done for us, his suffering and death, his rising to new life, and his ascending into heaven. Fill us with your Spirit, that we may follow Jesus in all we do and say. Help us to work for justice and to bring your peace to others so that all may sing your praises.



**Blessing & honour & glory & power are yours forever & ever. Amen**

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

In Jesus, God has checked in with us and remains with us. Renewed by God's presence with us we take this holy sacrament of the body and blood of Christ in remembrance that he died for us, and feed on him in our hearts by faith with rejoicing.

## Communion

*The Choir sings the Agnus Dei*

*We welcome all who have faithfully participated in the service to join with us in Communion as we celebrate our Saviour's saving life, death and resurrection.*

*If you normally take Communion in another Christian Church please join with us. Please come forward as directed by the sides-persons and continue to maintain physical distancing. You will be given a wafer pre infused with wine. There are also gluten free wafers on request. Anyone wishing to receive a blessing please keep your hands by your side. It is our custom to keep silent during the distribution of the communion. Children and Communion: Children are welcome to be brought forward for a blessing. Children only take communion if they have been confirmed or if their parents are convinced they understand the meaning of taking the bread and wine and they regularly participate in Holy Communion.*

**Please be aware of the step when entering and exiting the pews**

## Communion Anthems

*Nativity Carol - Rutter*

**Sending out of God's people** *The Celebrant says*

God of heaven, dwelling among us, we thank you for feeding us with this holy food. By your grace keep us ever faithful to your Word made flesh that as his body in the world we may bring your presence to all people.

**Most loving God, you send us into the world you love. Give us grace to go thankfully and with courage in the power of the Spirit.**

## The Recessional Hymn: O come, all ye faithful

AHB 228      Text: tr. Frederick Oakeley, William Mercer & others      Tune: Adeste Fideles

O Come, all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant, O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem; Come and behold him Born the King of angels: <i>O come, let us adore Him</i> <i>O come, let us adore Him</i> <i>O come, let us adore Him</i> <i>Christ the Lord.</i>	See how the shepherds Summoned to his cradle Leaving their flocks, draw nigh with holy fear; We too will thither Bend our joyful footsteps: Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation, Sing all ye citizens of heaven above; Glory to God in the Highest: Yea, Lord we greet Thee, Born this happy morning, Jesu, to Thee be glory given; Word of the Father now in flesh appearing:
God of God, Light of Light, Lo, he abhors not the Virgin's womb; Son of the Father, Begotten not created:	

## The Benediction

*The Bishop says*

May the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the perseverance of the wise men, the obedience of Joseph and Mary, the peace of the Christ child, and the hope of life eternal, 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.**

*The Deacon*

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

## Voluntary:

*"In Dulce Jubilo" A Medieval Version A Harmonised Version*

*The Chorale Prelude Version by J S Bach*

Please be aware of the step when entering and exiting the pews
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*Celebrant: Bp Chris Jones. Preacher: The Very Rev'd Richard Humphrey*  
*Choir Director: Thomas Rimes Organist: Peter Warren Setting: Ireland in C*

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