

**United Benefice of Berrow with Pendock
Eldersfield, Hollybush and Birtsmorton**



Holy Communion at Midnight

THE WELCOME

HYMN

THE GREETING

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you
and also with you.

BLESSING OF THE CRIB

Dear friends, as we meet to celebrate the birth of Christ, let us
pray that God will bless this crib, that all who worship his Son,
born of the Virgin Mary, may come to share his life in glory.

God our Father,
on this night your Son Jesus Christ was born of the Virgin Mary
for us and for our salvation:
bless this crib,
which we have prepared to celebrate that holy birth;
may all who see it be strengthened in faith
and receive the fullness of life he came to bring,
who is alive and reigns for ever.
Amen.

PRAYERS OF PENITENCE

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.

Silence is kept.

God our Father, you sent your Son full of grace and truth:
forgive our failure to receive him.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Jesus our Saviour, you were born in poverty and laid in a
manger: forgive our greed and rejection of your ways.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Spirit of love, your servant Mary responded joyfully to your call:
forgive the hardness of our hearts.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

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 COLLECT

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.**

READINGS – Isaiah 52: 7-10, Hebrews 1:1-4

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory.

Alleluia.

When the Gospel is announced the reader says

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *N.*

Glory to you, O Lord.

At the end

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN

THE 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

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Father, in this holy night your Son our Saviour was born in
human flesh.

Renew your Church as the Body of Christ.

Holy God

hear our prayer.

In this holy night there was no room for your Son in the inn.
Protect with your love those who have no home and all who live
in poverty.

Holy God

hear our prayer.

In this holy night Mary, in the pain of labour, brought your Son
to birth.

Hold in your hand all who are in pain or distress.

Holy God

hear our prayer.

In this holy night your Christ came as a light shining in the
darkness.

Bring comfort to all who suffer in the sadness of our world.

Holy God

hear our prayer.

In this holy night strangers found the Holy Family,
and saw the baby lying in the manger.

Bless our homes and all whom we love.

Holy God

hear our prayer.

In this holy night heaven is come down to earth, and earth is
raised to heaven.

Hold in your hand all those who have passed through death in
the hope of your coming kingdom.

Holy God

hear our prayer.

In this holy night Christians the world over celebrate Christ's birth. Open our hearts that he may be born in us today.

Holy God

hear our prayer.

Father, in this holy night angels and shepherds worshipped at the manger throne. Receive the worship we offer in fellowship with Mary, Joseph and the saints through him who is your Word made flesh, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Amen.

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.'

Luke 2.14

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

PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

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 EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord is here.

His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Let us pray

We sit or kneel to pray

Father we give you thanks and praise
Through your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, your living Word,
Through whom you have created all things;
Who was sent by you in your great goodness to be our Saviour.

By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh;
as your Son, born of the blessed Virgin,
he lived on earth and went about among us;
he opened wide his arms for us on the cross;
he put an end to death by dying for us;
and revealed the resurrection by rising to new life;
so he fulfilled your will and won for you a holy people.

And now we give you thanks
because, in the incarnation of the Word,
a new light has dawned upon the world;
you have become one with us
that we might become one with you in your glorious kingdom.
Therefore with angels and archangels
and all the company of heaven
we proclaim your great and glorious name
evermore praising you and saying;

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might.
heaven and earth are full of your glory
Hosannah in the highest**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord
Hosannah 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 St John the Baptist and all the
saints, may 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

Rejoicing in the presence of God here among us,
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.**

GIVING OF COMMUNION

*Communion will be distributed in one kind only and in silence.
Please come up to the communion rail in a single file, socially
distanced, receive the bread in cupped hands, return to your
pew and only then remove your mask and consume.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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.

**Father of all,
we give you thanks and praise,
that when we were still far off
you met us in your Son and brought us home.
Dying and living, he declared your love,
gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.
May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;
we who drink his cup bring life to others;
we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,
so we and all your children shall be free,
and the whole earth live to praise your name;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

HYMN

THE BLESSING

May the humility of the shepherds
the perseverance of the wise men
the joy of the angels
and the peace of the Christ child
be God's gifts to us and to people everywhere this Christmas.
And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit
be upon you and remain with you always.
Amen.

THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Proclaim the Word made flesh.
Glory, thanks and praise to God.