



St Mark & St Cuthbert
the church on the park



Christ is Born

Morning Worship at Christmas



St Peter's Church
a heart for Harton

Welcome to today's service of morning worship. All are welcome here, as we bring prayers, praise and thanksgiving to our God. Hymns and songs will be announced. Please do join in all the parts of the service in bold, and if you get lost, ask someone sitting near you. They will be happy to help.

We have a generous God to whom we wish to respond. Collections from this service go towards the ministry we offer in our community. Thank you in advance for any donation you would like to make, but we are delighted simply that you are here. We appreciate gift-aided donations, and offer planned giving/envelope schemes for regular givers. Information about direct giving through the bank is also available.

If you are interested in learning more about the Christian faith or baptism, please don't be shy to ask at the end of the service. We admit children to communion from the age of 7, and children of *all* ages are welcome in our worship. More information can be found on stpetersharton.org.uk and thechurchonthepark.org.uk

Opening

We open our worship with music, for which, if comfortable to do so, we usually stand.

Welcome

I bring you good news of great joy:

All a Saviour has been born.

Unto us a child is born,

All unto us a Son is given.

He is Christ the Lord.

All We worship and adore Him.

The Word was made flesh and lived among us:

All and we have seen his glory.

Glory to God in the highest

All and peace to his people on earth.

Confession and Forgiveness

Hear the words of the angel to Joseph:

‘You shall call his name Jesus,

for he will save his people from their sins.’

Therefore let us seek the forgiveness of God

through Jesus the Saviour of the world.

The following or another suitable prompt to recognise our failures is read:

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

All 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.

All Christ, have mercy.

Spirit of Love,
your servant Mary responded joyfully to your call:
forgive the hardness of our hearts.
Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

May the God of all healing and forgiveness
draw us to himself and cleanse us from our sins,
that we may behold the glory of his Son,
the Word made flesh,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

Praise

We say or sing the Gloria in Excelsis. When said, we omit the refrain.

***All Glory to God, Glory to God,
Glory to God in the highest.***

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

***Glory to God, Glory to God,
Glory to God in the highest.***

**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.**

***Glory to God, Glory to God,
Glory to God in the highest.***

**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.**

***Glory to God, Glory to God,
Glory to God in the highest.***

Prayer for today (the 'Collect')

*The prayer of the week or a particular prayer for today is read.
At the end, we respond:*

All Amen.

Readings from the Bible

*We sit to listen to a reading from the Old / New Testament.
At the end of each reading, we hear and respond:*

For the word of the Lord,
All thanks be to God.

Music

We continue our worship with more music.

Gospel Reading

An acclamation beginning 'Alleluia' often heralds the Gospel.

We respond:

All Alleluia!

Please stand for the Gospel if you are able.

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to...

All Glory to you, O Lord.

At the end of the gospel the reader says:

This is the gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

Talk

A sermon or an address by one of the ministry team may be given, or an activity undertaken.

Peace

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

The peace of the Lord be always with you

All and also with you.

We greet those around us, saying "Peace be with you"

Music

(during which a collection may be taken)

Affirmation of Faith

Let us affirm our faith
in Jesus Christ, the Son of God

**All Though he was divine,
he did not cling to equality with God,
but made himself nothing.
Taking the form of a slave,
he was born in human likeness.
He humbled himself
and was obedient to death,
even the death of the cross.
Therefore God has raised him on high,
and given him the name above every name:
that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bow,
and every voice proclaim
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.
Amen.**

Commitment

We promise afresh to follow God's call:

**All Lord, teach me to be generous.
Teach me to serve you as you deserve;
to give and not to count the cost,
to fight and not to heed the wounds,
to toil and not to seek for rest,
to labour and not to ask for reward,
save that of knowing that I do your will. Amen.**

Prayers

We pray for the world, the church and God's people; for those in need and sorrow. We conclude with the Lord's Prayer:

**All 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.**

Music

We sing again before we leave.

Closing Praise

The Word was made flesh and lived among us:

All and we have seen his glory.

Let us bless the living God:

He was born of the Virgin Mary,

All revealed in his glory,

worshipped by the angels,

All proclaimed among the nations,

believed in throughout the world,

exalted to the highest heavens.

To a troubled world,

All peace from Christ.

To a searching world,

All love from Christ.

To a waiting world,

All hope from Christ.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All In the name of Christ. Amen.

Please do stay for refreshments and fellowship before you begin your week.



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