

Christmas Day

INTRODUCTION

INTROIT CAROL—**13** *Bethlehem Carol Sheet*

In the name of the Father,
and of ✠ the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

All respond: Amen.

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

R. And also with you.

The PRAYERS OF PENITENCE are introduced.

The sun of righteousness has dawned with healing in his wings. Let us come to the light of Christ, confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

Lord Jesus, you were born for our salvation:
Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

You came as Saviour to bring wholeness and peace:

Christ, have mercy.

R. Christ, have mercy.

You come to bring light into the darkness of our lives:

Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

May almighty God have mercy on us,
forgive us ✠ our sins,
and bring us to everlasting life.

Amen.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS is sung.

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.

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 remain standing for the COLLECT.

Almighty God, you have given us your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him and as at this time to be born of a pure virgin: grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; 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.**

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Readings Set 3

FIRST READING

Isa 52.7–10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

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.' 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. Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. 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.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

R. All the ends of the earth have seen the
salvation of our God. (*All repeat*)

Sing to the Lord a new song,
for he has done marvellous things.
With his own right hand and with his holy arm
he has brought deliverance. R.

The Lord has made known his righteous love
in the sight of all mankind,
and his faithfulness and truth
toward the house of Israel. R.

All the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of our God.
Let all the world be glad in him:
Sing, rejoice and give him thanks. R.

Let music sound upon the harp,
let psalms be offered to his praise.
With trumpets and with songs of joy
shout the praise of God our King. R.

SECOND READING

Heb 1.1-4

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many
and various ways by the prophets, 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. 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, having become
as much superior to angels as the name he has
inherited is more excellent than theirs.

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 1.14

Alleluia.

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

Alleluia.

GOSPEL READING

Jn 1.1-14

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Hear the Gospel ✠ of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word
was with God, and the Word was God. He was
in the beginning with God. All things were
made through him, and without him was not
any thing made that was made. In him was
life, and the life was the light of men. The light
shines in the darkness, and the darkness has
not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose
name was John. He came as a witness, to bear
witness about the light, that all might believe
through him. He was not the light, but came
to bear witness about the light.

The true light, which enlightens everyone,
was coming into the world. He was in the
world, and the world was made through him,
yet the world did not know him. He came to
his own, and his own people did not receive
him. But to all who did receive him, who
believed in his name, he gave the right to
become children of God, who were born, not
of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the
will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and dwelt
among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as
of the only Son from the Father, full of grace
and truth.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

A SERMON *follows.*

All *stand* to recite 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,

(All *kneel*) was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

(All *stand*) 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 INTERCESSIONS are introduced, and all *kneel*. One of these responses may be used:

∇. Lord, hear us. R. Lord, graciously hear us. or ∇. Lord, in your mercy, R. Hear our prayer.

At the Commemoration of the Departed:

∇. Rest eternal ✠ grant unto them, O Lord; R. And let light perpetual shine upon them.

The Intercessions end:

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

LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

All *stand* as the priest introduces the PEACE.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

All *may exchange a sign of peace*.

OFFERTORY CAROL— **14**

The people unite their prayers with the priest, who says the PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS.

Pray, my brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands, for the praise and glory of his name, for our good, and the good of all his Church.

Almighty God, the saving work of Christ made our peace with you. May our offering today renew that peace within us and give you perfect praise. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

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 him thanks and praise.

The PREFACE follows.

All respond with the SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS.

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, 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.

All *kneel*. After the Consecration, all acclaim: Christ is the bread of life:

When we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus, until you come in glory (×2).

The Eucharistic Prayer continues, and ends: ... for ever and ever. Amen.

RITE OF COMMUNION

The priest introduces the LORD'S PRAYER.

**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 priest breaks the Host; AGNUS DEI is sung.

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

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

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

The priest gives the COMMUNION INVITATION.

God's holy gifts for God's holy people.

**Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

Visitors: If you normally receive Communion in your home church, you are welcome to do so here. Otherwise, we invite you to come forward, *holding this leaflet*, for a blessing.

The priest says the POST-COMMUNION prayer.

God our Father, whose Word has come among us in the Holy Child of Bethlehem: may the light of faith illumine our hearts and shine in our words and deeds; through him who is Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

CONCLUSION

The priest gives the BLESSING and DISMISSAL.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Bow your heads and pray for God's blessing.

May the Father, who has loved the eternal Son from before the foundation of the world, shed his love upon you his children. **Amen.**
May Christ, who by his incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with joy and peace. **Amen.**

May the Holy Spirit, by whose overshadowing Mary became the God-bearer, give you grace to carry the good news of Christ. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in the peace of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

RECESSIONAL CAROL— **12**