



C A D E I R L A N
LLANDAF
C A T H E D R A L

THE FIRST EUCHARIST OF CHRISTMAS

Tuesday 24th December 2024
9.30pm

Order of Service



Please take this booklet with you or recycle it.

CROESO | WELCOME

A very warm welcome you to on this Christmas Eve for this service at your Cathedral. The Cathedral Church of Ss. Peter & Paul, Teilo, Dyfrig, and Euddogwy, has been a site of Christian worship for over 1,500 years. If you are joining us for the first time, please introduce yourself to a member of clergy, who will be happy to tell you more about worship in this place.

Since earliest Christian times the word Eucharist, which comes from the Greek word for 'thanksgiving', has been used to describe the sacrament that Jesus Christ instituted at the last supper. In faithfulness to our Lord's instruction to 'do this in remembrance of me' the Eucharist was accordingly regarded as an essential part of worship in the early church and today it remains the central liturgical activity of the baptised. At this service, the liturgy is enhanced through the music provided by the Cathedral Choir, who sing the 'Ordinary' of the Mass (the Kyrie, Gloria, Sanctus, Benedictus, and Agnus Dei).

Everything you need to follow the service is contained in this booklet. Please join in with the singing of the hymns, as well as the text printed in **Bold**. The § *rubrics* in this service indicating posture are suggestions only. If you are more comfortable remaining seated throughout the service, please do so.

Gluten-free wafers are available at the Communion.

If you wish to receive one, please ask a steward in advance.



This service will be broadcast live on the Cathedral's YouTube channel. We try to focus on those leading the liturgy of the service. If you are concerned about appearing on the live stream, please speak to one of the stewards.



A collection is taken during this service. If you are a UK tax payer, please consider using the Gift-Aid envelopes, as this enables us to claim an extra 25% on each donation. You can also donate by using the contactless giving devices located around the building, or via Text as follows:



To donate £5 text LLANDAFF to 70970
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You can also donate by scanning the QR code:



The Cathedral is served by a hearing loop.
Users should turn their hearing aid to the setting marked **T**.



Printed versions of this service sheet are available. Please ask a steward for a copy.
Large print versions are also available.



Toilets are located at the end of the Processional Way via the David Chapel, on the north side of the cathedral.



Please ensure that all electronic devices are set to silent mode.



We kindly request that you do not take photographs, or video or sound recording in the cathedral at any time during this service.

ORDER OF SERVICE

THE GATHERING

§ Please stand as the Procession enters. All sing:



All O little town of Bethlehem,
How still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
The everlasting light;
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee to-night.

O morning stars, together
Proclaim the holy birth
And praises sing to God the King,
And peace to men on earth;
For Christ is born of Mary;
And, gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep
Their watch of wondering love.

The 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.

§ *The crib is blessed.*

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.

All **Amen.**

§ *The Choir sings:*

How silently, how silently,
The wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of his heaven.
No ear may hear his coming,
But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive him, still
The dear Christ enters in.

§ *We continue to sing:*



All O holy Child of Bethlehem,
Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in,
Be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Emmanuel!

Words: Phillips Brooks (1835-93)

Music: FOREST GREEN
English Traditional Melody
harmony by Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

Christ the Light of the World has come to dispel the darkness of our hearts. In his light let us examine ourselves and call to mind our sins.

All **Heavenly Father, we have sinned in thought, word and deed, and have failed to do what we ought to have done. We are sorry and truly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ who died for us, forgive us all that is past and lead us in his way to walk as children of light. Amen.**

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

All **Amen.**

The Gloria

Choir Gloria in excelsis Deo, et in terra
pax hominibus bonae voluntatis.

Laudamus te, benedicimus te,
adoramus te, glorificamus te. Gratias
agimus tibi propter magnam gloriam
tuam.

Domine Deus, Rex caelestis, Deus
Pater omnipotens, Domine Fili
unigenite, Iesu Christe: Domine
Deus, Agnus Dei, Filius Patris. Qui
tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.
Qui tollis peccata mundi, suscipe
deprecationem nostram. Qui sedes
ad dexteram Patris, miserere nobis.

Quoniam tu solus Sanctus. Tu solus
Dominus. Tu solus Altissimus, Iesu
Christe Cum Sancto Spiritu, in
gloria Dei Patris. Amen.

*Glory be to God on high, and on earth
peace, good will towards men.*

*We praise thee, we bless thee, we
worship thee, we glorify thee, we give
thanks to thee for thy great glory.*

*O Lord God, heavenly King, God the
Father Almighty, O Lord, the only-
begotten Son, Jesus Christ: O Lord God,
Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that
takest away the sins of the world, have
mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the
sins of the world, receive our prayer. Thou
that sittest at the right hand of God the
Father, have mercy upon us.*

*For thou only art holy; thou only art the
Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy
Ghost, art most high in the glory of God
the Father. Amen.*

Music: Mass No. 6 in G major 'Missa Sancti Nicolai'
Franz Joseph Haydn (1732-1809)

The Collect

Priest 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.

All **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

§ Please sit.

The First Reading

Reader A reading from the Prophecy of 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.

Isaiah 52. 7 - 10

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

The Second Reading

Reader A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews.

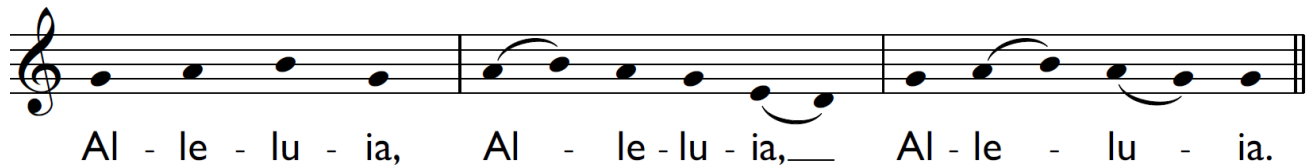
Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains 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.

Hebrews 1. 1 - 4

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

§ Please stand and repeat the Gospel acclamation after the choir:



Choir Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

All **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

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

All **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

Listen to the Gospel of Christ according to Saint John.

All **Glorify 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 came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

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

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

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.

John 1. 1 – 14

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All **Praise to you, O Christ.**

§ The organ is played as the Gospel procession returns to the High Altar.

§ Please sit.

§ Please stand.

All 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;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from 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.**

§ *Please sit or kneel.*

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Father, on this holy night your Son our Saviour was born in human flesh.
Renew your Church as the Body of Christ.

Lord in your mercy

All **hear our prayer.**

On 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.

Lord in your mercy

All **hear our prayer.**

On 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 today.

Lord in your mercy

All **hear our prayer.**

On 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.

Lord in your mercy

All **hear our prayer.**

On this holy night the angels sang, 'Peace to God's people on earth.'
Strengthen those who work for peace and justice in all the world.

Lord in your mercy

All **hear our prayer.**

On this holy night shepherds in the field heard good tidings of joy.
Give us grace to preach the gospel of Christ's redemption.

Lord in your mercy

All **hear our prayer.**

On this holy night strangers found the Holy Family,
and saw the baby lying in the manger. Bless our homes and all whom we love.

Lord in your mercy

All **hear our prayer.**

On 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.

Lord in your mercy

All **hear our prayer.**

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

All Lord in your mercy
hear our prayer.

Father, on 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.

All **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

§ *Please stand.*

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.'

The peace of the Lord
be with you always.

All **And also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

§ *The congregation share a sign of peace with one another.*

The Offertory Hymn

§ During the singing of the hymn, a collection will be taken for the ministry and mission of the Cathedral.



All Of the Father's heart begotten,
Ere the world from chaos rose,
He is Alpha: from that Fountain
All that is and hath been flows;
He is Omega, of all things
Yet to come the mystic Close,
Evermore and evermore.

By his word was all created;
He commanded and 'twas done;
Earth and sky and boundless ocean,
Universe of three in one,
All that sees the moon's soft radiance,
All that breathes beneath the sun,
Evermore and evermore.

Low He assumed this mortal body,
Voices Frail and feeble, doomed to die,
That the race from dust created
Might not perish utterly,
Which the dreadful Law had sentenced
In the depths of hell to lie,
Evermore and evermore.

O how blest that wondrous birthday,
When the Maid the curse retrieved,
Brought to birth mankind's salvation,
By the Holy Ghost conceived;
And the Babe, the world's Redeemer,
In her loving arms received,
Evermore and evermore.



High
Voices

This is he, whom seer and sibyl
Sang in ages long gone by;
This is he of old revealèd
In the page of prophecy;
Lo! he comes, the promised Saviour;
Let the world his praises cry!
Evermore and evermore.

Sing, ye heights of heaven, his praises;
Angels and Archangels, sing!
Wheresoe'er ye be, ye faithful,
Let your joyous anthems ring,
Every tongue his name confessing,
Countless voices answering,
Evermore and evermore.

Words: *Corde natus ex parentis*
Aurelius Clemens Prudentis (348-c.410)
translated by John Mason Neale (1818-66)
and John Furley Davis (1866-1937)

Music: DIVINIUM MYSTERIUM
Piae Cantiones (1582)

The Thanksgiving

Priest Word made flesh, life of the world, in your incarnation you embraced our poverty:
by your Spirit may we share in your riches.

All **Amen.**

We celebrate together the gifts and grace of God.

All **We take this bread,
we take this wine
to follow Christ's example
and obey his command.**

The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

All **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere,
mighty creator, ever-living God.

We give you thanks and praise for your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who for love of our fallen race humbled himself,
and on this night was born of the Virgin Mary
by the power of your Spirit, and lived as one of us.
In this mystery of the Word made flesh
you have caused his light to shine in our hearts,
to give knowledge of your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.
In him we see our God made visible
and so are caught up in the love of the God we cannot see.
Therefore with all the angels of heaven
we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name
and sing our joyful hymn of praise:

Choir Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus,
Dominus Deus Sabaoth.
Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua;
Hosanna in excelsis.

*Holy, holy, holy
Lord, God of Hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna, in the highest.*

§ *Please sit or kneel.*

Priest Hear us, heavenly Father,
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.
Through him accept our sacrifice of praise,
and grant that, by the power of your Spirit,
these gifts of bread and wine may be for us
his body and his blood;

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 from this, all of you;
for 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.

Deacon Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

All **Christ has died.**
Christ is risen.
Christ will come in glory.

Priest Therefore, Father,
remembering the saving death and resurrection of your Son,
we offer to you in thanksgiving this bread and this cup,
your gifts to us,
and we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send your Holy Spirit upon all of us
who share this bread and this cup.
Strengthen our faith, make us one
and welcome us and all your people
into the glorious kingdom of your Son.

Through him, with him, in him,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit
all honour and glory are yours,
Almighty Father, for ever and ever.

All **Amen.**

Priest Rejoicing in the presence of God here among us,
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

All 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 Communion

§ *The priest breaks the bread:*

Priest We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

All **God here among us, light in the midst of us,
bring us to light and life.**

Priest Christ is the true bread which has come down from heaven.

All **Lord, give us this bread always.**

§ *Those who wish to may come forward to receive communion or a blessing when invited to by the stewards. The sacrament is administered with these words:*

The body of Christ. **Amen.**

The blood of Christ. **Amen.**

§ *During the distribution of Communion, the Choir sings the Agnus Dei and Carols:*

Choir Agnus Dei,
qui tollis peccata mundi:
miserere nobis.

*O Lamb of God,
that takest away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.*

Agnus Dei,
qui tollis peccata mundi:
miserere nobis.

*O Lamb of God,
that takest away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.*

Agnus Dei,
qui tollis peccata mundi:
dona nobis pacem.

*O Lamb of God,
that takest away the sins of the world:
grant us peace.*

§ Please stand to sing:

Communion Hymn



All
Silent night, holy night,
all is calm, all is bright,
round yon virgin mother and child;
holy infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night.
Shepherds quake at the sight,
glories stream from heaven afar,
heav'nly hosts sing 'alleluia:
Christ, the Saviour is born'.

Silent night, holy night.
Son of God, love's pure light:
radiant beams your holy face,
with the dawn of saving grace:
Jesus, Lord at thy birth.

Words: Joseph Mohr (1792-1848)
translated anon.

Music: STILLE NACHT
Franz Grüber (1787-1863)
harmonised by Arthur Hutchings (1906-89)

THE DISMISSAL

§ *Please remain standing.*

Priest Give thanks to the Lord for he is gracious:

All **His love is everlasting.**

Generous God, you have fed us at your heavenly table. Kindle us with the fire of your Spirit that when the Lord comes again we may shine as lights before him, who is alive and reigns in glory for ever. Amen.

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.

All **To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.**

Post-Communion Hymn



All
Hark! The herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled:
Joyful all ye nations rise,
Join the triumph of the skies,
With the angelic host proclaim,
Christ is born in Bethlehem:
Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King.

Christ, by highest heaven adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold him come
Offspring of a Virgin's womb!
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,
Hail the incarnate Deity!
Pleased as man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel:
Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King.

Hail the heaven-born Prince of peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
Risen with healing in his wings;
Mild he lays his glory by,
Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth:
Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-88)

Music: MENDELSSOHN
Felix Mendelssohn (1809-47)

Priest The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

God the Father,
who reigns in highest heaven,
bring you the grace and truth of the Word made flesh.

All **Amen.**

Christ the Son of God, born of Mary,
fill you with his grace
to trust his promises and obey his will.

All **Amen.**

God the Holy Spirit,
by whose power Mary conceived,
dwell in your hearts in love.

All **Amen.**

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

All **Amen.**

Rejoicing in the Word made flesh
go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

§ *Please remains standing as the Procession leaves the Cathedral.*

The Closing Voluntary
Toccata on *Hark! The herald angels sing*
David Bednall (b.1979)

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

The Cathedral will close at 4.00pm each day from Wednesday 25th December until Sunday 5th January.

Thursday 26th December <i>Stephen, Deacon and First Martyr</i>	9.30am Cymun Bendigaid
Friday 27th December <i>John, Apostle and Evangelist</i>	9.30am Holy Eucharist
Saturday 28th December <i>The Innocents</i>	9.30am Holy Eucharist
Sunday 29th December <i>First Sunday of Christmas</i>	8.00am Holy Eucharist [1984] 10.00am Sung Eucharist
Monday 30th December	9.30am Holy Eucharist
Tuesday 31st December	9.30am Holy Eucharist
Wednesday 1st January 2025 <i>The Naming of Jesus</i>	9.30am Holy Eucharist
Thursday 2nd January	9.30am Cymun Bendigaid
Friday 3rd January	9.30am Holy Eucharist
Saturday 4th January	9.30am Holy Eucharist
Sunday 5th January <i>The Epiphany of our Lord</i>	8.00am Holy Eucharist [1984] 9.00am Holy Eucharist with Baptism 11.00am Solemn Eucharist



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