

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.**

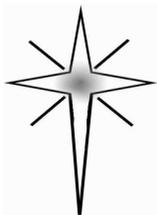
*The Church of England warmly welcomes communicant members of all other Christian Churches to receive Communion - but, if for any reason you do not wish to receive, you are invited to still come forward for a prayer of blessing (please hold this leaflet in your hand or simply keep your hands on the rail that we might be aware and avoid any confusion)*

Draw near with faith. Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you. Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

### **Prayer After Communion**

*A post communion prayer is said followed by...*

**Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.**



### **THE DISMISSAL**

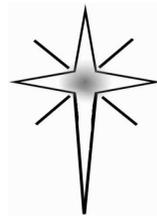
#### **The Blessing**

May the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the perseverance of the wise men, the obedience of Joseph and Mary, and the peace of the Christ child be yours this Christmas; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be with you, always. Amen

### **HYMN**

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

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## **ST MARY THE VIRGIN, WISTASTON WITH ST LUKE'S WILLASTON HOLY COMMUNION FOR CHRISTMAS**

*This service order can be used from Christmas Eve until the 2nd Sunday after Christmas*

### **The Greeting**

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

We meet to celebrate the coming of Christ into the world.  
The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us: and we have beheld his glory.

### **HYMN**

### **Prayer of Penitence**

Christ the light of the world has come to dispel the darkness of our hearts. So in his light let us examine ourselves and seek his forgiveness for those times when we have loved darkness rather than light.....

*Silence is kept*

Lord of grace and truth, we confess our unworthiness to stand in your presence as your children.  
We have sinned: **forgive and heal us.**

The Virgin Mary accepted your call to be the mother of Jesus.  
Forgive our times of disobedience to your will.  
We have sinned: **forgive and heal us.**

Your Son our Saviour was born in poverty in a manger.  
Forgive the times when we reject your ways.  
We have sinned: **forgive and heal us.**



The shepherds left their flocks to go to Bethlehem. Forgive us when we show lack of vision and fail to leave things for you.  
We have sinned: **forgive and heal us.**

The wise men followed the star to find Jesus the King. Forgive us when we fail to follow you.  
We have sinned: **forgive and heal us.**

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

### **Gloria in Excelsis**

*We stand*

**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.**

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine,  
he gave you thanks, and said:  
Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins;  
do this in remembrance of me.

**Father, we do this in remembrance of him:  
his blood is shed for all.**

As we proclaim his death and celebrate his rising in glory,  
send your Holy Spirit that this bread and this wine  
may be to us the body and blood of your dear Son.  
**As we eat and drink these holy gifts  
make us one in Christ, our risen Lord.**

With your whole Church throughout the world  
we offer you this sacrifice of praise  
and lift our voice to join the eternal song of heaven:

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

### **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 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.**

## The 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.

**And also with you.**

## HYMN

### Preparation of the Table

### The Eucharistic Prayer [H]

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 thanks and praise.**

It is right to praise you, Father, Lord of all creation;  
in your love you made us for yourself.

And now we give you thanks because in coming to dwell among us  
as man, he revealed the radiance of your glory  
and brought us out of darkness into your own marvellous light.

When we turned away you did not reject us,  
but came to meet us in your Son.

**You embraced us as your children  
and welcomed us to sit and eat with you.**

In Christ you shared our life that we might live in him and he in us.

**He opened his arms of love upon the cross  
and made for all the perfect sacrifice for sin.**

On the night he was betrayed, at supper with his friends  
he took bread, and gave you thanks;  
he broke it and gave it to them, saying:  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.

**Father, we do this in remembrance of him:  
his body is the bread of life.**



## The Collect.

Let us pray in the peace of this Christmas celebration that our joy in the birth of Christ will last for ever. Let us pray.

*The Collect is said, and all respond*

**Amen.**

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

### Readings

*Either one or two readings from Scripture precede the Gospel reading.*

*At the end of each the reader may say*

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**



### HYMN

### Gospel Reading

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.**

### Address

### The Creed

*Let us declare our faith in God.*

**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**

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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**

Father, [In this holy night/on this holy day/at this holy time] your Son our Saviour was born as a human child. Renew your Church as the Body of Christ.  
Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

[In this holy night/on this holy day/at this holy time] Christians the world over are celebrating his birth. Open our hearts that he may be born in us today.  
Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

[In this holy night/on this holy day/at this holy time] 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: **hear our prayer.**

[In this holy night/on this holy day/at this holy time] Mary in the pain of labour brought your Son to birth. Hold in your hand all who are in any kind of pain or distress today.  
Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

[In this holy night/on this holy day/at this holy time] 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: **hear our prayer.**

[In this holy night/on this holy day/at this holy time] shepherds in the fields heard good tidings of joy. Give us grace to preach the gospel of Christ's redemption.  
Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

[In this holy night/on this holy day/at this holy time] the angels sang 'Peace to God's people on earth'. Strengthen those who work for your peace and justice in all the world.  
Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

[In this holy night/on this holy day/at this holy time] strangers found the holy family, and saw the baby lying in the manger. Bless our homes and all whom we love, and help us to live as the holy family.  
Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

[In this holy night/on this holy day/at this holy time] heaven is come down to earth and earth is raised to heaven. Keep in safety all those who have gone through death in the hope of heaven.  
Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

[In this holy night/on this holy day/at this holy time] angels and shepherds worshipped at the manger throne. Receive the worship of our lives as we draw together this holy night to your table.

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