

Service of Morning Communion for Christmas Day

Welcome

Hymn

The Greeting

The Lord be with you

ALL and also with you.

Prayer of Preparation

ALL Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayers of Penitence

Remember, Lord, Your compassion and love, for they are everlasting.
Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

Remember not the sins of our youth or our transgressions, but think on us in your goodness O Lord, according to your steadfast love.
Christ have mercy. Christ have mercy.

O keep our souls and deliver us; let us not be put to shame, for we have put our trust in you. Amen.

Absolution

The Collect



The LITURGY of the WORD

Reading

Titus 2 11-14 (New International Version)

For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. It teaches us to say “No” to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, while we wait for the blessed hope—the appearing of the glory of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good

HYMN

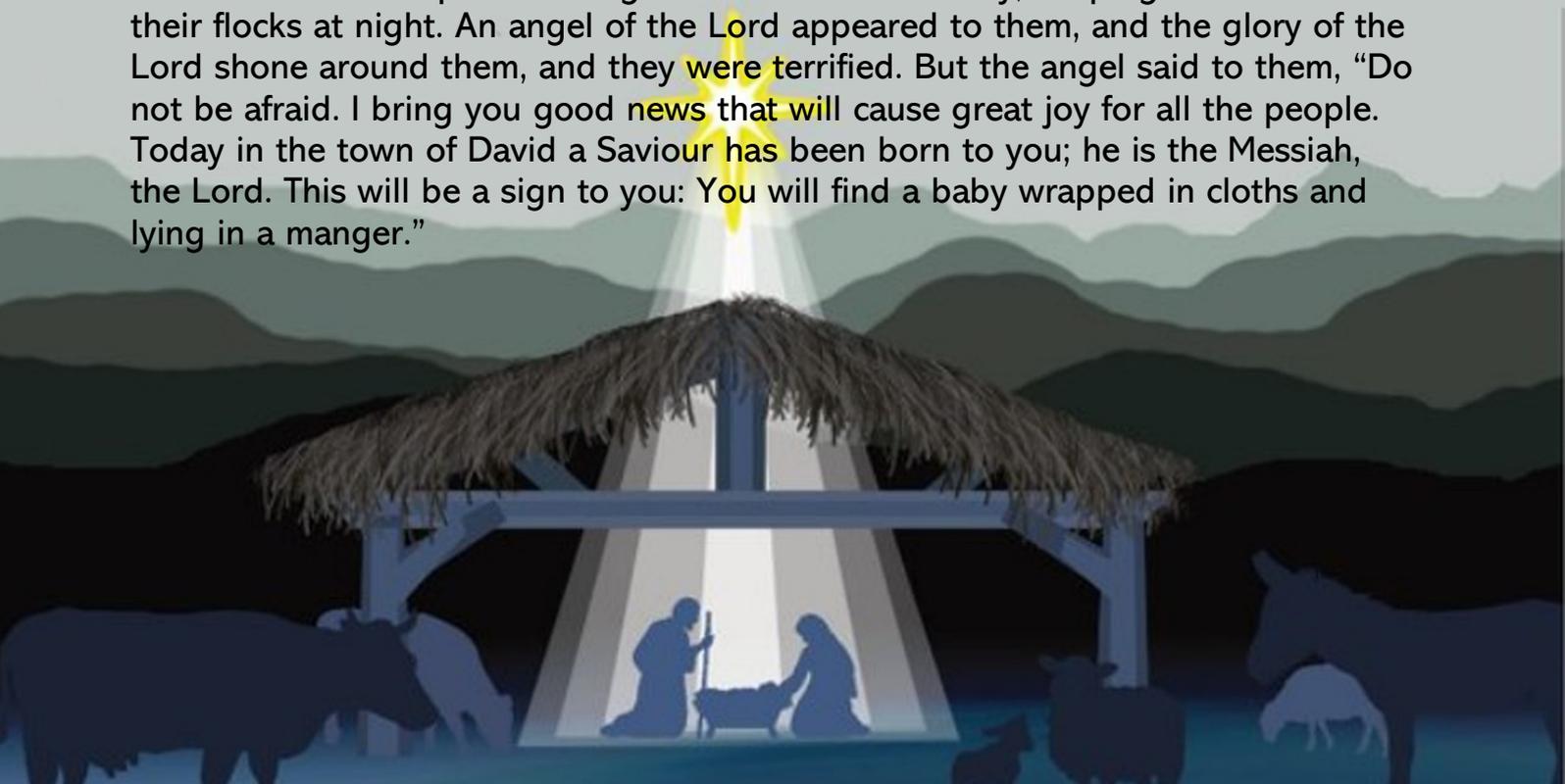
Gospel Reading

Luke 2 1-14 (New International Version)

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) And everyone went to their own town to register.

⁴So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”



Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

“Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favour rests.”

SERMON

The sermon can be found after the service on our website www.stjamesroundsgreen.com or on our Facebook page.

The Creed

We believe in God, the almighty Father, who is the creator of heaven and earth. We believe in Jesus Christ, His only begotten Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, given birth by the Virgin Mary and suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried, He descended to the dead.

On the third day He rose from the dead, ascended into heaven, is seated at the Father's right hand. He will return to judge the living and the dead.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and in everlasting life. Amen.

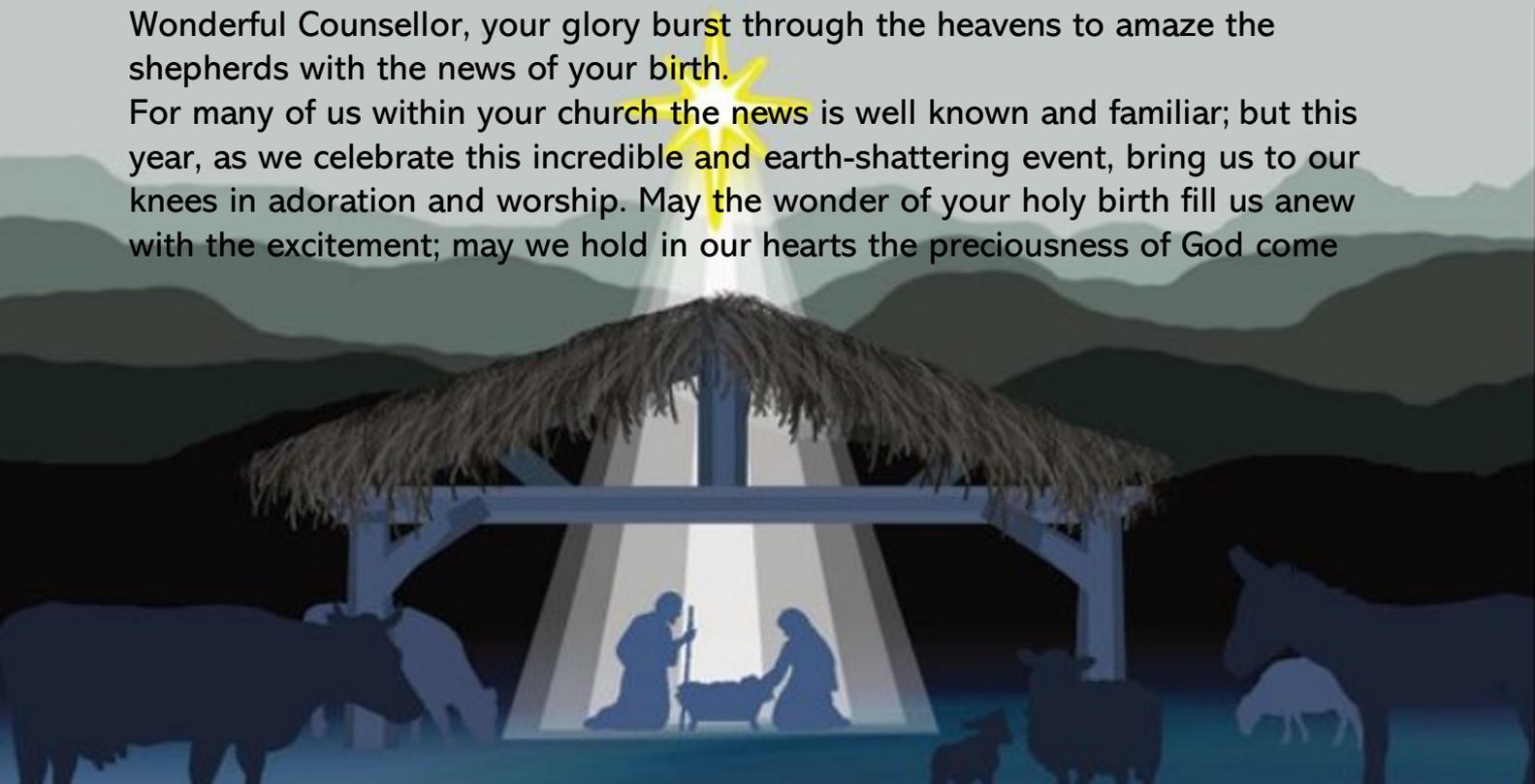
The Peace

Prayers of Intercession

Intercessions for Christmas Day 2020

Wonderful Counsellor, your glory burst through the heavens to amaze the shepherds with the news of your birth.

For many of us within your church the news is well known and familiar; but this year, as we celebrate this incredible and earth-shattering event, bring us to our knees in adoration and worship. May the wonder of your holy birth fill us anew with the excitement; may we hold in our hearts the preciousness of God come



down to us. Help us to remember that when today is over we are charged with proclaiming your salvation for all from day to day.

Mighty God, you judge with equity and your power stoops to touch our humanity. Inspire the rulers of all nations with this humanity and concern for everyone. Such sensitivity is desperately needed in dealing with the effects of the pandemic when so many more people have had incomes disappear and find themselves in frightening, unfamiliar circumstances. We pray that you will bring harmony and dignity to all.

We also ask that you give Godly wisdom to the leaders of our country as we enter into the uncharted waters of Brexit.

Everlasting Father, your name is exulted by many in all generations. We thank you that laughter and rejoicing will be found today in many homes around our church: but we also know that many will suffer from domestic abuse, loneliness, grief, or despair.

We ask that, by the power of your Holy Spirit, you will supernaturally infuse these troubled homes, which we don't know about, and bless those within with hope and promise for the future.

We ask that you wrap the hurting in tenderness and love and please use us, within this church community, to be part of bringing this about.

Prince of Peace, in your freedom we can thrive and flourish. We ask you to be with all those whose hearts are troubled or distressed: to be with all those who are suffering unbearable pain, whether in body, mind or spirit.

We silently name those we know to you now.....Bless them with your healing touch and heavenly hope; and make them bold and stout-hearted to persevere in their difficult situations.

HYMN



EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER H

The Lord is here.

ALL His Spirit is with us.

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 thanks and praise.

It is right to praise you, Father, Lord of all creation; in your love you made us for yourself. When we turned away you did not reject us, but came to meet us in your Son.

ALL 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.

ALL 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.

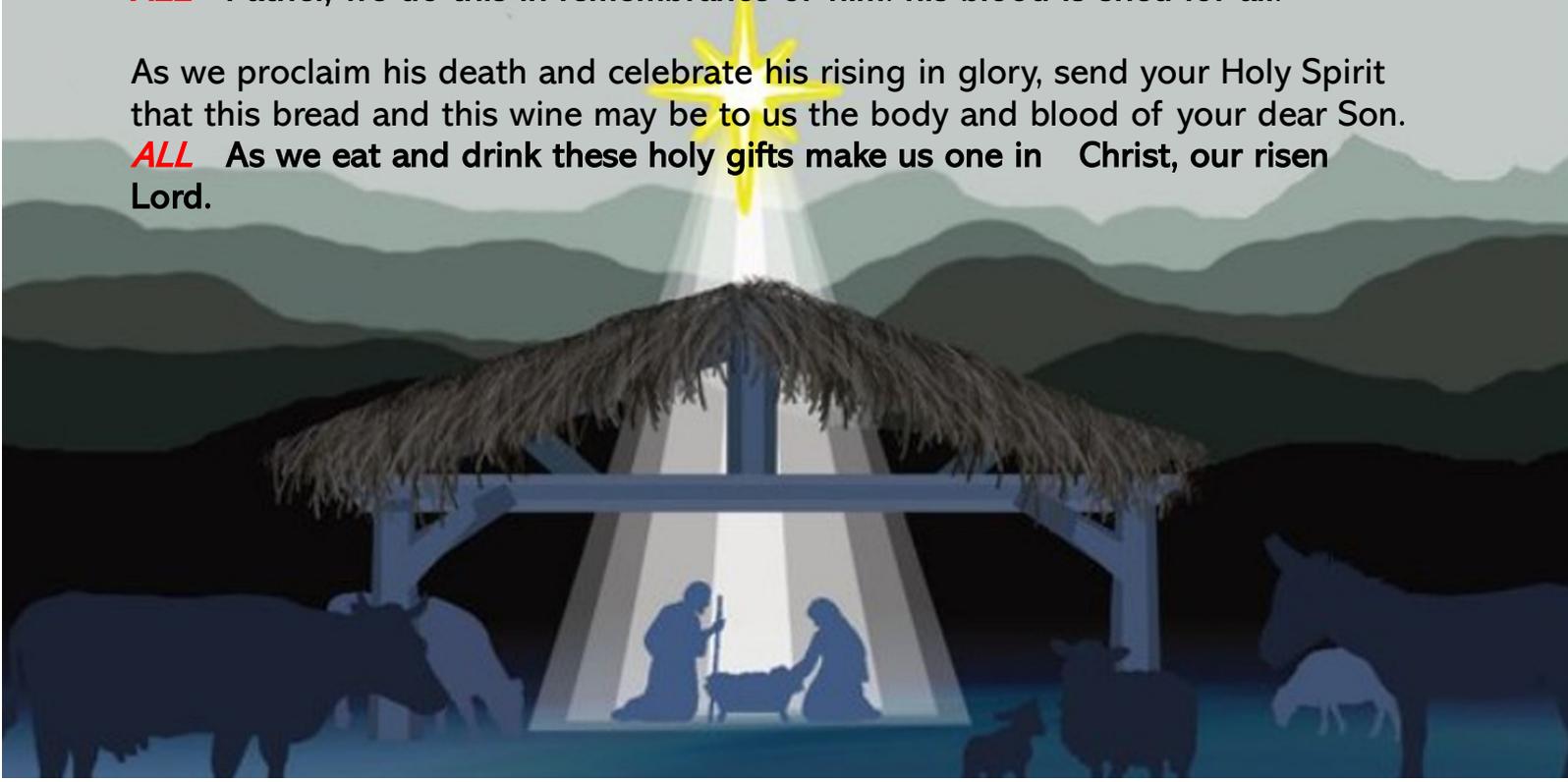
ALL Father, we do this in remembrance of him: his body is the bread of life.

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.

ALL 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.

ALL 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 in heaven:

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

Let us now continue in prayer using the words our Saviour taught us:

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.

Breaking of the Bread

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

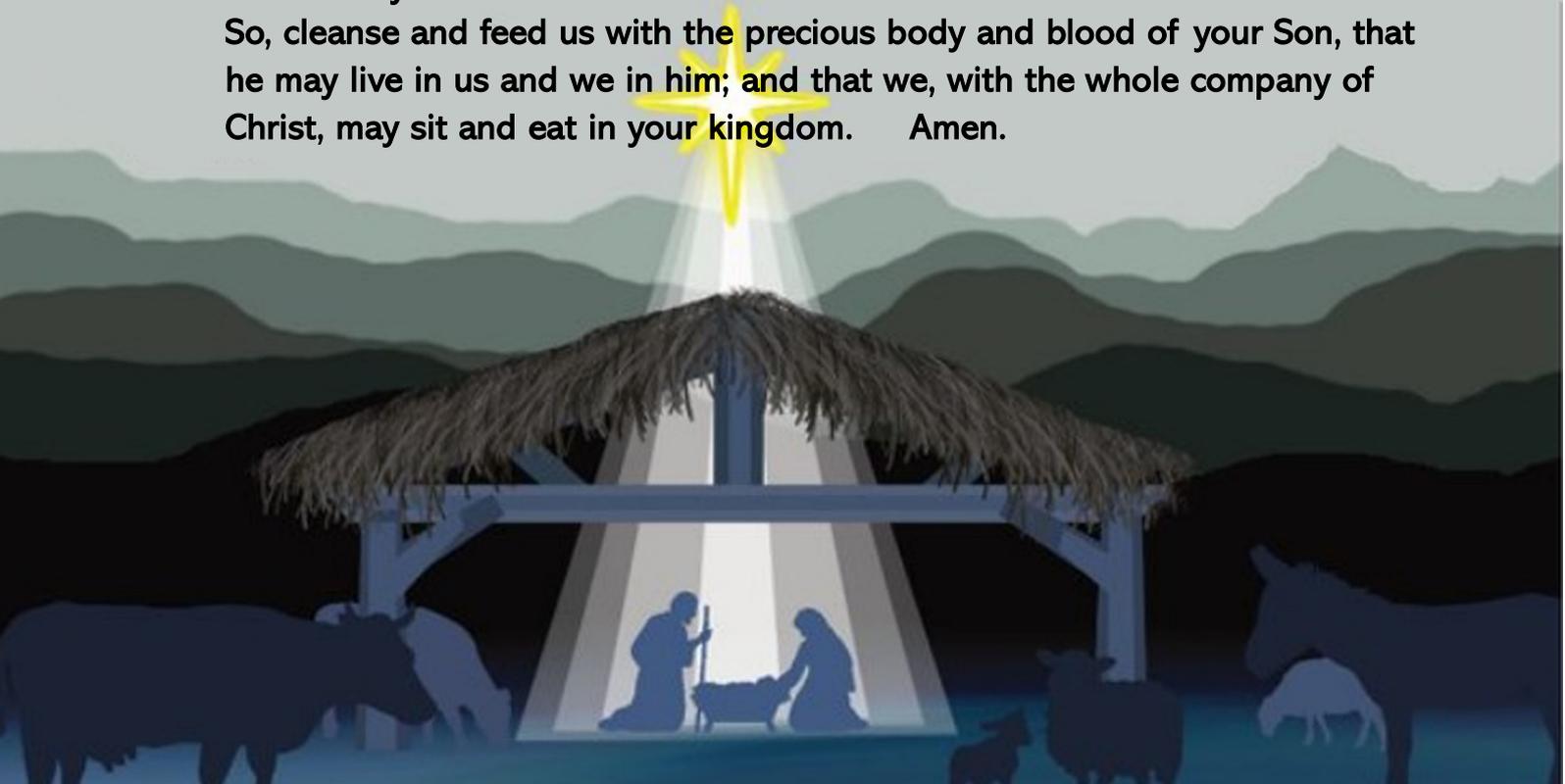
ALL Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

Invitation to Communion

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.

ALL Most merciful Lord, your love compels us to come in. Our hands were unclean, our hearts were unprepared; we were not fit even to eat the crumbs from under your table. But you, Lord, are the God of our salvation, and share your bread with sinners.

So, cleanse and feed us with the precious body and blood of your Son, that he may live in us and we in him; and that we, with the whole company of Christ, may sit and eat in your kingdom. Amen.



THE PRIEST AND THE PEOPLE RECEIVE COMMUNION.

Prayer after Communion

ALL 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.

Hymn

Blessing

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord

ALL: In the name of Christ. Amen.

