

**CHARLTON BENEFICE  
FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS  
ONLINE EUCHARIST**

*We are welcomed to the service and sing the first carol*

**Hymn - O Little Town of Bethlehem**

*The president greets the people.*

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

*All*            **and also with you.**

**Prayers of Penitence**

Christ the light of the world has come  
to dispel the darkness of our hearts.  
In his light let us examine ourselves  
and confess our sins.

*Silence is kept.*

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.**

**Absolution**

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

*All* **Amen.**

## **Gloria in Excelsis**

### **The Collect**

*The president introduces a period of silent prayer:*

God in Trinity,  
eternal unity of perfect love:  
gather the nations to be one family,  
and draw us into your holy life  
through the birth of Emmanuel,  
our Lord Jesus Christ.

*All* **Amen.**

## **THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

### **Old Testament Reading – read by Joan**

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord,  
my whole being shall exult in my God;  
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,  
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,  
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,  
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.  
For as the earth brings forth its shoots,  
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,  
so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise  
to spring up before all the nations.

for Zion's sake I will not keep silent,  
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,  
until her vindication shines out like the dawn,  
and her salvation like a burning torch.  
The nations shall see your vindication,

and all the kings your glory;  
and you shall be called by a new name  
that the mouth of the Lord will give.  
You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord,  
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

*Isaiah 61 v 10 – 62 v 3*

*at the end of the reading ...*

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

### **New Testament Reading – read by Rachel**

A reading from Paul's letter to the Galatians

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, 'Abba! Father!' So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

*Gal 4 v 4 – 7*

*at the end of the reading ...*

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

### **Hymn to greet the Gospel - In the Bleak Mid-Winter**

#### **Gospel – read by William**

*Reader* Alleluia, alleluia. The Word became flesh  
and dwelt among us,  
and we have seen his glory.

*All* **Alleluia.**

*Reader* Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to Luke

*All* **Glory to you, O Lord.**

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary

treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them. After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb. *Luke 2 v 15 – 21*

*at the end of the Gospel ...*

*Reader*      This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
*All*            **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon – preached by Revd Joe**

*After the sermon, there is a period of quiet reflection.*

**The Creed**

*President:*      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 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 – led by Ansai

Intercessor: Lord, hear us

**All: Lord graciously hear us.**

After the final prayer...

Intercessor: Merciful Father

**All: accept these prayers**

**For the sake of your son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**Amen.**

## The Liturgy of the Sacrament

### The Peace

*President* Unto us a child is born,  
unto us a son is given,  
and his name shall be called  
the Prince of Peace. (*Isaiah 9.6*)  
The peace of the Lord be always with you  
*All* **and also with you.**

*President* Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*All may exchange a sign of peace.*

### Offertory Hymn - Silent Night

*Please consider making a donation to our churches even though we are not worshipping in person*

### **Preparation of the Table**

*President* 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.**

### **The Eucharistic Prayer**

*President* The Lord be with you

*All* **and also with you.**

*President* Lift up your hearts.

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

*President* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

*President* Blessed are you, Lord God,  
our light and our salvation;  
to you be glory and praise for ever.

From the beginning  
you have created all things  
and all your works echo  
the silent music of your praise.

In the fullness of time  
you made us in your image,  
the crown of all creation.

You give us breath and speech,  
that with angels and archangels  
and all the powers of heaven  
we may find a voice to sing your praise:

*All* **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.**

*President* When they turned away and rebelled  
your love remained steadfast.

From them you raised up  
Jesus our Saviour, born of Mary,  
to be the living bread,  
in whom all our hungers are satisfied.  
He offered his life for sinners,  
and with a love stronger than death  
he opened wide his arms on the cross.  
On the night before he died,  
he came to supper with his friends  
and, taking bread, he 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.

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 and for many  
for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it,  
in remembrance of me.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

**Dying you destroyed our death,  
rising you restored our life:  
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

And now we give you thanks because,  
in the incarnation of the Word,  
a new light has dawned upon the world;  
you have become one with us  
that we might become one with you  
in your glorious kingdom.

Father, we plead with confidence his  
sacrifice made once for all upon the  
cross; we remember his dying and rising  
in glory, and we rejoice that he  
intercedes for us at your right hand.  
Pour out your Holy Spirit as we bring

before you these gifts of your creation;  
may they be for us the body and blood  
of your dear Son. As we eat and drink  
these holy things in your presence,  
form us in the likeness of Christ, and  
build us into a living temple to your  
glory.

Bring us at the last with Luke and  
Richard, Thomas and all the saints  
to the vision of that eternal splendour  
for which you have created us;  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord,  
by whom, with whom, and in whom,  
with all who stand before you  
in earth and heaven,  
we worship you, Father almighty,  
in songs of everlasting praise:

**Blessing and honour  
and glory and power  
be yours for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

*President* Rejoicing in the presence of God  
here among us,  
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray.

*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.**

### **The Breaking of the Bread**

*The president breaks the consecrated bread.*

We break the bread of life,



*All* 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.**

### **Agnus Dei**

**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 Giving of Communion**

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

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

### **Prayer before Distribution**

**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.**

**Music during Communion:** *Coventry carol, arranged by David Ogden, sung by St Martin's  
Voices*

### **Prayer after Communion**

*Silence is kept.*

*President* Heavenly Father,  
whose blessed Son shared at Nazareth  
the life of an earthly home:

help your Church to live as one family,  
united in love and obedience,  
and bring us all at last to our home in  
heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All*            **Amen.**

### **Healing Prayer: led by Judith**

### **The Blessing and Sending Out**

*President*    The Lord be with you  
*All*            **and also with you.**

*President*    May the Father,  
                  who has loved the eternal Son  
                  from before the foundation of the world,  
                  shed that love upon you his children.  
*All*            **Amen.**

*President*    May Christ,  
                  who by his incarnation gathered into one  
                  things earthly and heavenly,  
                  fill you with joy and peace.  
*All*            **Amen.**

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

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

*President*    Go in peace. Proclaim the Word made  
                  flesh.  
*All*            **Glory, thanks and praise to God.**

### **Recessional Hymn - Hark! the herald angels sing**

*Our worship is over: our service begins.*

*A Joyful Christmas and Peaceful New Year to everyone!*