

LIVESTREAM SERVICE  
CHARLTON BENEFICE  
MIDNIGHT MASS 2024  
THE GATHERING

ALI - welcomes us

Introit Hymn

*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.

Blessing of the Crib

Prayers of Penitence

*Minister* Christ the light of the world has come to dispel the  
*of the* darkness of our hearts.  
*Word* In his light let us examine ourselves and confess our sins.  
*Silence is kept.*

*All* God our Father, you sent your Son full of grace and truth:  
forgive our failure to receive him. Lord, have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy.

*Minister* Jesus our Saviour, you were born in poverty and laid in a  
*of the* manger: forgive our greed and rejection of your ways.  
*Word* Christ, have mercy.  
*All* Christ, have mercy.

*Minister* Spirit of love, your servant Mary  
*of the* responded joyfully to your call:  
*Word* 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:*

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

*Silence is kept.*

Lord Jesus Christ, your birth at Bethlehem draws us to kneel in wonder at heaven touching earth: accept our heartfelt praise as we worship you, our Saviour and our eternal God.

*All* Amen.

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

A reading from the prophet Isaiah - read by ALI

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.

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

New Testament Reading - read by Alex

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.

For to which of the angels did God ever say, 'You are my Son; today I have begotten you'? Or again, 'I will be his Father, and he will be my Son'? And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, 'Let all God's angels worship him.' Of the angels he says, 'He makes his angels winds, and his servants flames of fire.' But of the Son he says, 'Your throne, O God, is for ever and ever, and the righteous sceptre is the sceptre of your kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions.' And, 'In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands; they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like clothing; like a cloak you will roll them up, and like clothing they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will never end.'

*at the end of the reading ...*

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

Gradual Hymn

Gospel Reading - read by JENNY

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

Alleluia.

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

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.

*Reader* This is the Gospel of the Lord.

*All* Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon - Revd OWEN

The Creed.

Prayers of Intercession - led by AREK

### 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

Preparation of the Table

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

The Breaking of the Bread

Agnus Dei

The Giving of Communion

Prayer before Distribution

Communion hymn

Prayer after Communion

*Silence is kept.*

*President* 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.

*All* Amen.

NOTICES - given by Bennett

*Minister of the Word* Father of all, we give you thanks and praise,  
that when we were still far off you met us in your Son

and brought us home. Dying and living, he declared your  
love, gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.  
May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;  
we who drink his cup bring life to others;  
we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.  
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,  
so we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth  
live to praise your name; through Christ our Lord. Amen

The Blessing and Sending Out

Recessional Hymn