

The Church of England
in Central Windsor

ALL SAINTS CHURCH, WINDSOR

CHRISTINGLE SERVICE

CHRISTMAS EVE, 3:00pm

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

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.

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.

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

Phillips Brooks (1835-1893)

GATHERING PRAYER AND RESPONSES

Leader Today we remember Jesus and the story of his birth;
All **Jesus is the Light of the World;**
Leader With Jesus even dark places are light;
All **His love lights up all the darkness in our world**

WE LIGHT OUR ADVENT RING

While the candles are lit we sing

Advent candles, advent candles,

Burning bright, burning bright:

Lighting up our darkness, lighting up our darkness

With God's light, with God's light *(to the tune of 'Frere Jacques')*

A Prayer is said, then we sing

All **Someone's coming, someone's coming;**

A baby boy, a baby boy.

Listen to our story, listen to our story;

Of great joy, of great joy!

THE CHRISTMAS STORY AND THE BLESSING OF THE CRIB.

PRAYERS

The following bidding and response may be used

Leader **Come, Lord Jesus,**

All **and shine in the hearts of us all.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

All **Our Father, who art in heaven, *All***

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,

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,

THE CHRISTINGLE HYMN

The Christingle begins with an orange

Like the world which the Lord God made.

For creation is full of his glory;

All around we see his love displayed.

During the singing of this hymn a collection is taken for the work of The Children's Society. Please give as generously as you are able.

Chorus

***Sing Christingle! Sing Christingle!
Sing Christingle it's the light of Christ.
Sing Christingle! Sing Christingle!
Sing Christingle light of Christ***

**Every year we give thanks for the seasons
And the fruits of the earth to share.
The Christingle is here to remind us
That God loves his people everywhere.**

Chorus

**In his great plan of love God sent Jesus,
We remember His birth again;
But the red ribbon around the Christingle
Tells the story of his cross and pain.**

Chorus

**To complete the Christingle a candle,
Telling us of the world's true light.
For the darkness shall not overcome it,
Jesus shines on in the darkest night.**

Chorus

PRAYER OF OFFERING

Leader Lord God, we ask you to receive these gifts of money and to use them to further the work of The Children's Society. We pray that through their work children who suffer may have their darkness turned to light and children who have lost their way may find new hope, through Christ who is the Light of the World

All **Amen**

DISTRIBUTION AND LIGHTING OF CHRISTINGLES

*We hear the story of the Christingle and they are lit.
Please be very careful once your Christingles have been lit!*

Leader Father of Light,
every good and perfect gift comes from you:
keep us in the light of Christ
to shine in your world,
that all may believe in you,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen**

Holding our lit Christingles we sing

**Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.**

**The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.**

**Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay
close by me for ever, and love me I pray.
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.** Anonymous

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

Leader Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you,
scatter the darkness from before your path,
and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory;
and the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father†, the Son and the Holy Spirit be upon you,
and remain with you this Christmastime and always.

All **Amen**

Leader God shines in our hearts
All **Praise to Christ our light**

Leader Christ is the light of the world
All **Praise to Christ our light**

Leader Go, in the power of the Spirit, to bring light to others
All **Praise to Christ our light! Thanks be to God**

***Please make sure that you have placed everything in your
Christingle bag to take away with you. You are welcome to take this
service sheet too.***

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