

**The Eucharist  
on Christmas Day**



**8am Service  
at St Alphege Church**



# THE GATHERING

*We stand as the priest enters*

In the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**All Amen.**

## The Greeting

I bring you good news of great joy:

**All a Saviour has been born to you. Alleluia.**

Unto us a child is born,

**All unto us a Son is given. Alleluia.**

He is Christ the Lord. Alleluia.

**All We worship and adore him. Alleluia.**

## Prayer of Preparation

**All Almighty God,  
unto whom all hearts be open,  
all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hid:  
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love thee,  
and worthily magnify thy holy name;  
through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

## Prayers of Penitence

As we kneel with the shepherds before the newborn Christ child, we open our hearts in penitence and faith.

**All** Most merciful God,  
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
we confess that we have sinned  
in thought, word and deed.  
We have not loved thee with our whole heart.  
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.  
In thy mercy forgive what we have been,  
help us to amend what we are,  
and direct what we shall be;  
that we may do justly, love mercy,  
and walk humbly with thee, our God.  
Amen.

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

**All** Amen.

## Gloria in Excelsis

**All** Glory be to God on high,  
and in earth peace, good will towards men.

We praise thee, we bless thee,  
we worship thee, we glorify thee,  
we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,  
O Lord God, heavenly King,  
God the Father almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ:  
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
that takest away the sins of the world,  
have mercy upon us.  
Thou that takest away the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer.  
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,  
have mercy upon us.

For thou only art holy;  
thou only art the Lord;  
thou only, O Christ,  
with the Holy Ghost,  
art the Most High,  
in the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.

## The Collect

*The president introduces a period of silent prayer.*

Almighty God,  
who hast given us thy only-begotten Son  
to take our nature upon him  
and as at this time to be born of a pure virgin:  
grant that we, who have been born again  
and made thy children by adoption and grace,  
may daily be renewed by thy Holy Spirit;  
through the same our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who liveth and reigneth with thee and same Spirit,  
ever one God, world without end.

**All** Amen.

# THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

## Reading

*We sit. A reading from Scripture is heard.  
At the end, the reader says:*

This is the word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Reading

*We stand. When the Gospel is announced, the reader says:*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to ...

**All Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

*At the end*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**All Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

## Sermon

## The Creed

*We stand*

**All I believe in one God the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
and of all things  
visible and invisible:**

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of his Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation  
came down from heaven,  
and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man,  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered and was buried,  
and the third day he rose again  
according to the Scriptures,  
and ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth on the right hand of the Father.

And he shall come again with glory  
to judge both the quick and the dead:  
whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost,  
the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceedeth from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together  
is worshipped and glorified,  
who spake by the prophets.

And I believe one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins.  
And I look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come.  
Amen.

## Prayers of Intercession

*We sit or kneel. These responses may be used:*

Lord, in thy mercy

**All** hear our prayer.

*(or)*

Lord, hear us.

**All** Lord, graciously hear us.

*And at the end:*

Merciful Father,

**All** accept these prayers  
for the sake of thy Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ.  
Amen.

## THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

### The Peace

*We stand*

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.

**All** and with thy spirit.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

### Preparation of the Table

*The table is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it.*

*The president takes the bread and wine and prays:*

Blessed be God,  
by whose grace creation is renewed,  
by whose love heaven is opened,  
by whose mercy we offer our sacrifice of praise.

**All Blessed be God for ever.**

## The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you

**All and with thy spirit.**

Lift up your hearts.

**All We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.

**All It is meet and right so to do.**

It is very meet, right and our bounden duty,  
that we should at all times and in all places give thanks unto thee,  
O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God,  
through Jesus Christ thine only Son our Lord.

And now we give thee thanks  
because, by the power of the Holy Spirit,  
he took our nature upon him  
and was born of the Virgin Mary his mother,  
that being himself without sin,  
he might make us clean from all sin..

Therefore with angels and archangels,  
and with all the company of heaven,  
we laud and magnify thy glorious name,  
evermore praising thee and saying:

**All Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts,  
heaven and earth are full of thy glory.**

**Glory be to thee, O Lord most high.**

**Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**



*We sit or kneel*

Accept our praises, heavenly Father,  
through thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
and as we follow his example and obey his command,  
grant that by the power of thy Holy Spirit  
these gifts of bread and wine  
may be unto us his body and his blood;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread;  
and when he had given thanks to thee,  
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.

Likewise after supper he took the cup;  
and when he had given thanks to thee, he gave it to them, saying:  
Drink ye all of this;  
for this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it,  
in remembrance of me.

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father,  
we remember his offering of himself  
made once for all upon the cross;  
we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;  
we look for the coming of his kingdom  
and with this bread and this cup  
we make the memorial of Christ thy Son our Lord.  
Jesus Christ is Lord:

**All O Saviour of the world,  
who by thy cross and precious blood hast redeemed us,  
save us, and help us, we humbly beseech thee, O Lord.**

Accept through him, our great high priest,  
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,  
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts  
in the presence of thy divine majesty,  
renew us by thy Holy Spirit,  
inspire us with thy love,  
and unite us in the body of thy Son,  
Jesus Christ our Lord,

by whom, and with whom, and in whom,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory be unto thee,  
O Father almighty, world without end.

**All** Amen.

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

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**All** Our Father, who art in heaven,  
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,  
the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.

### **Breaking of the Bread**

*The president breaks the consecrated 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.

## The Agnus Dei

**All** O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,  
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,  
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,  
grant us thy peace.

## Giving of Communion

God's holy gifts  
for God's holy people.

**All** Jesus Christ is holy,  
Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

*The president and people receive communion.*

*We are all invited to draw near to God today. If you regularly receive the bread and wine at any Christian church, you are most welcome to do so. If you do not usually receive the bread and wine, or prefer not to do so today, you are invited to come forward to receive a prayer of blessing. If you do this, you may want to hold your hands together in prayer so that we know your intention. Thank you.*

## Prayer after Communion

Son of Mary, Son of God,  
we have joined the worship of the angels;  
may we never lose that heavenly vision.  
Like the shepherds,  
we have rejoiced at the news of your birth;  
help us to proclaim that message in word and deed,  
to your praise and glory.

**All** Amen.

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

## THE DISMISSAL

## The Blessing

*We stand*

Christ, who by his incarnation  
gathered into one things earthly and heavenly,  
fill you with peace and goodwill  
and make you partakers of the divine nature;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the ☩ Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

**All** Amen.

The Word was made flesh and lived among us:

**All** and we have seen his glory.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**All** In the name of Christ.

*On behalf of all the clergy, lay staff, and volunteers here at St Alphege Church, and throughout Solihull Parish, we wish you a happy and blessed Christmas and a peaceful New Year.*

Growing Disciples, Building Community, Transforming Lives

[www.solihullparish.org.uk](http://www.solihullparish.org.uk)