

Holy Trinity
Headington Quarry



First Sunday of Christmas
29th December 2024

The Gathering

Words of welcome. Children are welcome to join us in the service today as there is no Forest Sunday school taking place.

Hymn 64

God rest you merry, gentlemen,
let nothing you dismay!
for Jesus Christ our Saviour
was born on Christmas Day,
to save us all from Satan's power
when we had gone astray:
*O tidings of comfort and joy,
comfort and joy;
O tidings of comfort and joy!*

From God our heavenly Father
a holy angel came;
the shepherds saw the glory
and heard the voice proclaim
that Christ was born in Bethlehem –
and Jesus is his name: *O tidings...*

The shepherds at these tidings
rejoiced in heart and mind,
and on the darkened hillside
they left their flocks behind,
and went to Bethlehem straightway
this holy Child to find: *O tidings...*

And when to Bethlehem they came,
where Christ the infant lay,
they found him in a manger
where oxen fed on hay;
and there beside her new-born child
his mother knelt to pray. *O tidings...*

Now to the Lord sing praises,
all people in this place;
with Christian love and fellowship

each other now embrace,
and let this Christmas festival
all bitterness displace: *O tidings...*

*Traditional, possibly 18th century
adapted by Jubilate Hymns*

Please stand

The president says

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

The Greeting

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Prayers of Penitence

The sun of righteousness has dawned
with healing in his wings.
Let us come to the light of Christ,
confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

Silence is kept.

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.

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

Spirit of love,
your servant Mary responded joyfully to your call:
forgive the hardness of our hearts.
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy**

Almighty God,
who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

Gloria in Excelsis

(Melody: Angels from the Realms of Glory)

**Glory be to God in heaven
Peace on earth to all we sing
Heavenly king, Almighty Father
Worship, thanks and praise we bring.
Gloria in excelsis deo.
Gloria in excelsis deo.**

**Jesus Christ, Son of the Father,
Lamb of God, our sins you bear.
Seated in the Father's glory,
Grant us mercy, hear our prayer.
Gloria in excelsis deo.
Gloria in excelsis deo.**

**You alone, O Christ, are holy;
You the Lord most high alone,
Jesus, with the Holy Spirit,
Reigning on the Father's throne.
Gloria in excelsis deo.
Gloria in excelsis deo**

The Collect

Let us pray.

Silence is kept.

Almighty God,
who wonderfully created us in your own image
and yet more wonderfully restored us
through your Son Jesus Christ:
grant that, as he came to share in our humanity,
so we may share the life of his divinity;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading: Colossians 3. 12-17

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

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

Gospel Reading

Please stand. We repeat the refrain.

CELTIC ALLELUIA



Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke
Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel reading: Luke 2.41-end

Now every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Assuming that he was in the group of travellers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, 'Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety.' He said to them, 'Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?' But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart.

And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favour.

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

Sermon

Revd Jane Hedges

Affirmation of Faith

Please stand.

Let us declare our faith in God:

**We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith,
and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us
with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

Please sit or kneel.

These responses may be used

Lord, in your mercy.
Hear our prayer.

We pray for those who are sick or in particular need:

Grace, Josie, Kitty Datta, Atmadeep Novo Datta, Bob Southgate, Benjie, Caroline Winwood, Enid Owens, Pam, Madeline Tarrant, Veronika, Kenneth Sanders, Janet, Mollie Wilson, Maureen, Helen Day, Hunter Merritt.

Those who have died recently:

Joan Miles, Benedict Alexis, Arthur Miller, Robert Twycross.

Those whose anniversary of death falls at this time:

Kathleen Bishop, William Lockett, Ivy Sloper, Rosemary Hill, Nancy Rowlinson, Henry Sheldon, Jeremy Herklots.

And at the end
Merciful Father,
accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Peace

Please 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
and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of Peace.

Hymn 85

The Angel Gabriel from heaven came,
his wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame;
'All hail,' said he, 'thou lowly maiden Mary,
most highly favoured lady'
Gloria!

'For known a blessed Mother thou shalt be,
all generations laud and honour thee,
thy son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold;
most highly favoured lady.'
Gloria!

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head,
'To me be as it pleaseth God', she said,
'My soul shall laud and magnify his holy name':
most highly favoured lady.
Gloria!

Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ was born
in Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn,
and Christian folk throughout the world will ever say
'Most highly favoured lady.'
Gloria!

Basque Carol, paraphrased by Sabine Baring-Gould

Taking of the Bread and Wine

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

Word made flesh, life of the world,
in your incarnation you embraced our poverty:
by your Spirit may we share in your riches.

Amen.

The Eucharistic Prayer

Please sit or stand as you are most comfortable.

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere,
mighty creator, ever-living God.

We give you thanks and praise for your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who for love of our fallen race humbled himself,
and was born of the Virgin Mary
by the power of your Spirit,
and lived as one of us.

In this mystery of the Word made flesh
you have caused his light to shine in our hearts,
to give knowledge of your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.
In him we see our God made visible
and so are caught up in the love of the God we cannot see.
Therefore with all the angels of heaven
we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name
and sing our joyful hymn of praise:

(Tune: See amid the winter's snow)

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and of might.
All of heaven and earth are full
Of your glory, Lord most high.**

**Sing hosanna to the Lord,
Sing hosanna to our God.
Let us join creation's praise;
Let us now our voices raise.**

We praise and bless you, loving Father,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;
and as we obey his command,
send your Holy Spirit,
that broken bread and wine outpoured
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he praised you.
He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me. *(Bells are rung)*

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.
Again he praised you, gave it to them 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.

(Bells are rung)

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice
made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,
we proclaim his death and resurrection
until he comes in glory.

Great is the mystery of faith
**Christ has died:
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.**

Lord of all life,
help us to work together for that day
when your kingdom comes
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people,
gather us in your loving arms
and bring us with the blessed Virgin Mary, and all the
saints
to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

As our saviour taught us, so we pray.

**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.

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

Agnus Dei

(tune: The first Nowell)

**O Lamb of God,
you take away
the sin of the world
Have mercy on us.**

**O Lamb of God,
you take away
the sin of the world
Have mercy on us**

**O, Lamb of God,
you take away
the sin of the world
O grant us your peace.**

Giving of Communion

God's holy gifts
for God's holy people.
**Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

This is God's table and all are welcome. Please follow the directions of the stewards. We will form two lines to receive communion – the bread is distributed from the chancel step, and the wine is distributed from the lady chapel step. Please return to your pew via the north aisle. Stewards will be on hand to direct you!

If you are wearing a mask, it is most practical if you remove it before receiving communion. Please do not dip your wafer into the chalice. Please note that there is no obligation to take the chalice and it is fine still to receive communion in one kind only (the bread).

If you do not wish to receive communion and would prefer a blessing instead, please do come forwards as well.

Hymn 76

Love came down at Christmas,
love all lovely, Love divine;
love was born at Christmas,
star and angels gave the sign.

Worship we the Godhead,
love incarnate, Love divine;
worship we our Jesus:
but wherewith for sacred sign?
Love shall be our token,

love be yours and love be mine,
Love to God and all men,
love for plea and gift and sign.

Christina Georgina Rossetti (1830 – 1894)

Prayer after Communion

Silence is kept.

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. **Amen.**

**You have opened to us the Scriptures, O Christ,
and you have made yourself known
in the breaking of the bread.
Abide with us, we pray,
that, blessed by your royal presence,
we may walk with you
all the days of our life,
and at its end behold you
in the glory of the eternal Trinity,
one God for ever and ever.
Amen.**

The Sending Out

Hymn 86

Please stand

The first Nowell the angel did say
was to Bethlehem's shepherds in fields as they lay;
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep
on a cold winter's night that was so deep:

*Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell,
born is the King of Israel!*

Then wise men from a country far
looked up and saw a guiding star;
they travelled on by night and day
to reach the place where Jesus lay: *Nowell...*

At Bethlehem they entered in,
on bended knee they worshipped him;
they offered there in his presence
their gold and myrrh and frankincense: *Nowell...*

Then let us all with one accord
sing praises to our heavenly Lord;
for Christ has our salvation wrought
and with his blood our life has bought: *Nowell...*

Cornish carol, possibly 18th century
adapted by Michael Perry (1942-1996)

The Blessing

May the joy of the angels,
the eagerness of the shepherds,
the perseverance of the wise men,
the obedience of Joseph and Mary,
and the peace of the Christ-child
be yours this Christmas;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

The Dismissal

We have seen his glory,
the glory revealed to all the nations.
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

Please do join us for refreshments at the back of church or in the warmer meeting room after the Service. Please take this booklet away with you, and recycle it when you have finished with it. We no longer pass the collection plate around during the service, but you are welcome to use the collection plate at the back of church, or the contactless machine, if you would like to make a donation to support the work of our church. If you would like to sign up to regular monthly giving, please visit www.hthq.uk/giving-to-the-church for more information.

Copyright: Common Worship & Times & Seasons ©The Archbishops' Council 2000, 2006. Common Worship: Additional Eucharistic Prayers, © The Archbishop's Council 2012.: CCL no 234208.

Organ Postlude In dir ist Freude – *J.S. Bach*

Notices: 29th December

Notices: Sunday December 29th - First Sunday of Christmas

8am Holy Communion

President: Revd Jane Hedges

10am Parish Eucharist *NB no Forest Service today*

President: Canon Revd Dr Margaret Whipp

Preacher: Revd Jane Hedges

Organist: Andrew Patterson

Midweek Services

Morning Prayer at 9am Tuesdays and Thursdays will resume next week on **Tuesday January 7th**.

There will be no midweek Communion this week. Our regular Wednesdays at 10am will resume on **Wednesday January 8th**.

Sunday Jan 5th: Feast of the Epiphany

8am Holy Communion

President: Revd Jane Hedges

10am Parish Eucharist *NB no Forest Sunday School*

President: Revd Emily Hockliffe Essex

Preacher: Revd Dr Andrew Gregory

Organist: Andrew Patterson

A prayer for the vacancy:

God of vision and hope,
we thank you for all who have ministered here
throughout the history of this church.
In this time of vacancy,
may we continue to grow in love,
share in responsibility,
and seek your vision for our future,
in the name of Jesus Christ, our shepherd and our guide.
Amen.

Save the date The Bishop of Oxford will formally license Laura to her new post at Balliol College Chapel on Sunday **January 19th at 5.30pm**. All are welcome to attend the service of Choral Evensong. We ask for God's blessing upon Laura and we pray for her ministry in her new calling.

Tots provision: Community Café From the new year, we will be offering a Community Café space from 9.30am-11.30am on Tuesday mornings, making use of the new facilities in church. All are welcome, and most especially families with young children, as the meeting room will be set up for tots to play. **If you would like to volunteer**, we would be very grateful to hear from you regarding Tuesday mornings or the possibility of an afternoon slot around school pick-up time. Contact Emily for more info.

HTHQ 175 Talking History the HTHQ175 committee have put together a programme of talks celebrating Holy Trinity's 175th Anniversary year:

Wednesday 8 January C.S. Lewis's Oxford Prof Simon Horobin

Wednesday 5 February Racial Justice Revd Prof Rob Gilbert

Tuesday 4 March History of the Quarry (speaker TBC)

Wednesday 9 April Church and Eco-theology Dr Tom Crook

Wednesday 7 May Morris Dancing (speaker TBC)

Wednesday 4 June Our changing church (speaker TBC)

The evening begins with refreshments at 6.45pm, the talk beginning at 7pm, and discussions close at 7.45pm. All are welcome in church.

This week's Eco Tips: What better New Year resolution than resolving to extend the life of our belongings, keeping them in use as long as possible, thereby reducing waste and pollution?

Hilary Rollin, Eco Group

Eco Resources Autumn/Winter 2024

If you are looking for information on ECO matters, you might like to follow the link below for ideas on book titles, links to Zoom sessions (live and recorded), talks etc. Hilary Rollin, Eco Church Group

Go to: <https://www.hthq.uk/eco-church-resources/>

Pastoral care team Are you in need of support or would you like to talk to someone? We rely on you to let us know of anyone who is ill, or in hospital or who might welcome a visit. Please contact any of the clergy (numbers on back page) or Helen Day, Janet Masters, or Anne Tarassenko.

Holy Trinity Headington Quarry

*An open door between heaven and earth,
showing God's love to all.*

As the Anglican parish in Headington Quarry, Risinghurst and Wood Farm, we are here for every local resident. Our church is open every day. We hope that you will find God's peace as you come to pray or just sit and rest awhile. If you have questions about the Christian faith or would like to find out more about church life, please get in touch:

Contact us

Vicar: Vacancy

Associate Priest: Revd Prof Rob Gilbert
associatepriest@hthq.uk

Curate: Revd Emily Hockliffe Essex
curate@hthq.uk 07979 931889

Parish Office: office@hthq.uk 01865 762931

Churchwardens: wardens@hthq.uk

Website: www.hthq.org.uk

Church post code for emergencies: OX3 8LQ