

Use us – all that we have and all that we are
to touch the world with the Christmas message:
God is love. God is with us. God will never leave us.

*So, may the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ
The Love of God
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
Be with us all now and forever. Amen.*



A Liturgy for Advent and Christmas

We Gather for Worship

The people who walk in darkness will see a great light – a light that will shine on all who live in the land where death casts its shadow...For a child is born to us, a son is given to us. And the government will rest on his shoulders. These will be his royal titles: Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. (Isaiah 9:2 & 6)

God of Surprising Generosity and Unexpected Grace,
We have come to witness a miracle;
to prepare our hearts for a new invasion of Your Light;
*We have come once again
to open our souls and our lives
to the divine birth.*

And in this sacred moment we ask for Your gentle Presence
to captivate and challenge us.
For Jesus' sake. Amen.

We Express Our Praise and Confession

We celebrate You and praise You,
God of new beginnings and surprising opportunities
Because You never cease to make Yourself available to us.
We appreciate You and thank You,
God of unquenchable life and irrepressible grace
Because You continue to offer us the resources of Your Spirit.

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We love You and embrace You,
God of unfailing compassion and constant companionship
Because You walk beside us and transform us into agents of love.

Forgive us, O Lord,
**When we seek to keep You to ourselves
and shut others from Your influence**
Forgive us, O Christ,
**When we wallow in our own weakness
and take advantage of the weakness of others.**
Forgive us, O Spirit,
**When we deny Your friendship
and withhold Your compassion from others.**

Silent Confession

**Heal us, restore and empower us, O God, we pray
For the sake of Your kingdom which has broken into our world.
Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer may be said

We Come to the Lord's Table

We thank and praise You, O God
for You are not distant and uninvolved
in our lives and our world
But, You have come to us, humbly and gently,
challengingly and irresistibly.
**And whoever receives You, whoever believes in You
becomes a child of God, born of the Spirit.**

Silent Reflection

So, we remember Jesus' birth and life,
His suffering and victory.
On the night before His crucifixion,
Jesus shared His last meal with His friends;
He took the loaf of bread and blessed it,
then breaking it, He offered it to them saying:
This is my body broken for you. Eat this in memory of me.
After the meal, He took the cup of wine and blessed it,

then He offered it to them saying:
This is my blood shed for you. Drink this in memory of me.
So, we eat and we drink and we remember.
**With hope and joy in the new life
which comes in God's kingdom. Amen.**

God of Grace,
Come to us again in this meal,
and as we share this bread and wine,
may we share in Christ's body and blood;
May we offer ourselves to you again,
and may we become one with Christ
and with each other – a single, unified body.
Amen.

Communion is received

We Give Thanks

We thank You, Lord God,
For breaking into our world, our lives and our experience.
We thank You, O Christ,
**For this meal of remembering,
and the stories of love and grace that it tells.**
We thank You, O Spirit,
**For Your Presence and Your challenge
for us to become agents of God's compassion.**
In Jesus' Name. Amen

We Offer our Gifts and Ourselves to God

In this moment of worship
we embrace Your presence again, O God.
And we offer You our love.
In this moment of prayer
we proclaim again Your purpose for the world, O Saviour.
And we offer You our resources.
In this moment of giving
we hear Your call again, O Lord.
And we offer You ourselves.