

Welcome to the Parish Church of St Mark
Serving the people of Broomhill & Broomhall
Living Thinking Loving Faith

Parish Eucharist Christmas I

28 December 2025
at 10.00 am

www.stmarkssheffield.co.uk



Gathering

Organ introit: The Holy Boy by John Ireland

Welcome

The President is Revd Dr Michael Bayley

The Deacon and Preacher is Jonathan Williamson

Welcome

Opening Hymn

Good Christians all rejoice
with heart and soul and voice!
Give ye heed to what we say:
News! News! Jesus Christ was born today;
ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now:
Christ is born today, Christ is born today!

Good Christians all rejoice
with heart and soul and voice!
Now ye hear of endless bliss:
Joy! Joy! Jesus Christ was born for this.
He hath opened heaven's door,
and we are blest for evermore:
Christ was born for this, Christ was born for this.

Good Christians all rejoice
with heart and soul and voice!
Now ye need not fear the grave:
Peace! Peace! Jesus Christ was born to save;
calls you one, and calls you all, to gain his everlasting hall:
Christ was born to save, Christ was born to save.

Text: John Mason Neale (1818 - 1866)

*Music: 14th century German carol
melody arr. John Stainer (1840 - 1901)*

Tune: In Dulci Jubilo

Prayers of Approach

May God be with you:
and also with you.

Light Eternal,
**you bring to light things hidden in darkness
and know the shadows of our hearts:
cleanse and renew us by your Spirit,
that we may walk in the light
and glorify your name;
through Jesus Christ,
the Light of the world. Amen.**

Prayers of Penitence and Forgiveness

Christ, the Light of the world,
has come to dispel the darkness of our hearts.
In his light, we become aware
of our shortcomings
and God's desire for us
to fulfil our potential.

Pause for reflection

You were born through Mary's labour;
but we look for easy answers that cost us nothing.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

You were greeted by shepherds and angels;
but we close our doors on those outside.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

You share our humanity and delight in your creation;
but we make your love too small
and take your gift for granted.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

May the God of forgiveness
heal you of all that harms you
and keep you in life eternal. **Amen.**

Gloria

Joy to the world!
The Lord is come;
let earth receive her King;
let ev'ry heart prepare him room,
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the earth!
The Saviour reigns;
let us our songs employ;
while fields and floods,
rocks, hills and plains
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

He rules the world
with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders, and wonders of his love.

Isaac Watts (1674-1748)

Tune: Antioch

The Collect

Shepherd of Israel
and Light of all Nations,
made known in the gifts
of those who call to other names
and walk on different ways:
may unjust powers
and the hatred within us
be dismayed by your friendship
and dethroned by your love;
through Jesus Christ, the open arms of grace. Amen.

*Steven Shakespeare*¹⁵

Journeying Together in Faith

As we prepare to explore God's word,
let us pray together:

**May God guide each of us in the way of Christ,
whatever our age or experience.
The love of God be with us all.
Amen**

Attending

First Reading: Hebrews 2. 10 - end

Page 216 New Testament NRSV

Read by Frances Gray

At the end the reader says:

How is this God's word of love for us today?

After the reading we share a time of quiet

Gradual Hymn

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 tonight.

When lives of humble service preach
The Good News to the poor,
When troubled minds or bodies find
A welcome at our door,
When healing hearts and hands lift
The lowly from the dust,
Then ring the bells and sing Noels:
For Christ is born in us.

No longer dreamless, Bethlehem,
You bear the wounds of war;
Can words of peace make conflict cease,
When freedom is no more?
No! Therefore work for justice,
Let swords thrust none apart.
When all are free, the world may see
Christ born in every heart!

*V1: Phillips Brooks, 1855 – 1893 V2: John Becker. Verse 3: Rae E. Whitney
Music: Trad English melody harmonised by R Vaughan Williams (1872 - 1958)
Tune: Forest Green [Carols with Justice](#), Simple Living Works*

Gospel Matthew 2.13-end

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 Luke

Glory to you, O Lord.

Sermon

Jonathan Williamson, Reader

Prayers of the People

Led by David Price

Light of the world,
Bring healing, bring peace.

At the end

Christ, Light of the world.
**May your healing peace
bring hope to our troubled world;
be born in us, we pray. Amen.**

Sharing Peace

Unto us a boy 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.

Offertory Hymn

In the bleak mid-winter
Frosty wind made moan,
Earth stood hard as iron,
Water like a stone;
Snow had fallen, snow on snow,
Snow on snow,
In the bleak mid-winter,
Long ago.

Our God, heaven cannot hold him
Nor earth sustain;
heaven and earth shall flee away
When he comes to reign:
In the bleak mid-winter
A stable place sufficed
The Lord God Almighty
Jesus Christ.

Enough for him whom cherubim
worship night and day,
A breast full of milk
and a manger full of hay.
Enough for him, whom angels
fall down before,
The ox and ass and camel
which adore.

What can I give him
Poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd
I would bring a lamb;
If I were a wise man
I would do my part;
Yet what I can I give him -
Give my heart.

*Text: Christina Rossetti (1830 - 94),
Music: Gustav Holst (1874 - 1934) Tune: Cranham*

Abiding

Preparation

We bring to this table our daily lives:

**Bread to sustain us,
the fruit of our labours.**

As shepherds and sages worshipped the Prince of Peace.

We bring our offerings of thanksgiving and praise.

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Let us pray

May God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to God.

Let us give thanks to our gracious God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

We thank you loving God,
for you did not stand far off
but came in close
with the urgency of love;

we praise you
for the Word made flesh
born of Mary's body,
nurtured in her womb,
cradled in her arms,
greeted by her song.

The fullness of God dwells in his flesh,
a touch of welcome for the one thrown aside,
good news of bread for the hungry and poor,
a shepherd to find those who are lost.

Now we are caught up,
body and soul resound
with the glory of music divine,
echoing through the hallowed earth, singing:

**Holy, most holy, all holy the Lord,
in power and wisdom forever adored.
The earth and the heavens are full of your love,
our joyful hosannas re-echo above.**

**Blessed, most blessed, all blessed is he
whose life makes us whole
and whose death sets us free.
Who comes in the name of the father of light,
let endless hosannas resound in the height.**

*Text: Sheffield Cathedral, Music: Trad Irish Melody,
arr. Colin Hand (1929 - 2015) Tune: Slane*

We ask that your Holy Spirit
will fall upon us and upon these gifts
that these fragile, earthly things
may be to us the body and blood
of your Son, our brother, Jesus Christ;

who, on the night that he was betrayed,
gathered with his friends for a meal
that tasted of freedom.

Calling them to his table,
he took bread, gave thanks,
broke it and said:
‘This is my body, which is given for you.
Do this to remember me.’

In the same way after supper,
he took the cup, saying:
‘This cup is the new covenant in my blood.
Do this, whenever you drink it,
to remember me.’

As on that night, so here and now
he offers himself in touch and taste
beyond all words can hold.

**Come, Holy Spirit,
fill the hearts of your people
and kindle in us the fire of your love.**

Therefore we come in memory and hope,
responding to your call
and the promise that echoes
from the dawn of all time.

May mind and heart be held
by your self-giving love
as, celebrating your birth,
we catch a glimpse of you
shining in the darkness.

So draw us into the intensity of your love
that your life may be renewed in us,
our lives may present you to the world
and the whole universe may reveal your glory.
Amen.

Steven Shakespeare (adapted)

Lord's Prayer & Communion

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.

The bread is broken

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.**

Words of invitation follow.

Draw near to Bethlehem, House of Bread,
where hungry hearts are satisfied,
seeking souls find wisdom,
and failing faith is kindled back to life.

**Today, God has turned the world upside-down
and restored the dignity of all people.
Alleluia!**

During communion we sing this Taizé chant:

Be - ne-dic - tus qui ve - nit,

be - ne-dic-tus qui ve - nit, in no - mi-ne, in

no - mi-ne, in no-mi-ne Do - mi-ni.

Prayer of Commitment

**God of life,
you reveal your glory
in the humility of our humanity,
and through ordinary things made holy.
As we accompany those who walk in darkness
and rejoice with all who have seen great light;
may Christ be found among us
and his beauty enlighten the world.
Amen.**

Announcements

To support the ministry of this church please use the card reader at the back of church or visit the website for more options.

Thank you.

Blessing

May the joy of the angels,
the eagerness of the shepherds,
the perseverance of the sages,
the openness of Joseph and Mary,
and the peace of the Christchild be yours;
and the blessing of God,
Creator, Christ and Spirit of Life,
rest upon you and those whom you love,
both living and departed,
this Christmas and always. **Amen.**

Final Hymn

Unto us a boy is born!
King of all creation,
came he to a world forlorn,
the Lord of every nation,
the Lord of every nation.

Cradled in a stall was he
watched by cows and asses;
but the very beasts could see
that he the world surpasses,
that he the world surpasses.

Then the fearful Herod cried:
'Pow'r is mine in Jewry!'
So the blameless children died
the victims of his fury,
the victims of his fury.

Now may Mary's son, who came
long ago to love us,
lead us all with hearts aflame
unto the joys above us,
unto the joys above us.

Omega and Alpha he!
Let the organ thunder,
while the choir, with peals of glee,
shall rend the air asunder
shall rend the air asunder.

Moosberg (1355 - 1360)

Tune: Puer Nobis

Commission *(from the back of church)*

When the song of the angels is stilled,
when the star in the sky is gone,
when the kings and princes are home,
when the shepherds are back with their flocks,
the work of Christmas begins:
to find the lost, to heal the broken,
to feed the hungry, to release the prisoner,
to rebuild the nations, to bring peace among the people,
to make music in the heart.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

Voluntary

Postlude on Adeste Fideles by Eric Thiman (1900-1975)

Thank you to Peter Heginbotham our organist today.

Friendship Time

*Refreshments are served at the end of the service,
please stay if you can.*

*For those on Zoom, we hold a breakout group after
the voluntary to which you are welcome.*



Friendship Time



Taize Service

7pm Sunday 28th December

Bring and share food from 5 pm



Meal Train

Could you prepare a meal for a family of 2 adults and 1 child with a new baby on a Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday between 30 December and 15 January inclusive?



Contact Shan or Hannah for the link
Thank you

There is an ongoing collection at St Mark's of good quality warm clothes and coats, as well as toiletries, shower gel and feminine personal care products.
Thank you so much for your generosity.



Epiphany Pizza Party
4 January,
after the morning service.
Do come and share
a simple lunch with us.

