

**The Church of England Parishes of
Winscombe, Sandford & Churchill**



Holy Communion

From Christmas to Candlemas

**St James' Church, Winscombe
All Saints Church, Sandford
St John's Church, Churchill**

Welcome

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Lighting of the Christmas Candle

We light this candle as the people of God for past, present and future generations, as a light of joy as we celebrate the good news of the birth of Jesus Christ, who brings hope, peace, reconciliation and love to the world.

**Lord Jesus, Light of lights
You have come among us
Help us who live by your light
To shine as light in your world.
Glory to God in the highest. Amen.**

A Hymn may be sung

Prayer of confession:

Christ the light of the world has come
To dispel the darkness of our hearts;
Let us turn to the light and confess our wrongdoing:

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.

You come in word and sacrament
to strengthen us in holiness:
Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

You will come in glory
with salvation for your people:
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

We hear that God has forgiven us

The Gloria

**All: Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.**

A Collect may follow

Readings

One or more readings from the Bible follow

A Hymn may be sung

Address, presentation or activity

We declare our faith in God
**All: 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 God;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

Intercessions
A time of prayer follows.

The Peace
We offer each other a sign of God's peace.

*A **Hymn** may be played and an offertory may be taken*

The liturgy of the Sacrament

The Lord is here
All: **His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts!
All: **We lift them to the Lord**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God
All: **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Blessed are you, Lord God,
our light and our salvation;
to you be glory and praise for ever.

From the beginning you have created all things
and all your works echo the silent music of your praise.
In the fullness of time you made us in your image,
the crown of all creation.

You give us breath and speech, that with angels and archangels
and all the powers of heaven
we may find a voice to sing your praise:

All: **Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory
Hosanna in the highest.**

How wonderful the work of your hands, O Lord.
As a mother tenderly gathers her children,
you embraced a people as your own.
When they turned away and rebelled
your love remained steadfast.

From them you raised up Jesus our Saviour, born of Mary,
to be the living bread,
in whom all our hungers are satisfied.

He offered his life for sinners,
and with a love stronger than death
he opened wide his arms on the cross.

On the night before he died,
he came to supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he gave you thanks.
He broke it and gave it to them, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine,
he gave you thanks, 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.

Jesus Christ is Lord:
**All: Lord, by your cross and resurrection
you have set us free.
You are the Saviour of the world.**

Father, we plead with confidence
his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross;
we remember his dying and rising in glory,
and we rejoice that he intercedes for us at your right hand.

Pour out your Holy Spirit as we bring before you
these gifts of your creation;
may they be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

As we eat and drink these holy things in your presence,
form us in the likeness of Christ,
and build us into a living temple to your glory.

And now we give you thanks
because for love of our fallen race
he most wonderfully and humbly chose to be made man, and to
take our nature as nevermore to lay it by,
so that we might be born again by your Spirit
and restored in your image.

Bring us at the last with all the saints
to the vision of that eternal splendour
for which you have created us;
through Jesus Christ, our Lord,
by whom, with whom, and in whom,
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,
we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

**All: Blessing and honour and glory and power
be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

**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

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 president and people receive communion

Prayer after communion

**All: Father of all,
we give you thanks and praise that,
when we were still far off
you met us in your Son and brought us home.
Dying and living,
He declared your love,
gave us grace and opened the gate of glory.
May we who share Christ's body, live His risen life;
we who drink His cup, bring life to others;
we whom the Spirit lights, give light to the world.
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us
so we and all your children shall be free
and the whole earth live to praise Your name,
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

A Hymn may be played

A Blessing is given

*Thank you for joining us today, it's been great to have you with us,
and we look forward to seeing you again soon.
You can also join us online at www.winsandchurches.org.uk*