

Midnight Communion

The Greeting

'Do I not fill heaven and earth?' says the Lord.

Now the Word is made flesh and laid in a narrow manger.

From eternity to eternity you are God,
and now we see you as a newborn child.

Opening Carol: It Came Upon the Midnight Clear (14)

Confession

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

Jesus, you were born for our salvation. We have sinned:

Forgive and heal us.

You came as Saviour to bring wholeness and peace. We have sinned:

Forgive and heal us.

You come to bring light into the darkness of our lives. We have sinned:

Forgive and heal us.

May God who so loved the world that he sent his Son to be our Saviour
forgive us our sins, that we may behold the light of his Son,
the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Gospel Reading

Alleluia, alleluia.

The Word became flesh
and dwelt among us,
and we have seen his glory.

Alleluia.

John 1:1-18

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

'The Eleousa'

The Virgin of Tenderness

Carol: Silent Night (13)



The Peace

This holy night the angels sang,
'Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace to all in whom he delights.'

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.



The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

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

**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 forever. Amen.**

Prayer after Communion

**God our Father, in this night you have made known to us again
the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ:
confirm our faith and fix our eyes on him until the day dawns
and Christ the Morning Star rises in our hearts.
To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.**

Final Carol: Hark the herald-angels Sing (10)

Blessing and Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.



Lighting the Christmas Candle

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.
**For to us a child is born
to us a Son is given.**
His name will be called Wonderful counsellor, mighty God,
the everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.
**Glory to God in the highest
and peace to his people on earth!**