

WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

If you go into a church at this time of the year you will often see a wreath of evergreen foliage, sometimes mixed with dried flowers, beechnuts, fir cones and other dried fruits of the hedgerows, all adorned with candles – usually five, occasionally four.

It is there to help the congregation to mark off the weeks of advent, and it symbolises loosely, through light and evergreen leaves the eternal nature of Christ, who comes into the world to be its light.

THE BLESSING OF THE STAR

The star is switched on and blessed.

Lord God, light of creation: the sun, the moon, and the stars of the night.

We praise you for the light of Israel: the Law, the prophets, and the wisdom of the Scriptures.

We praise you for Jesus Christ, your Son: he is Emmanuel, God-with-us, the Prince of Peace, who fills us with the wonder of your love.

God, let your blessing come upon us as we illumine this Star. +

May the light and cheer it gives be a sign of the joy that fills our hearts.

May all who delight in the star and this tree in church come to the knowledge and joy of your love. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

THE GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you

ALL And also with you.

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

ALL Loving God, you have led us to this place,
not to shield us from difficulties in human life,
but to heal us and inspire us,
till we see the world as you do
and love it with your love
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. Amen

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

When the Lord comes, he will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness,
and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Therefore in the light of Christ let us confess our sins.

Lord Jesus, you came to gather the nations into the peace of your kingdom:

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.**

ABSOLUTION

The president pronounces God's love and forgiveness

May the God who loved the world so much that he sent his son to be our Saviour
forgive us our sins and make us holy to serve him in the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

THE COLLECT

The **COLLECT** (is the prayer for the day) is said

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE READING

At the end of the reading you may like to say

For the word of God in Scripture **ALL: Thanks be to God**

SERMON

Preacher is : Maria Szűcs

THE CREED

We believe in God the Father, from whom every family In heaven and in 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

Let us pray

The prayers are then said. This response may be used:

Lord, in your mercy **ALL: Hear our prayer**

At the end, the intercessor may say:

Merciful Father **ALL: accept these prayers for the sake of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen**

THE LORDS PRAYER

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.

THE CONCLUSION

Rejoice and pray in the Spirit

Be with us Lord, as we go out into the world.

May the boldness of your Spirit transform us.

May the gentleness of your Spirit lead us.

May the gifts of your Spirit equip us.

To serve and worship you .

Now and always. Amen

THE FINAL BLESSING

Christ the Sun of Righteousness
shine upon you, scatter the darkness
from before your path, and make
you ready to meet him when he
comes in glory; and the blessing ...
be among you and remain with you always. Amen.

BIRTHDAYS & CHAT