

Send the Holy Spirit on your people  
and gather into one in your kingdom  
all who share this one bread  
and one cup,  
so that we, in the company  
of all the saints,  
may praise and glorify you for ever,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord;  
by whom, and with whom,  
and in whom,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory be yours,  
almighty Father, for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

Let us pray with confidence  
as our Saviour has taught us

**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.**

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.**

*The invitation to communion:*

God's holy gifts for God's holy people.  
**Jesus Christ is holy,  
Jesus Christ is Lord,  
To the glory of God the Father.**

**After communion**

*After a short prayer we say together*

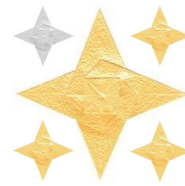
**Almighty God,  
we thank you for feeding us  
with the body and blood of your Son  
Jesus Christ.  
Through him we offer you our souls  
and bodies  
to be a living sacrifice.  
Send us out in the power of your  
Spirit to live and work  
to your praise and glory. Amen.**

**Carol**

*Blessing and Dismissal*

May the humility of the shepherds  
The faith of the wise men  
The joy of the angels  
And the peace Jesus brings  
Be God's gift to you  
and those you love,  
This Christmas and always,  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son and  
the Holy Spirit  
Be with you now and always. Amen

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



**The Venta Group**  
Arminghall, Caistor St Edmund, Stoke Holy Cross with Dunston

## ***Family Communion for Christmas Day***



*We say together the lines in **bold type*** We confess that amid all the joys and festivities of this season, we have sometimes forgotten what Christmas really means, and have left the Lord Jesus out of our thinking and living: **Father, forgive us.**

**Welcome & Introduction**

*We light the Advent candles, and say together:*

**God our Father,  
today the Saviour is born  
And those who live in darkness  
are seeing a great light.  
Help us who greet  
the birth of Christ with joy,  
To live in the light of your Son  
And to share the good news  
of your love.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ,  
the Light of the World. Amen.**

**Carol**

**Prayers of confession  
and forgiveness**

Help us to remember that you loved the world so much that you gave your only son, who was born to be our Saviour:  
**Lord, help us.**

We confess that we have allowed the most important event in history to become dulled by familiarity:  
**Father, forgive us.**

Help us in this act of worship to recapture a sense of wonder, and to discover again the stupendous fact that the Creator of the universe has

come to us as a newborn baby:  
**Lord, help us.**

**Fill our hearts with  
the love that cares,  
That understands and gives.  
Show us how we can best serve  
those around us  
For the sake of him who was  
born in a stable,  
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*The service leader uses some  
words of forgiveness.*

*The Collect (special prayer for the day)  
may be said, and all respond Amen.*

**Carol**

**Readings and reflection**

*Readings from the Bible will follow  
here. When the Gospel is announced,  
please stand as the reader says:  
Alleluia, Alleluia. 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...  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At the end, the reader may say*  
This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Talk / Activity**

**Words of belief (please stand)**

**Though he was divine he did not  
cling to equality with God,**

**But made himself nothing.  
Taking the form of a slave,  
He was born into human likeness.  
He humbled himself and was  
obedient to death,  
even the death of the cross.  
Therefore God has  
raised him on high,  
and given him the name  
above every name:  
that at the name of Jesus  
every knee should bow  
and every voice proclaim  
that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father. Amen**

**Prayers**

**The Peace (please stand)**

To us a child is born,  
to us a son is given,  
And his name shall be called  
Prince of Peace.  
The peace of the Lord  
be always with you  
**and also with you.**

*We offer one another a sign of peace.*

*As the communion table is prepared  
and an offering is taken we sing*

**Carol**

**The Communion**

With this bread that we bring,  
**We shall remember Jesus.**  
With this wine that we bring,  
**We shall remember Jesus.**

Bread for his body,  
Wine for his blood  
Gifts from God to this table we bring  
**We shall remember Jesus.**

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

Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**

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

*Some seasonal words follow*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are  
full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

*Congregation may now sit or kneel.*

Lord, you are holy indeed,  
the source of all holiness;  
grant that by the power  
of your Holy Spirit,  
and according to your holy will,  
these gifts of bread and wine  
may be to us the body  
and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;  
who, in the same night that  
he was betrayed,  
took bread and gave you thanks;  
he broke it and gave it

to his disciples, saying:  
Take, eat; this is my body  
which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper  
he took the cup and gave you thanks;  
he gave it to them, saying:  
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:  
**Lord, by your cross and resurrection  
you have set us free.  
You are the Saviour of the world.**

And so, Father, calling to mind  
his death on the cross,  
his perfect sacrifice made once  
for the sins of the whole world;  
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection  
and glorious ascension,  
and looking for his coming in glory,  
we celebrate this memorial  
of our redemption.  
As we offer you this our sacrifice  
of praise and thanksgiving,  
we bring before you this bread  
and this cup  
and we thank you for  
counting us worthy  
to stand in your presence  
and serve you.