

A warm welcome to our Christingle service

at St Mary's, Shirehampton

Advent Sunday 1st December 2024

All donations from this service go to the work of The Children's Society.

Please give generously if you can.



Gathering:

We come from scattered lives to meet with God.

Let us recognize his presence with us.

Silence is kept.

As God's people we have gathered:

let us worship him together.

Song:

(Children only)

Away in a manger,
no crib for a bed,
the little Lord Jesus
laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky
looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus,
asleep on the hay.

(All)

The cattle are lowing,
the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus
no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus!
Look down from the sky,
and stay by my side
until morning is nigh.

(All)

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay
close by me for ever, and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children
in thy tender care,
and fit us for heaven,
to live with thee there.

Orange Detectives:

Jesus brings us out of darkness:
to live in his amazing light.

Jesus is the Light of the World
Jesus is our Way

The Advent Candles are lit

Jesus is the light of the world;
Jesus is our Way.

With Jesus even dark places are light;
Jesus is the Truth.

In Jesus we shall live for ever:
Jesus is our Life.

Saying Sorry to God:

How is it we are called to live?
We are called to love God and one another.

**Father God,
we are sorry
for the things we do and say and think
which make you sad.**

We are sorry for not thinking of others before ourselves.

**Please forgive us,
and help us to love you and other people more and more.
Amen.**

Forgiven:

May the God of love and power
forgive you and free you from your sins,
heal and strengthen you by his Spirit,
and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Reading: Matthew 5: 14 – 16

¹⁴ “You are the light that shines for the world to see. You are like a city built on a hill that cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ People don’t hide a lamp under a bowl. They put it on a lampstand. Then the light shines for everyone in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, you should be a light for other people. Live so that they will see the good things you do and praise your Father in heaven.”

The Orange and God’s plan...

The ribbon...

The 4 corners of our world...

Fruits of the earth...

Song:

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

All around the world, I'm gonna let it shine
All around the world, I'm gonna let it shine
All around the world, I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

I'm not gonna hide it, no! I'm gonna let it shine
I'm not gonna hide it, no! I'm gonna let it shine
I'm not gonna hide it, no! I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

The Light of the world

Lord Jesus, we are getting ready again
to tell the story of your birth:
help us to make our hearts ready
to be a place where you can live today...

**Lord Jesus,
fill our hearts with your love,
and help us to share your love with everyone. Amen.**

Light of the World:

We let the light of Christ into our lives

We light the Christingles

*Please stand in a large circle and we will light each other's candles.
All adults are asked to ensure the safety of the children.*

Christingle Prayer:

**Lord Jesus,
Light of the world,
as I hold this Christingle
and think about your great love for me,
help me to become a light
bearing that love to others.**

**Father of all, may we, whom the Spirit lights,
give light to the world.**

Alleluia, thanks be to God

Song:

1 Silent night, holy night.
All is calm, all is bright,
round yon virgin mother and child;
holy infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace,
sleep in heavenly peace.

Joseph Mohr (1792-1848)
Trans. John Freeman Young (1820-1885)
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Song:

The Christingle begins with an orange,
Telling us of the world God made.
By the fruits of the earth in their seasons,
We can see the love of God displayed.

Sing Christingle! Sing Christingle! Sing Christingle!
It's the light of Christ.
Sing Christingle! Sing Christingle! Sing Christingle!
Light of Christ.

God of love, we give thanks now for Jesus;
We remember his birth again.
But the red ribbon round the Christingle
Tells the story of his cross and pain.

To complete the Christingle: a candle,
Shining out in the darkest night.
Jesus promised to lead us and guide us;
Come and celebrate the world's true light!

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Let us pray:

The Lord's Prayer:

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.**

Song:

Though the shadows gather

There's a light that shines forever.

From the bright beginning,

Till the day the earth stops its spinning.

And I feel that brightness

Rising up in me.

Making me the person

That I am meant to be.

Show me the way to shine for Jesus!

Let my love light up this Christmas.

Changing dark to light around us.

Oh sweet Jesus, shine in me!

Show me the way to shine for Jesus!

Let my love light up this Christmas.

Changing dark to light around us.

Oh sweet Jesus, shine in me!

Sha la la la la la ...

Oh sweet Jesus, shine in me!

All the light and glory
Turned into the Christmas story.
See the darkened stable
Lit up with a newly born baby
And the Son still shines now
Turning night to day.
Loving, healing, saving –
He makes me want to say:

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Sending:

Come, let us go with God to bring healing to the world.
**Come, let us bring family to the lonely,
comfort to those who grieve.**

Come, let us go with Jesus to all who are forgotten.
**Come, let us carry justice to the oppressed,
to feed those who hunger in body and soul.**

Come, let us go with the faithful Spirit.
**Come, let us speak the gospel with our lips,
let us share grace with our lives.**

The Blessing:

May the joy of the angels
The eagerness of the shepherds
The perseverance of the wise men
The obedience of Joseph and Mary
And the peace of the Christ Child
Be yours this Christmas
And the blessing...