

St Mark's Church

Christingle Service Advent 1



Welcome

Opening Verse of Scripture

I have come as light into the world, so that everyone who believes in me should not remain in the darkness. *John 12:46*

Opening Words

In our service today, we will use Christingles to celebrate Jesus, God with us, the light of the world. Later in the service, we will light our own Christingles, but first let us spend a moment in stillness, remembering that when two or three are gathered in his name Jesus is with us, his light shining in our midst.

We say together the text in bold.

Lord Jesus, light of the world, you came down from heaven and entered our world as a child, born of the Virgin Mary.

Open our eyes to see your light today.

Lord Jesus, from the crib to the cross you stood among the people who had the least and suffered the most. **Open our eyes to see your light today.**



Lord Jesus, you promise that when two or three are gathered in your name, you are there in the midst of them.

Open our eyes to see your light today.

Lighting of the First Advent Candle

Hymn

Hail to the Lord's Anointed

Confession

Jesus cared about everyone. He knew everyone mattered.
When everyone else was rushing around, Jesus would stop and he would talk to the people who others ignored.

Let us think about the people we meet. People we have helped and cared for, people who have helped and cared for us. Whether we know it or not, Jesus is present in them.

Jesus, God with us,
We thank you for the times when we see you.
We are sorry for the times we neglect you.

Let us think about the people we neglect:
people we see, but are too busy to help
people whose lives are hidden, whom we are too busy find.
Whether we knew it or not, Jesus is present in them.

Jesus, God with us,
We thank you for the times when we see you.
We are sorry for the times we neglect you.

Jesus, God with us, in the crib you came alongside us
on the cross you paid the price for our sin:
forgive us for the times when we have neglected you,
give us eyes to see you in the days and weeks ahead. Amen
The Minister will announce the words of forgiveness

The Offering

Thank you to those who have presented their gifts by standing order, through the bank. If you are a tax payer please use Gift Aid envelopes to enable us to reclaim tax. Please stand as the Offering is brought forward.

Loving God, you made everything that is, so we are giving back to you some of what is already yours. Bless what we have offered. May our offerings help the light of your love burn even more brightly in the year ahead.
We make this prayer through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hymn

The Trumpets Sound

The Collect Prayer and Bible Readings
You may follow the Bible readings in Partnership News

Almighty God, as your kingdom dawns, turn us from the darkness of sin to the light of holiness, that we may be ready to meet you in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Reader This is the word of the Lord.
All **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Hymn

The Orange of Christingle

The Making of the Christingles

A Prayer of Blessing of the Christingles

**Lord Jesus, Light of the world,
I hold this Christingle as a sign of your love.**

**The candle, planted deep within the world,
as a sign that you made your home among us,
that you lived with the poorest and most neglected.**

**The ribbon, wrapped around the earth,
a sign of your blood poured out on the cross,
enfolding the whole world with your saving love.**

**The fruits, a sign of all the good things of creation
given to us that we might share them fairly
so everyone can delight in the life you have given them
and the world you have made.**

**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.**

Hymn

Round Orange, Round Orange

The Prayers

The Lord's 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.

Hymn

Christ is surely coming

The Blessing

May the Lord open your eyes
to see the face of Jesus in all who are in need.

May the Lord open your heart
to welcome and care for each of God's people.

May the Lord pour out his Spirit upon us all
that we may light up the world with the love of Jesus Christ.

And may Almighty God bless you and watch over you,
this day and evermore.

All Amen.

Go in peace in the light of our Lord to love and serve him.
All In the name of Christ. Amen.

For many years churches all over the world have
made Christingles to remind them that Christ is the
light who came into the world at Christmas.

