

Rejoicing in the presence of God here among us,
in faith and trust we pray:

All **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.

All **Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

Draw near with faith ...

**Those receiving Holy Communion please move forward as directed.
To receive a blessing, please move forward holding this paper.**

MUSIC during the administration of the Holy Communion may include:

All CAROL 41 omit v4 **It came upon the midnight clear**
Choir Christ is the morning star Pärt
All CAROL 37 **While shepherds watched**
Choir Ballulalow Sirrett

All **God our Father,
tonight you have made known to us again
the power and presence of our Lord Jesus Christ;
may our Christmas celebration
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**

THE BLESSING

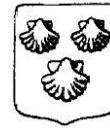
Stand CAROL 34 **O come, all ye faithful ...**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Fanfare Lemmens



The Church of St James the Greater
Leicester



MIDNIGHT MASS OF THE NATIVITY 2017

Hearing-aid users should switch to position 'T' to benefit from the inductive loop

WELCOME by The Reverend Canon Dr Stephen Foster

Stand CAROL 40 **O little town of Bethlehem ...** verses 1 & 2

BLESSING OF THE CRIB



following which the choir sings verse 3, then all sing verse 4

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All **And also with you.**

PREPARATION

Christ the light of the world has come to dispel the darkness from our
hearts and minds. In his light let us prepare to confess our sins.

Sit The Virgin Mary accepted your call to be the mother of Jesus.
Forgive our disobedience to your will. We have sinned:

All **Forgive and heal us.**

Your Son our Saviour was born in poverty in a manger.

Forgive our greed and rejection of your ways. We have sinned:

All **Forgive and heal us.**

The shepherds left their flocks to go to Bethlehem.
Forgive our self-interest and lack of vision. We have sinned:
All **Forgive and heal us.**

The wise men followed the star to find Jesus the King.
Forgive our reluctance to seek you. We have sinned:
All **Forgive and heal us.**

ABSOLUTION is pronounced

Choir GLORIA Vierne

Sit THE COLLECT for Christmas Night

READING : Isaiah 9.2 – 7 read by David Kibert

Stand CAROL 35 **Hark, the herald-angels sing**

Choir Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
All **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**
Choir The word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory.
All **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

THE GOSPEL ¶ (2.1-16)
Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Luke.
All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

at the end the reader says:
This is the Gospel of the Lord
All **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sit **Sermon**

Choir In the bleak midwinter Darke

Stand AFFIRMATION OF FAITH
Let us declare our faith in God

All In the beginning was the Word,
**and the Word was with God,
and the Word was God.**

Through him all things were made;

All **and without him nothing was made
that has been made.**

All In him was life,
and that life was the light of all people.

The Word became flesh
All **and lived for a while among us;**

we have seen his glory,
All **the glory of the only Son of the Father,
full of grace and truth. Amen.**

Kneel or sit
THE PRAYERS *after each prayer there is a brief silence followed by:*
Lord, in your mercy.
All **Hear our prayer.**

Stand THE PEACE
... The peace of the Lord be always with you.
All **And also with you.**

CAROL 46 **Once in royal David's city**
A collection is taken – please be generous

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

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

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

... Therefore with all the angels of heaven
we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name
and sing our joyful hymn of praise:

Choir SANCTUS Vierne

Kneel or Sit
THANKSGIVING *continues, recalling the Last Supper.*

SILENCE