



**Anglican Church of Freiburg  
The Eucharist of Christmas Day  
December 25, 2021**

*The Gathering*

*The Prelude*

Welcome all wonders in one sight!  
Eternity shut in a span.  
Summer in winter, day in night,  
heaven in earth and God in man.  
Great little one whose all-embracing birth  
brings earth to heaven, stoops heaven to earth.

*The Greeting*

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

**The Opening Hymn: SoF Angels from the realms of glory**

1. Angels from the realms of glory,  
wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
ye who sang creation's story,  
now proclaim Messiah's birth:  
Come \_\_\_\_\_ and worship,  
Christ, the new born King.  
Come \_\_\_\_\_ and worship,  
worship Christ, the new born King.

2. Shepherds, in the field abiding,  
 watching o'er your flocks by night,  
 God with us is now residing,  
 yonder shines the infant-light.  
 Come \_\_\_\_\_ and worship,  
 Christ, the new born King.  
 Come \_\_\_\_\_ and worship,  
 worship Christ, the new born King.

CCLI Song # 7008415  
 James Montgomery | French carol  
 © Words and music: Public Domain  
 CCLI Licence No. 546960

### Blessing of the Crib

Dear friends, as we meet to celebrate the birth of Christ,  
 let us pray that God will bless this crib, that all who  
 worship his Son, born of the Virgin Mary, may come to  
 share his life in glory.

God our Father,



on this day  
 your Son Jesus Christ was born of the  
 Virgin Mary  
 for us and for our salvation:  
 bless this crib,  
 which we have prepared to celebrate that  
 holy birth;  
 may all who see it be strengthened in faith  
 and receive the fullness of life he came to bring,  
 who is alive and reigns for ever.

**All Amen.**

### Carol: SoF 36 Away in a manger

1. 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.

2. The cattle are lowing, the Baby awakes,  
but little Lord Jesus no crying He makes:  
I love You, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky  
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

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

CCLI Song # 5662304  
John Thomas McFarland | Martin Luther | Richard Lloyd | William James Kirkpatrick  
© Words: Public Domain  
Music: 1996 Kevin Mayhew Ltd  
CCLI Licence No. 546960

### Prayers of Penitence

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

*Silence is kept.*

God our Father,  
you sent your Son full of grace and truth:  
forgive our failure to receive him.  
Lord, have mercy.

**All Lord, have mercy.**

Jesus our Saviour,  
you were born in poverty and laid in a manger:  
forgive our greed and rejection of your ways.  
Christ, have mercy.

**All Christ, have mercy.**

Spirit of love,  
your servant Mary responded joyfully to your call:  
forgive the hardness of our hearts.  
Lord, have mercy.

**All Lord, have mercy.**

### Absolution

May the God of all healing and forgiveness  
draw you to himself,  
that you may behold the glory of his Son,  
the Word made flesh,  
and be cleansed from all your sins,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All* Amen.

### Gloria in Excelsis *(sung)*

*All* **Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to God's people on earth.  
Lord God, Heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.  
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.  
For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.**

### The Collect

Let us pray in the peace of this Christmas celebration  
that our joy in the birth of Christ will last for ever.

*Silence is kept.*

Almighty God,  
 you have given us your only-begotten Son  
 to take our nature upon him  
 and as at this time to be born of a pure virgin:  
 grant that we, who have been born again  
 and made your children by adoption and grace,  
 may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit;  
 through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
 who is alive and reigns with you,  
 in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
 one God, now and for ever.

*All* **Amen.**

*The Liturgy of the Word*

Readings  
 Old Testament Lesson

The reading is taken from Isaiah 9:2-7

Let us prepare ourselves for the word of God  
**Our hearts and our minds are open**

The people who walked in darkness  
 have seen a great light;  
 those who lived in a land of deep darkness—  
 on them light has shined.

<sup>3</sup>You have multiplied the nation,  
 you have increased its joy;  
 they rejoice before you  
 as with joy at the harvest,  
 as people exult when dividing plunder.

<sup>4</sup>For the yoke of their burden,  
 and the bar across their shoulders,  
 the rod of their oppressor,  
 you have broken as on the day of Midian.

<sup>5</sup>For all the boots of the tramping warriors  
 and all the garments rolled in blood

shall be burned as fuel for the fire.  
<sup>6</sup>For a child has been born for us,  
 a son given to us;  
 authority rests upon his shoulders;  
 and he is named  
 Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
 Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.  
<sup>7</sup>His authority shall grow continually,  
 and there shall be endless peace  
 for the throne of David and his kingdom.  
 He will establish and uphold it  
 with justice and with righteousness  
 from this time onward and forevermore.  
 The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this

This is the word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

### *A Song of God's Chosen One*

*Refrain:*

**All The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him.**

1 There shall come forth a shoot from the stock of  
 Jesse, ♦

and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

2 And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, ♦  
 the spirit of wisdom and understanding,

3 The spirit of counsel and might, ♦  
 the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

**All The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him.**

4 He shall not judge by what his eyes see, ♦  
 or decide by what his ears hear,

5 But with righteousness he shall judge the poor, ♦  
 and decide with equity for the meek of the earth.

**All The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him.**

6 The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, ♦  
 and the leopard shall lie down with the kid.  
 7 The calf, the lion and the fatling together, ♦  
 with a little child to lead them.  
 8 They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy  
 mountain, ♦  
 for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord  
 as the waters cover the sea.

*Isaiah 11.1, 2, 3b-4a, 6, 9*

**All The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him.**

### **The Gradual Hymn: Joseph, dearest Joseph mine**

1. "Joseph, dearest Joseph mine,  
 Help me cradle the Child divine.  
 God reward thee and all that's thine,  
 In paradise," so prays the mother Mary.

2. "Gladly dear one, Lady mine  
 Help I cradle this Child of thine."  
 "God's own light on us both shall shine,  
 In paradise," as prays the mother Mary.

*He came among us at Christmas time  
 At Christmas time in Bethlehem  
 Men shall bring him from far and wide,  
 Love's diadem  
 Jesus, Jesus;  
 Lo, he comes and loves and saves and frees us.*

3. Peace to all that have goodwill!  
 God, who heaven and earth doth fill,  
 Comes to turn us away from ill,  
 As all may see In Jesus, Son of Mary.

4. All shall come and bow the knee,  
 Wise and happy their souls shall be.  
 Loving such a divinity as all may see  
 In Jesus Son of Mary.

*He came among us at Christmas time  
 At Christmas time in Bethlehem  
 Men shall bring him from far and wide,  
 Love's diadem  
 Jesus, Jesus;  
 Lo, he comes and loves and saves and frees us.*

CCLI Song # 3309449  
 Percy Dearmer  
 Public Domain  
 CCLI Licence No. 546960

### Gospel Reading

Today Christ is born  
**All Alleluia.**  
 Today the Saviour has come  
**All Alleluia.**  
 Today the angels sing on earth  
**All Alleluia. Glory to God in the highest.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according  
 to *Luke 2:1-14*.

### The Birth of Jesus

**2** In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup> This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup> All went to their own towns to be registered. <sup>4</sup> Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. <sup>5</sup> He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup> While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. <sup>7</sup> And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.



## The Shepherds and the Angels

<sup>8</sup> In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup> Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup> But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: <sup>11</sup> to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup> This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” <sup>13</sup> And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

<sup>14</sup> “Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

*All* Praise to you, O Christ.

The HOMILY

### Prayers of Intercession

In peace let us pray to the Lord.  
Father, [*in this holy day*] your Son our Saviour  
was born in human flesh.  
Renew your Church as the Body of Christ.  
Holy God  
*All* hear our prayer.

[*In this holy day*] there was no room for your Son in the  
inn.  
Protect with your love those who have no home  
and all who live in poverty.  
Holy God  
*All* hear our prayer.

*[In this holy day]* Mary, in the pain of labour,  
brought your Son to birth.  
Hold in your hand [...and] all who are in pain or distress.  
Holy God  
*All* hear our prayer.

*[In this holy day]* your Christ came as a light shining in  
the darkness.  
Bring comfort to [...and] all who suffer in the sadness of  
our world.  
Holy God  
*All* hear our prayer.

*[In this holy day]* the angels sang, 'Peace to God's  
people on earth.'  
Strengthen those who work for peace and justice  
in [...and in] all the world.  
Holy God  
*All* hear our prayer.

*[In this holy day]* shepherds in the field heard good  
tidings of joy.  
Give us grace to preach the gospel of Christ's  
redemption.  
Holy God  
*All* hear our prayer.

*[In this holy day]* strangers found the Holy Family,  
and saw the baby lying in the manger.  
Bless our homes and all whom we love.  
Holy God  
*All* hear our prayer.

*[In this holy day]* heaven is come down to earth,  
and earth is raised to heaven.  
Hold in your hand [...and] all those who have passed  
through death  
in the hope of your coming kingdom.  
Holy God  
*All* hear our prayer.

[*In this holy day*] Christians the world over celebrate Christ's birth.

Open our hearts that he may be born in us today.

Holy God

*All* hear our prayer.

Father,

[*in this holy day*] angels and shepherds worshipped at the manger throne.

Receive the worship we offer in fellowship with Mary, Joseph and the saints

through him who is your Word made flesh, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

*All* Amen.

### *The Liturgy of the Sacrament*

#### *The Peace*

Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given,  
and his name shall be called the Prince of Peace.

*Isaiah 9.6*

The peace of the Lord be always with you

*All* and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*All may exchange a sign of peace as is possible within the restrictions.*

### **Preparation of the Table**

#### *Taking of the Bread and Wine*

*The table is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it.*

Word made flesh, life of the world,  
 in your incarnation you embraced our poverty:  
 by your Spirit may we share in your riches.

*All* Amen.

*The president takes the bread and wine.*

### The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you

*All* **and also with you.**

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.**

It is indeed right,

it is our duty and our joy,

at all times and in all places

to give you thanks and praise,

holy Father, heavenly King,

almighty and eternal God,

through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

And now we give you thanks

because, in the incarnation of the Word,

a new light has dawned upon the world;

you have become one with us

that we might become one with you in your glorious  
 kingdom

Therefore with angels and archangels,

and with all the company of heaven,

we proclaim your great and glorious name,

for ever praising you and *saying*:

*All* **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.**

Accept our praises, heavenly Father,

through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,

and as we follow his example and obey his command,

grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit  
 these gifts of bread and wine  
 may be to us his body and his blood;  
 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.

**All To you be glory and praise for ever.**

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.

**All To you be glory and praise for ever.**

Therefore, heavenly Father,  
 we remember his offering of himself  
 made once for all upon the cross;  
 we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious  
 ascension;  
 we look for the coming of your kingdom,  
 and with this bread and this cup  
 we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Jesus Christ is Lord:

**All Lord, by your cross and resurrection  
 you have set us free.**

**You are the Saviour of the world.**

Accept through him, our great high priest,  
 this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,  
 and as we eat and drink these holy gifts  
 in the presence of your divine majesty,  
 renew us by your Spirit,  
 inspire us with your love  
 and unite us in the body of your Son,  
 Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All To you be glory and praise for ever.**

Through him, and with him, and in him,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,  
we worship you, Father almighty,  
in songs of everlasting praise:

**All Blessing and honour and glory and power  
be yours for ever and ever.**

**Amen.**

### **Prayer of Humble Access**

We do not presume  
to come to this thy table, O merciful Lord,  
trusting in our own righteousness,  
but in thy manifold and great mercies.  
We are not worthy  
so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy table.  
But thou art the same Lord,  
whose property is always to have mercy:  
grant us therefore, gracious Lord,  
so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ,  
and to drink his blood,  
that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body,  
and our souls washed through his most precious blood,  
and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us.

**All Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer is said**

Rejoicing in the presence of God here among us,  
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**All Our Father, who art in heaven ...**

## Breaking of the Bread

*The president breaks the consecrated bread.*

We break the bread of life,  
and that life is the light of the world.

**All God here among us,  
light in the midst of us,  
bring us to light and life.**

## Giving of Communion

Christ is the true bread which has come down from  
heaven.

**All Lord, give us this bread always.**

*The president and people receive communion.*

*Authorized words of distribution are used and the  
communicant replies Amen.*

## SoF 251 It came upon the midnight clear

1. It came upon the midnight clear,  
that glorious song of old,  
from angels bending near the earth  
to touch their harps of gold:  
“Peace on the earth, goodwill to men  
from heaven's all gracious King!”  
The world in solemn stillness lay,  
to hear the angels sing.

2. Still thro' the cloven skies they come,  
with peaceful wings unfurled,  
and still their heavenly music floats  
o'er all the weary world:  
above its sad and lowly plains  
they bend on hovering wing,  
and ever o'er its Babel sounds  
the blessed angels sing.

3. Yet with the woes of sin and strife  
 the world has suffered long,  
 beneath the angel-strain have rolled  
 two thousand years of wrong;  
 and man, at war with man, hears not  
 the love song which they bring:  
 O hush the noise, ye men of strife,  
 and hear the angels sing.

4. For lo! the days are hastening on,  
 by prophet bards foretold,  
 when with the ever-circling years  
 comes round the age of gold;  
 when peace shall over all the earth  
 its ancient splendours fling,  
 and all the world send back the song  
 which now the angels sing.

CCLI Song # 5400126  
 Edmund Hamilton Sears | Sara Groves  
 © Words: Public Domain  
 Music: 2008 Sara Groves Music (Admin. by Small Stone Media Germany GmbH)  
 CCLI Licence No. 546960

**Prayer after Communion**  
*Silence is kept.*

God our Father,  
 whose Word has come among us  
 in the Holy Child of Bethlehem:  
 may the light of faith illumine our hearts  
 and shine in our words and deeds;  
 through him who is Christ the Lord.  
**All Amen.**

**All Father of all,  
 we give you thanks and praise,  
 that when we were still far off  
 you met us in your Son and brought us home.  
 Dying and living, he declared your love,  
 gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.**



**May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;  
 we who drink his cup bring life to others;  
 we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.  
 Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,  
 so we and all your children shall be free,  
 and the whole earth live to praise your name;  
 through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Closing hymn: SoF 491 See Him lying on a bed of straw**

1. See Him lying on a bed of straw,  
 a draughty stable with an open door,  
 Mary cradling the babe she bore;  
 the Prince of glory is His name.

*O now carry me to Bethlehem,  
 to see the Lord of love again;  
 just as poor as was the stable then,  
 the Prince of glory when He came.*

2. Star of silver, sweep across the skies,  
 show where Jesus in the manger lies;  
 shepherds, swiftly from your stupor rise  
 to see the Saviour of the world.

*O now carry me to Bethlehem,  
 to see the Lord of love again;  
 just as poor as was the stable then,  
 the Prince of glory when He came.*



### The Blessing

May the Father,  
 who has loved the eternal Son  
 from before the foundation of the world,  
 shed that love upon you his children.

**All Amen.**

May Christ,  
 who by his incarnation gathered into one  
 things earthly and heavenly,  
 fill you with joy and peace.

**All Amen.**

May the Holy Spirit,  
 by whose overshadowing Mary became the God-bearer,  
 give you grace to carry the good news of Christ.

**All Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty,  
 the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
 be among you and remain with you always.

**All Amen.**

### The Postlude

#### Announcements

(see below)

### The Dismissal

The Lord be with You

**All And Also with You**

Let us Depart in Peace

**All: In the name of Christ**

Amen.

*The ministers and people depart.*

The service inspired by

- <https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/worship-texts-and-resources/common-worship/holy-communion-service#mm7c3>

**CHRISTMAS SERVICES 2021**

AT THE ANGLICAN CHURCH FREIBURG

<p><b>Blue Christmas</b> 17th Dec at 8pm</p> <p>A contemplative service for and with all who feel less joyful this season</p>	<p><b>Christmas Morning Service</b> 25th Dec at 11:30am</p> <p>Let's celebrate Christ's birth together! <i>(with Holy Communion)</i></p>	<p><b>Boxing Day Service</b> 26th Dec at 11:30am</p> <p>A Christmas Service with Holy Communion</p>
---	--	---

Wed, December 29, 2021	<p><b>Evening Prayer on Wednesdays</b></p> <p>9pm (for 20-30min)</p> <p>(Please use the usual Sunday service link.)</p>
Thu, December 30, 2021	<p><b>Women's Prayer Group</b></p> <p>8:00 pm – 9:00 pm</p> <p>via zoom (Please get in touch to receive the link.)</p>
Sun, January 2, 2022	<p>Look forward to our next Morning Worship with Rev'd. Vinod Victor</p> <p>The Second Sunday of Christmas 11:30 hrs, Zoom link see website and in person in the church 😊</p>



The Anglican Church in Freiburg is entirely dependent on voluntary donations to pay stipends, for all activities and the upkeep of its programmes.

Donations can be made directly to the church account:

IBAN: DE 29 6805 0101 0002 5119 20

- Please mark Verwendungszweck as 'Spende' and provide an address if you wish to receive a tax certificate.

Or you go to [betterplace.org](https://betterplace.org) and use the easy system there. Thank you for your generosity!