

# HOLY INNOCENTS FALLOWFIELD



Monday December 25<sup>th</sup> 2023  
**The Nativity of the Lord**

Before all things began, the Word already was.

Yn y dechreuad yr oedd y Gair;

در ازل، پیش از آنکه چیزی پدید آید، "کلمه" وجود داشت و نزد خدا بود.

او همواره زنده بوده، و خود او خداست

In den beginne was het Woord

В начале было Слово,и Слово было с Богом,и Слово было Богом.

太初有道，道與 神同在，道就是 神。

*PLEASE be still and silent as we prepare together to celebrate the Eucharist for the Nativity of the Lord. The president today is the Revd Richard Young. When the bell rings please stand to sing:*

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;  
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth  
And praises sing to God the king, and peace to all on earth;  
For Christ is born of Mary; and, gathered all above,  
While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.

How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given!  
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heaven.  
No ear may hear his coming; but in this world of sin,  
Where meek souls will receive him, still, the dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;  
Cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell:  
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.

In the name of the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

The Lord be with you

**And also with you.**

I bring you good tidings of great joy: a Saviour has been born to you: Alleluia!

**Unto us a child is born, a son is given. Alleluia!**

*The prayer to mark the lighting of the Christmas Candle:*

Blessed are you Sovereign Lord, King of Peace:

to you be praise and glory for ever!

The new light of your incarnate word, gives gladness in our sorrow,  
and a presence in our isolation.

Fill our lives with your light, until they overflow with gladness and praise.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

You, Lord, were born for our salvation. Lord have mercy:

**Lord, have mercy.**

You came as a Saviour to bring wholeness and peace. Christ have mercy.

**Christ have mercy.**

You come to bring light into the darkness of our lives. Lord have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

May almighty God who sent his Son into the world to save sinners,  
bring you his pardon and peace, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

*We say together:*

**Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his 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 - the prayer for Christmas Morning**

Let us pray.

*After a moment of silent prayer  
the president says the Collect.*

*At the end: Amen*

ای خداوند قادر مطلق، که یگانه فرزندت را به ما دادی  
که سرشت ما را بوسیله او بستانی و در این زمان از عذرای پاک  
متولد شد: تولد دوباره او را به ما ارزانی فرما  
او که فرزندان را با فرزند خواندگی و فیض تربیت کرده است، و  
روز به روز بوسیله روح القدس احیا می شود؛ بواسطه فرزندت و  
خداوند ما عیسی مسیح، کسی که زنده است و با تو حکومت می کند،  
در وحدت روح القدس، خدایی یکتا، تا ابدالابد.

*PLEASE SIT*

*for the Ministry of the Word.*

**FIRST READING: Isaiah 52.7-10**

چه زیباست پاهای پیک خوش خبری که از کوهستان می آید و خبر صلح و نجات را می آورد و به اسرائیل می گوید:  
"خدای تو سلطنت می کند!" دیده بانان از شادی با صدای بلند سرود می خوانند، زیرا با چشمان خود می بینند که  
خداوند دوباره به اورشلیم باز می گردد. ای خرابه های اورشلیم با صدای بلند آواز شادمانی سر دهید، زیرا خداوند  
اورشلیم را آزاد خواهد ساخت و قوم خود را تسلی خواهد داد. خداوند در برابر چشمان تمام قومها، قدرت مقدس  
خود را بکار خواهد برد و قوم خود را نجات خواهد داد تا همه آن را ببینند.

*At the end: This is the word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 97 vv1-6 is said antiphonally, led by the choir.**

The Lord is king: let the earth rejoice;

**let the multitude of the isles be glad.**

Clouds and darkness are round about him;

**righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne.**

Fire goes before him and burns up his enemies on every side.

**His lightnings lit up the world; the earth saw it and trembled.**

The mountains melted like wax at the presence of the Lord,

at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth.

**The heavens declared his righteousness, and all the peoples have seen his glory.**

**SECOND READING** Hebrews 1. 1-4 is read in Farsi.

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels - as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

*At the end:* This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand for the Gospel Acclamation.*

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia : **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia**

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;

those who lived in a land of deep darkness, on them light has shone.

**Alleluia...**

**GOSPEL READING** John 1.1-14

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

در ازل، پیش از آنکه چیزی پدید آید، "کلمه" وجود داشت و نزد خدا بود. او همواره زنده بوده، و خود خداست. هر چه هست، بوسیله او آفریده شده و چیزی نیست که آن را نیافریده باشد. زندگی جاوید در اوست و این زندگی به تمام مردم نور می‌بخشد. او همان نوری است که در تاریکی می‌درخشد و تاریکی هرگز نمی‌تواند آن را خاموش کند. خدا یحییای پیامبر را فرستاد تا این "نور" را به مردم معرفی کند و مردم به او ایمان آورند. یحیی آن نور نبود، او فقط شاهدهی بود تا نور را به مردم معرفی کند. اما بعد، آن نور واقعی آمد تا به هرکس که به این دنیا می‌آید، بتابد. گر چه جهان را او آفریده بود، اما زمانی که به این جهان آمد، کسی او را نشناخت. حتی در سرزمین خود و در می آن قوم خود، یهودیان، کسی او را نپذیرفت. اما او به تمام کسانی که به او ایمان آوردند، این حق را داد که فرزندان خدا گردند؛ بلی، فقط کافی بود به او ایمان آورند تا نجات یابند. این اشخاص تولدی نو یافتند، نه همچون تولدهای معمولی که نتیجه امیال و خواسته‌های آدمی است، بلکه این تولد را خدا به ایشان عطا فرمود. "کلمه خدا" انسان شد و بر روی این زمین و در بین ما زندگی کرد. او لبریز از محبت و بخشش و راستی بود. ما بزرگی و شکوه او را به چشم خود دیدیم، بزرگی و شکوه فرزند بی‌نظیر پدر آسمانی ما، خدا.

*At the end:* This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please SIT for the sermon. The preacher today is the Revd Canon Alma Servant. After the sermon there will be a time of silence. Then please stand with the president for the Creed.*

We proclaim the Church's faith in Jesus Christ:

**We believe and declare that our Lord Jesus Christ,**

**the Son of God is both divine and human.**

God, of one being with the Father,

**the only son from before time began;**

human from the being of his mother, born in the world.

**Fully God and fully human; one human person with mind and body.**

As God he is equal to the Father,  
**as human he is less than the Father.**

Although he is both divine and human he is not two beings but one Christ.

**One, not by turning God into flesh, but by taking humanity into God.**

Truly one, not by mixing humanity with Godhead,

**but by being one person.**

For as mind and body form one human being,

so the one Christ is both divine and human.

**The Word became flesh and lived among us; we have seen his glory,  
the glory of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.**

*The PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL follows:*

Wonderful Counsellor, give your wisdom to the rulers of the nations,  
bless all who work for peace in the world that the hungry may be fed,  
the humble lifted high.....

Lord hear our prayer: **and bring us your peace.**

Mighty God, make the whole world know that the government is on your shoulders,  
that we may trust your promises and work together  
to reveal your glory in the world.....

Lord hear our prayer: **and lead us in the way of truth.**

Everlasting Father, establish your reign of justice and righteousness for ever, that the  
weak and powerless may find protection and safety...

Lord hear our prayer: **and show us your mercy.**

Prince of peace, bring in the endless kingdom of your peace. Let us celebrate together in  
joy and gladness.....

Lord, hear our prayer, **and keep in us the hope of everlasting life.**

Almighty Lord,

**Hear our prayer, and fulfil your purposes in us,  
as you accomplished your will in our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.**

*The president introduces the Peace.*

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

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

*All exchange a sign of peace and then join in:*

**While shepherds watched their flocks by night, all seated on the ground,  
the angel of the Lord came down, and glory shone around.**

'Fear not,' said he (for mighty dread had seized their troubled mind);

'Glad tidings of great joy I bring to you and all mankind.

**'To you in David's town this day is born of David's line  
a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord; and this shall be the sign:**

**'The heavenly Babe you there shall find to human view displayed,  
all meanly wrapped in swathing bands, and in a manger laid.'**

**Thus spake the Seraph; and forthwith appeared a shining throng  
of angels praising God, who thus addressed their joyful song:**

**'All glory be to God on high, and to the earth be peace;  
good will henceforth from heaven to all - begin and never cease.'**

*The bread and wine are brought to the altar.*

*There is no collection, a box is available for donations, as are Gift Aid envelopes.*

*The President says a prayer over the gifts to which we all respond:*

**Blessed be God for ever.**

*THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER follows.*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

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.**

*THE PRESIDENT continues the prayer, thanking God for his saving works, and then invites the people to join their praises with the whole company of heaven:*

*.....and sing our joyful hymn of praise:*

**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.**

*The president asks the Father to send the Holy Spirit to sanctify the bread and wine, and then repeats the Lord's own words over the bread and cup....*

Great is the mystery of faith: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

*THE PRESIDENT CONTINUES, joining our offering with Christ's sacrifice of himself. At the end of the prayer the president says:*

...all honour and glory be yours almighty Father, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*The president introduces the Lord's Prayer and all say together:*

**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.**

**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.**

ی پدر ما که در آسمانی، نام تو مقدس باد، ملکوت تو بیاید. اراده تو چنانکه در آسمان است، بر زمین نیز کرده شود. نان کفاف ما را امروز به ما بده. و قرض های ما را ببخش چنانکه ما نیز قرضداران خود را می بخشیم، و ما را در آزمایش میاور، بلکه از شریر ما را رهایی ده. زیرا ملکوت و قوت و جلالنا ابدالابداد از آن تو است، آمین.

*We SIT or KNEEL as the president breaks the consecrated bread in pieces for all to share:*

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.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: grant us peace.**

*The president addresses those who wish to come to Holy Communion:*

Christ is the bread which has come down from heaven:

**Lord, give us this bread for ever.**

*Those who wish draw near to the altar. Those who are baptized, are invited to receive Holy Communion. Receiving the chalice is optional. Others are asked to fold their arms for a blessing. During communion, we hear: "Before the World Began" and "Come to Bethlehem."*

*When all who wish have received communion or a blessing, what remains of the consecrated elements is returned to the tabernacle and a time of stillness and quiet follows.*

*Then all please stand with the president.*

Let us pray:

*After a moment of silent prayer*

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. Amen.**

ای خدای پدر،  
که کلمه ات به میان ما آمده است  
در کودک منزله بیت لحم:  
تا نور ایمان، قلب های ما را روشن کند  
و در گفتار و کردار ما بدرخشد؛  
بواسطه او که مسیح و پروردگار ما است.

*Please remain standing for the blessing and dismissal.*

May the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds,  
the obedience of Joseph and Mary,  
and the peace of the Christ child be yours this Christmas,  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son + and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

Go in the peace of Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**

**A very happy and peaceful Christmas to everyone!**

Before the world began, one Word was there;  
grounded in God he was, rooted in care;  
by him all things were made, in him was love displayed;  
through him God spoke, and said, 'I am for you'.

Life found in him its source, death found its end;  
light found in him its course, darkness its friend.  
For neither death nor doubt nor darkness can put out  
the glow of God, the shout, 'I am for you'.

The Word was in the world which from him came;  
unrecognised he was, unknown by name;  
one with all humankind, with the unloved aligned,  
convincing sight and mind, 'I am for you'.

All who received the Word by God were blessed;  
sisters and brothers they of earth's fond guest.  
So did the Word of Grace proclaim in time and space  
and with a human face, 'I am for you'.

John L Bell (born 1949) and Graham Maule (born 1958)

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**Thursday December 28<sup>th</sup> THE HOLY INNOCENTS**

**1930 Festival Sung Eucharist**  
**President: The Revd Jane Walker**  
**Preacher: The Revd Nick Watson**

**Sunday December 31<sup>st</sup> 2023 CHRISTMAS 1**

**1000 Sung Eucharist**  
**President and Preacher: The Revd Canon Michael Ainsworth**

Rector: The Revd Richard Young  
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Associate Priest: The Revd Jane Walker  
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