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| **CHRISTMAS EVE**  First Communion of Christmas |
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**Gathering**

Glory to God in the highest heaven,   
and on earth peace to all in whom he delights.

The Lord be with you  
**and also with you.**

**BLESSING OF THE CRIB**

**CONFESSION**

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,**

**we have sinned against you,**

**through our own fault,**

**in thought, and word, and deed,**

**and in what we have left undone.**

**We are heartily sorry,**

**and repent of all our sins.**

**For your Son our Lord Jesus Christ’s sake,**

**forgive us all that is past;**

**and grant that we may serve you in newness of life**

**to the glory of your name.**   
**Amen.**

**ABSOLUTION**

**COLLECT**

**Liturgy of the Word**

**READING** - Hebrews 1.1-4

**GOSPEL** – John 1.1-14

Alleluia, Alleluia.  
The Word became flesh and dwelt among us,   
and we have seen his glory. **Alleluia.**

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

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*The gospel is read here*

This is the gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**Though he was divine,   
he did not cling to equality with God,   
but made himself nothing.   
Taking the form of a slave,   
he was born in human likeness.   
He humbled himself   
and was obedient to death,   
even the death of the cross.  
Therefore God has raised him on high,   
and given him the name above every name:  
that at the name of Jesus   
every knee should bow,**

**and every voice proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord,   
to the glory of God the Father.   
Amen.**

**INTERCESSIONS**

**Liturgy of the Sacrament**

**THE PEACE**

**EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

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

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.**

*We praise God for his mighty acts*

… for ever praising you and singing:

**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.**

*We remember the words of Jesus at the Last Supper*

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died,   
Christ is risen,   
Christ will come again.**

*We ask for our thanks and praise to be accepted*

… we worship you, Father almighty,  
in songs of everlasting praise:

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

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**AGNUS DEI**

**BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

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.**

**GIVING OF COMMUNION**

**PRAYERS AFTER COMMUNION**

**Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us   
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.  
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies  
to be a living sacrifice.  
Send us out in the power of your Spirit  
to live and work to your praise and glory.   
Amen.**

**Blessing & Dismissal**

Christ the Son of God, born of Mary,  
fill you with his grace to trust his promises and obey his will;  
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 peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**In the name of Christ. Amen.**