ST JAMES' WEYBRIDGE



CHRISTINGLE SERVICE

We gather on Advent Sunday, to prepare for our celebration of the great feast of Christmas. This service reminds us that Jesus is the light of the world!

The four essential components of the Christingle are: the orange, representing the world; the red ribbon, symbolising the Blood of Christ; the four cocktail sticks with sweets and fruit to illustrate God's gifts in creation and the four seasons; and the glow stick/candle shines brightly to recall Jesus, the Light of the World.

During this service a financial collection will be taken, to support the Children's Society and their vital work. Thank you for your generous support.

Order of Service

Welcome and Introduction

We will watch for the Lord; we will wait confidently for God, who will save us. We are in darkness now, but God will give us light.

All **O Lord, you give us light. You dispel our darkness.**

Hymn

Long ago, prophets knew, Christ would come, born a Jew,
come to make all things new;
bear his people's burden, freely love and pardon.

Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring! Sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!
When he comes, when he comes, who will make him welcome?

God in time, God in man, this is God's timeless plan:
He will come, as a man, born himself of woman,
God divinely human. *Ring, bells, ring…*

Mary hail! Though afraid, she believed, she obeyed.
In her womb, God is laid: till the time expected,
nurtured and protected. *Ring, bells, ring…*

Journey ends! Where afar, Bethlehem shines, like a star,
stable door stands ajar: unborn Son of Mary, Saviour, do not tarry!
Ring, bells, ring...

Opening Prayer *Please be SEATED*

Almighty God, the creator of all things, 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.

All **Amen.**

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Reading *Isaiah 9: 2b, 6-7*

This is the Word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

The Meaning of the Christingle

Carol *If able, please STAND*

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.

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

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

Please be SEATED

Gospel Reading *John 8:12*

This is the Word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**



Talk

Prayers of Intercession

Jesus, Saviour

All **hear our prayer.**

The prayers conclude with The Lord's Prayer, which we say together:

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.

Song *If able, please STAND*

The financial collection is taken in aid of The Children's Society. If you pay UK Income Tax please use a gift-aid envelope for your donation, complete the details on the front and place the money inside. Card readers can be found at the back of church for contactless donations or scan the QR code!

The Christingle begins with an orange,
like the world which the Lord God made.
For creation is full of his glory;
all around we see his love displayed!



Sing Christingle, sing Christingle,
sing Christingle, it's the light of Christ!
Sing Christingle, sing Christingle,
sing Christingle, light of Christ!

Every year we give thanks for the seasons
and the fruits of the earth to share.
The Christingle is here to remind us
that God loves his people everywhere! *Sing Christingle...*

In his great plan of love God sent Jesus;
we remember his birth again.
But the ribbon around the Christingle
tells the story of his cross and pain. *Sing Christingle…*

To complete the Christingle; a candle,
telling us of the world's true light!
For the darkness shall not overcome it,
Jesus shines and fills our lives with light! *Sing Christingle…*

The Christingles are handed out to the congregation. The children are invited to stand around the church, carefully holding their Christingles.

Blessing of the Christingles

May these Christingles remind us to shine as lights in the world, bringing light, hope and peace to those who walk in darkness.

All **Amen.**

Hymn

Lord, the light of Your love is shining,
in the midst of the darkness shining.
Jesus, Light of the World, shine upon us, set us free
by the truth You now bring us. Shine on me, shine on me!

Shine, Jesus, shine; fill this land with the Father's glory.
Blaze, Spirit, blaze; set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow; flood the nations with grace and mercy.
Send forth Your word, Lord, and let there be light!



Lord, I come to Your awesome presence,
from the shadow into Your radiance.
By the blood I may enter Your brightness,
search me, try me, consume all my darkness.
Shine on me, shine on me! *Shine, Jesus, shine ...*

As we gaze on Your kingly brightness
so our faces display Your likeness.
Ever changing from glory to glory,
mirrored here, may our lives tell Your story.
Shine on me, shine on me! *Shine, Jesus, shine …*

The children return to their parents ready for the prayer of blessing and dismissal.

Blessing and Dismissal

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you, scatter the darkness from before your path, and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory; and the blessing of God Almighty, Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer, rest upon you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

Go in the light and peace of Christ.

All **Thanks be to God.**

We sing again the chorus of "Shine, Jesus, shine" to conclude the service.

Shine, Jesus, shine; fill this land with the Father's glory.
Blaze, Spirit, blaze; set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow; flood the nations with grace and mercy.
Send forth Your word, Lord, and let there be light!

You are invited to carefully exit the church as directed by the stewards.