

Christingle! Café Church

Please help yourself to a hot or cold drink and a cake or biscuits.

The toddler corner is unsupervised, so please stay with your young person if they wish to play there.

Please join in with the words in **bold**.

Welcome to St Alban's Christingle Service

OPFNING PRAYER

Welcome to our Christingle Service, in which we celebrate Jesus, the Light of the World, and the new life and hope he brings, the LIGHT coming into a world of darkness, and share that light with others.

Jesus said 'I am the light of the world'. The light shines in the darkness. And the darkness has never put it out.

Let us pray:

Jesus, Light of the World, come and shine among us this Christmas time, and make us lights to shine in the dark places of your world. Amen.

We light the Advent Candle

Christ has brought us out of darkness. **To live in his wonderful light.**

Jesus, Light of the world, **Shine in this place.**

Jesus, Light of the world, **Shine in our hearts.**

Jesus, Light of world, **Shine in our lives.**

Jesus, Light of the world,

Shine in all the earth. Amen.

We say sorry

Heavenly Father, you have created a universe of light; forgive us when we return to darkness.

Lord Jesus, you are the Light of the World; cleanse and heal our blinded sight.

Holy Spirit, you give us light in our hearts; renew us in faith and love.

Amen.

MAKING THE CHRISTINGLES

We make the Christingles together

TALK

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 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 thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky, and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.
- 3 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 take us to heaven to live with thee there.

v1, 2 Anon. V3 J.T. McFarland

Let's now clear away our craft tools to the spare table while we sing. Put your craft in the bags to take home. Please pop scissors, pencils and sharpeners in the box. Please return empty cups and plates to the refreshment table.

Please then return to your table and take your Christingle in your hand.

LIGHTING OF THE CHRISTINGLES

The Christingle candles are lit from the Advent Candle. As the candles are being lit we all sing:

SHINE, JESUS, SHINE

1 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.

2 Lord, I come to your awesome presence, from the shadows 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...

3 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...

Graham Kendrick @Make Way Music / Thankyou Music

When all the candles are lit the lights will go down and we will all say together:

CHRISTINGLE PRAYER

Lord Jesus, Light of the World, as we hold these Christingles and think about your great love for us, help us to take this light out into the world and share your love with others, especially those who need us the most. Amen.

Let us pray for the world to which Jesus came as a little baby:

Baby Jesus, Lord of the World,

Come to us all this Christmastime.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As Jesus taught us, so we pray:

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin 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.

THE CHRISTINGLE SONG

1 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.

2 Every year we give thanks for the seasons, and the fruits of the earth to share. The Christingle is here to remind us that the love of God is everywhere.

Sing Christingle...

3 God of love, we give thanks now for Jesus; we remember his birth again.
But the red ribbon round the Christingle tells the story of his cross and pain.

Sing Christingle...

4 To complete the Christingle: a candle, telling us of the world's true light. For the darkness shall not overcome it, Jesus shines on in the darkest night.

Sing Christingle...

Please now blow out your Christingle Candles and take them home. Pop it on a windowsill and light it every day to pray for people around the world, especially those who are struggling, and for children who are feeling sad.

BLESSING

We go in peace to share the peace of God with all we meet.

We go in love to share God's gift of love to the whole world.

We go in the light of Christ to shine as lights in the world.

To the glory of God the Father **Amen.**

May Christ the Son of Righteousness shine upon you, and scatter the darkness from beyond your path. May Christ make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory.

Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Please take an instrument and if there is enough space let us march around the church.

WE ARE MARCHING IN THE LIGHT OF GOD

1 We are marching in the light of God, (x4)

We are marching, marching we are marching, o-oh!
We are marching in the light of God. (repeat)

2 We are living in the love of God (x4)

We are living, living we are living, o-oh!
We are living in the love of God. (repeat)

3 We are moving in the power of God (x4)

We are moving, moving we are moving, o-oh!
We are moving in the power of God.
We are moving in the power of God.
We are moving in the power of God.

Traditional South African v1 trans. Anders Nyberg, vs. 2 & 3 trans. Andrew Maries © v1 1990 Wild Goose Publications, vs. 2 & 3 Sovereign Music UK

We wish you all a very Happy Christmas!



<u>Christmas services and events</u> <u>at St Alban's</u>

Advent Meditation

Tuesday 2nd December at 2pm & 7pm

Christmas Tree Festival

Saturday 6th December, 10am -2pm

Carols at the Barn Church

Sunday 7th December at 6pm

Candlelit Carol Service

Sunday 14th December at 6pm

Crib Service

Christmas Eve at 4pm

Midnight Mass

Christmas Eve at 9.30pm 'Bethlehem time'

Christmas Day Family Service at 9.45am

All events in St Alban's unless otherwise stated