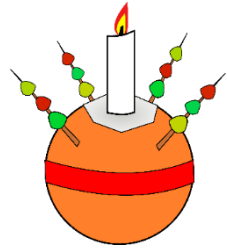


St Paul's Egham Hythe Christingle Service

There will be a retiring collection for the Children's Society



Gathering and introduction

Mary had a baby, yes Lord, Mary had a baby, yes my Lord,
Mary had a baby, yes Lord,
The people came to Bethlehem to see her son.

What did she name him, yes Lord? (x3)
The people came to Bethlehem to see her son.

Mary named him Jesus, yes, Lord. (x3)
The people came to Bethlehem to see her son.

Where was he born, yes Lord? (x3)
The people came to Bethlehem to see her son.

Born in a stable, yes, Lord (x3)
The people came to Bethlehem to see her son.

Where did she lay him, yes Lord? (x3)
The people came to Bethlehem to see her son.

Laid him in a manger, yes Lord (x3)
The people came to Bethlehem to see her son.



Lighting of the Advent Candles

Christ has brought us out of darkness.

All To live in his wonderful light.

Jesus, Light of the World,
Jesus, Light of the World,
Jesus, Light of the World,
Jesus, Light of the World,

All Shine in this place.
All Shine in our hearts.
All Shine in our lives.
All Shine in all the earth. Amen.

The orange (reminding us of the world)

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. (*John 3: 16*)

The red band (reminding us of the sacrifice of Jesus)

This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.
(John 15: 2)

We say sorry to God for turning away from his love)

We're sorry that we don't always care for the world you have given us.

All: Father, forgive us

We're sorry that we can be selfish and don't want to share.

All: Father, forgive us

We're sorry that we don't always love our neighbours.

All: Father, forgive us

May God who loved the world so much that he sent his Son to be our Saviour cleanse you and forgive you your sins through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

The fruits (reminding us of all that God provides)

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 the love of God is everywhere.

Sing Christingle! Sing Christingle!...



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! 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 on in the darkest night.

Sing Christingle! Sing Christingle!...

Reading: Matthew 5: 14-16

“You are the light that gives light to the world. A city that is built on a hill cannot be hidden. And people don’t hide a light under a bowl. They put it on a lampstand so the light shines for all the people in the house. In the same way, you should be a light for other people. Live so that they will see the good things you do and will praise your Father in heaven.

The candle (reminding us of Jesus the light of the world)



The Lighting of the Christingles

As you receive this light, remember that Christ is the light of the world. Whoever follows him will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.

*After all the candles have been lit the lights are dimmed
we all hold up our Christingles and sing*

Away in a manger, no crib for his 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 for ever, and love me I pray.
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.

Prayers

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.

Blessing

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, the Father, the Son and the Holy
Spirit be upon you, and remain with you, now and always.

All Amen.

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 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: *(Chorus)*

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: *(Chorus)*