



# ST JAMES' CHURCH, ISLINGTON N1 8PH

## 26 December 2021 HOLY FAMILY 21/48

Reader: Aa arranged  
 Interceder: As arranged

**Music:**  
 Gradual Hallelujah Leonard Cohen  
 Offertory TP25 Father in heaven  
 P-Comm Lágrima Francisco Tárrega  
 Mass Mass of All Nations

**Collect: Holy God, you alone show us perfect unity and love: gather together all the nations of the world to be one family, and draw us into your holy life through the birth of your Son who is always our Emmanuel. Amen.**



**¡FELICITACIONES a Siena Taylor con motivo de su bautismo!** We are so pleased that Stu and Joemil have brought Siena to St James' for her baptism today. Welcome to her family and friends who are here to share the special day - and those who, because of COVID, remain in the US unable to travel. We hope the streaming allows you to take part from the other side of the Pond and that we will be able to see you here some time in 2022!

**THE BAND** We are also excited that Stu and Sergio Munoz have teamed up to play for us this morning so that we can have music for today's Baptism Mass. It will be the first time Leonard Cohen's 'Hallelujah'

has been sung as part of the liturgy here (!) but as everyone knows the tune we hope that everyone will sing along with that and all our music this morning.

**A SMALLER CHRISTMAS** While government ministers have been asking us to scale down our celebrations this year there have still be some wonderful highlights to carry us into 2022:



Top down: The Corvus Consort Christmas Concert; North London Cares showing of the Muppet Christmas Carol; Cantallini singing at the Carol service; Children at the crib; Singalong Carols in Packington Square; part of the Richard Cloudesley Christmas video; the Pack-Up Christmas lunch - for 55!



**A MUST WATCH!** Although all school visits to Church were cancelled this year because of Covid, Fr Chris Smaling, deputy head at Richard Cloudesley School, has put together a really uplifting compilation of presentations by students and staff at his school. He has a real talent for this and we get a wonderful feel for the imagination with which he and his staff enable their students to enjoy Christmas. Do watch this clip if you can: <https://youtu.be/WVuKYVYVknk>

**MASKS** I am sure you picked up the 'small print' in Boris' statements that face coverings are now mandatory in public places, including all churches. Obviously that doesn't apply when you are reading or taking Communion.

**THANK YOU (1)** for all your donations to the ARC Food Bank this year. The collections taken at the Carol Service and the Packington Square Singalong mean that we can send £300 to the team at the ARC. We know it will be well used.

**THANK YOU (2)** Toni Parker writes: I just want to say a big thank you for all the toiletries that were donated for the pack-Up Christmas lunch this week. (see picture left). They were really appreciated.

**FINALLY** Just to say that the Parish Office is closed and week-days services are suspended until January 2nd. It has been a pretty demanding year and I think we all need a bit of 'time off'! Quite what 2022 holds we do not know but we are certain that God will be with us throughout! So may we end by wishing you all a very Happy New Year!

### THIS WEEK

Sun 26 **FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY 8am Mass. 11am PARISH MASS and the BAPTISM of Siena Taylor**  
 Pack-Up closed until 10th January 2022.  
 Mon NO 8.30am Morning Prayer. NO 9am Mass. 12-6pm Hall party  
 Tues NO 10am Mass.  
 Wed NO 6pm Evening Prayer. 6.15-7pm NO Office session.  
 Thurs  
 Sun 2 **FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY 8am Mass. 10am PARISH MASS and SUNDAY SCHOOL.**

### Calendar and Daily Prayer themes

Sun 26 **HOLY FAMILY** Stuart, Joemil and Siena Taylor; Helen Schofield  
 Mon 27 **DEL Christmas 1** Sam, Joe, Charlie and Isla Seabrook; Song, Jess Si  
 Tues 28 **Holy Innocents** Susan and Eric Sorensen; Vera Taggart  
 Wed 29 **St Stephen** Ken and Margaret Thompson; Fr Victor de Waal  
 Thurs 30 **Feria** Fr Jim Walters; Kathryn Wark; Tim Willis  
 Fri 31 **Feria** Belle Williams, Tom, Poppy, Pearl and Bow Wheatley  
 Sat 1 **Naming of Jesus** Jay, Lucy, McAllister, Ava, Ivy and Bella Wilson  
 Sun 2 **EPIPHANY** Chris Wright, Francis and Shweta Slynn

### PRAYER BOARD/NOTICES Requests for prayer welcome

**BIRTHDAYS** Many Happy returns on Thursday to Annie Bryan and to Sergio Munoz who has made such an impact on the parish this year.

**SICK** Christopher Browne, Stephanie Cowles, Jennifer Franich, Peter Freeth, Charity Garnett, Joyce Harvey, Kris Hyde, Hayley Jenkins, John, Kingsley Lewis, Ed Pereira, John Scott, Charlie Sharpe, Susan Sorensen and Lyn Thompson.

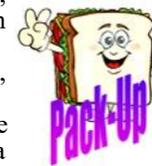
**MEMORIALS** 2nd: Francis Ryan (1983); 3rd: Mary Marshall, Sarah Evans, Sally Jones; 6th: Margaret Davies (198); 7th: Leila Hoon.

**INTERNATIONAL CHURCH LINKS** In the US: Mth Suzanne Smith, Rector of Grace Church, Alvin, Texas. Japan: Fr Sebastian and Yuki Naniwa serving in St Andrew's Church, Matsuyama, Diocese of Kobe.

**PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE** Many of you will have wondered why there has been so little progress in the case to get **Nazanin Zaghari Ratcliffe** released. Sadly our government seems unwilling to pay the £400million debt we owe Tehran and until that is settled there will be no progress but it also seems President Biden is against the move. We pray too for the extra-ordinarily brave Iranian human rights lawyer **Nasrin Sotoudeh**. Released recently to recover from a bad Covid infection picked up in the notorious Qarchak prison, she can be detained again at any time.



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 Churchwardens: Hilary Roden and Isabel Nisbet | Hall Bookings: hallatstjames@gmail.com | 07392 694961



Opens again at 12noon on 10th January





PARISH MASS  
for the Feast of the  
Holy Family, together with the  
Baptism of Siena Taylor  
December 26th 2021

as streamed from  
St James' Church  
Islington N1

Baptism marks the beginning of a journey with God which continues for the rest of our lives, the first step of our response to God's love.

For all involved, particularly the candidates but also for parents, godparents and sponsors, it is a joyful moment when we rejoice in what God has done for us in Christ, making serious promises and declaring our faith.

The wider community of the local Church and friends welcome the new Christian, promising support and prayer for the future. Hearing and doing these things provides an opportunity to remember our own baptism and reflect on the progress made on that journey, which is now to be shared with this new member of the Church.

The service paints many vivid pictures of what happens on the Christian way. There is the sign of the Cross - the badge of faith in the Christian journey which reminds us of Christ's death for us. Our 'drowning' in the water of baptism, where we believe that we die to sin and are raised to new life, unites us to Christ's dying and rising.

Water is the sign of new life, as we are born again by water and the Spirit. This reminds us of Jesus' own baptism.

And as a sign of new life, there is a candle, a picture of the light of Christ conquering the darkness of evil. Everyone who is baptised walks in that light for the rest of their lives.

As you pray for Siena, picture her with yourself and the whole Church throughout the ages, journeying together into the fullness of God's love.

*Jesus said, 'I came so that they may have life, and have it abundantly.'* (St John 10:10)

PARISH MASS FOR THE FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY  
together with the baptism of  
Siena Aixa Parra Taylor

**Greeting**

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

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you  
**and also with you.**

*All sit. Stuart and Joemil bring Siena to the front of the Church.*

**THE PREPARATION AND WELCOME**

*Siena is introduced to the congregation.*

What do you want for Siena?  
**We want her to be baptised.**

*Stuart and Joemil return to their seats with Siena*

Our Lord Jesus Christ has told us that to enter the kingdom of heaven we must be born again of water and the Spirit, and has given us baptism as a sign and seal of this new birth.

Here we are washed by the Holy Spirit and made clean. Here we are clothed with Christ, dying to sin that we may have his risen life. As children of God, we have a new dignity as he calls us to share in building his kingdom, here on earth.

*We remain sitting for a moment of silence during which we recall those things we would like God to forgive. Then we say this prayer together:*

**Loving God, we know our sins have upset you. We have hurt you and the people we know by our words, by our thoughts and by our actions. We are very sorry for all these things. They make us selfish and they break our friendship with you. By the power of Jesus who died on the Cross, forgive us for everything that we have done wrong in the past. Wash away our sin and make us your friends, now and for ever. Amen.**

May the God of love bring us back to himself, forgive us our sins and assure us of his eternal love, in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Our prayer for today, the Feast of the Holy Family:*

**Collect: Holy God, you alone show us perfect unity and love: gather together all the nations of the world to be one family, and draw us into your holy life through the birth of your Son who is always our Emmanuel. Amen.**

*Sit*

**THE WORD OF GOD**

*1st Reading: (Colossians 3: 12-17) As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called into the one body.*

*And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and encourage one another with wisdom and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God.*

*And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.*

*This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.***

*Song: Hallelujah Leonard Cohen*

Now I've heard there was a secret chord  
that David played, and it pleased the Lord  
But you don't really care for music, do you?  
It goes like this, the fourth, the fifth, the minor falls, the major lifts  
The baffled king composing Hallelujah  
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah

Your faith was strong but you needed proof.  
You saw her bathing on the roof  
Her beauty and the moonlight overthrew her.  
She tied you to a kitchen chair, she broke your throne, and she cut your hair  
and from your lips she drew the Hallelujah  
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah

Well, maybe there's a God above  
as for me all I've ever learned from love  
Is how to shoot somebody who outdrew you  
But it's not a crime that you're hear tonight  
it's not some pilgrim who claims to have seen the Light  
No, it's a cold and it's a very broken Hallelujah  
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah

Well people I've been here before  
I know this room and I've walked this floor  
you see I used to live alone before I knew ya  
And I've seen your flag on the marble arch  
But listen love, love is not some kind of victory march, no  
It's a cold and it's a broken Hallelujah  
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah

There was a time you let me know  
What's really going on below  
But now you never show it to me, do you?  
And I remember when I moved in you  
And the holy dove she was moving too  
And every single breath we drew was Hallelujah  
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah

Now I've done my best, I know it wasn't much  
I couldn't feel, so I tried to touch  
I've told the truth, I didn't come here to London just to fool you  
And even though it all went wrong  
I'll stand right here before the Lord of song  
With nothing, nothing on my tongue but Hallelujah

Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah  
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah.

Let us stand and welcome the Gospel.

*We say together:*

**Alleluia, alleluia May the peace of Christ reign in your hearts; let the message of Christ find a home with you. Alleluia.**

## Gospel

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Hear the Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

(St Luke 2: 41-end) Now every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Assuming that he was in the group of travellers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him.

After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, 'Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety.' He said to them, 'Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?' But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart.

And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favour.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Sit*

**The Address**

## THE BAPTISM

*The Paschal Candle is held in the centre of the Church. The family and the godparents stand together with Siena, facing the congregation. Everyone else remains sitting.*

My friends, will you welcome Siena  
and actively support her in her new life in Christ?

**With the help of God, we will.**

*The priest then says to the sponsors and godparents*

The Church welcomes Siena with great joy. Today we are trusting God to bless her as she grows in faith. Will you pray for her? Will you encourage her by your example as she begins to find her own place in the Church and discover the joy of being a friend of Jesus?

**With the help of God, we will.**

All of us like light more than dark. Candles remind us that the light of Christ will always be better than the darkness that comes when we sin. Jesus is the Light of the world, God's Son and he is the one who makes things better. Because Jesus died on the Cross, all the wrong things we have done can be forgiven. He paid the price for all our sins and in this way reveals both his love and his goodness.

So at a Christening, God calls us out of the darkness of the past so that we can start again in the light of his friendship. To be a Christian means leaving sin behind and accepting a new life with him.

As a sign of this new beginning I am going to ask each of you these questions:

Do you turn to Jesus as your friend?

**I do.**

Do you repent of all your sins?

**I do.**

Do you promise to fight against temptation, sin and evil wherever you find it?  
**I do.**

Now Christ claims Siena for his own. Receive the sign of the † Cross.

Do not be ashamed to tell others about the faith of Jesus who was crucified.  
**Fight with all your strength as a disciple of Christ against sin and all that is evil and remain a faithful friend of Jesus to the end of your life.**

May almighty God deliver you from the powers of darkness † make you pure as he is pure and lead you to follow the light of Christ, now and every day.  
**Amen.**

*As the Paschal Candle is carried down to the back of Church, Siena's family and her god-parents follow this symbol of the Light of Christ to the Font. We invite everyone, especially children, to join us.*

*At the Font:*

God uses water to give his divine life to those who believe in him. Let us turn to him and ask him to pour his gift of new life on to Siena whom he has chosen.

Praise God who made heaven and earth;  
**who keeps his promise for ever.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God  
**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Lord of the heavens, we bless your name for all your servants who have been a sign of your grace throughout the ages.  
Hope of the saints, **make known your glory.**

You called Abraham to journey in faith to a country he did not know.  
You delivered Noah from the waters of destruction  
and made a covenant with him, sealed in the sign of a rainbow.

You divided the waters of the sea and, through the leadership of Moses,  
led your people into the Promised Land.  
Hope of the saints, **make known your glory.**

You made a new covenant in the blood of your Son,  
that all who confess his name may, by the Holy Spirit,  
receive a pledge of the kingdom of heaven  
and share in his divine nature.  
Hope of the saints, **make known your glory.**

Fill these waters, we pray, with the power of that same Spirit,  
that Siena and all who enter them may be reborn  
and rise from the grave to new life in Christ.  
Hope of the saints, **make known your glory.**

As the apostles and prophets, the confessors and martyrs,  
faithfully served you in their generation,  
may we be built into an eternal dwelling for you,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be honour and glory,  
now and for ever. **Amen.**

But before Siena is baptised, we need to hear from you, her family, her god-parents and all her friends, what it is that you believe:

**I believe and trust in God the Father who made the world.  
I believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ  
who died for our sins and has won for us a place in heaven.  
I believe and trust in the Holy Spirit  
who lives and works with us every day.**

This then is our faith:

**We believe and trust in one God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

Now there is nothing to stop those who believe and trust in God from being baptised:

Siena Aixa Parra, I baptise you in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

*After Siena has been baptised, she is wrapped around with a towel or a christening robe:*

Siena, today you have 'put on Christ'. May he guard and protect you all the days of your life, and lead you, one day, into his home in heaven.

*The priest anoints Siena:*

Siena, may God who has received you into his friendship by baptism pour upon you the riches of his grace, that with Christians everywhere, you may be filled each day with his † anointing Spirit, and come to enjoy the promise of life eternal in heaven. **Amen.**

*We remain standing for the Prayers*

At the end we say:

**God of grace and life, in your love you have given us a place among your people; keep us faithful to our baptism, and prepare us for that glorious day when the whole of creation may be made perfect in your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Rejoicing in the fellowship of the Church on earth, we join our prayers with Our Lady, St James and all the saints in glory. Merciful Father: **accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

### The Peace

We are baptised into Christ: let us love by the Spirit of Christ. The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*The Christening party and the Sanctuary party return to their places .*

Offertory Hymn: **HON350 Father in heaven**

[t Bunesan]

*Father in heaven, grant to your children  
mercy and blessing, faith without end;  
love to unite us, grace to forgive us.  
Father in heaven, your name be praised.*

*Jesus, Redeemer, may we remember  
you died on Calvary, and rose again.  
Worship we bring you, praise we will sing you,  
Jesus redeemer, your name be praised.*

*Spirit descending, you give the blessing,  
strength for the weary, help for the young.  
Grant by these waters your sons and daughters,  
Spirit descending, may praise your name.* (Words: Daniel Niles, adapted JB)

### At the Offertory

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this bread to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the bread of life. **Blessed be God for ever.**

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become our spiritual drink. **Blessed be God for ever.**

Pray, my friends, that our thanksgiving may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

**May the Lord accept this sacrifice from our hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good, and the good of all his Church.**

God of light, in the birth of your Son we see your glory. May we who share in this mystery grow daily in your love. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

### THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

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.**

Lord of heaven and earth, you have shown us the direction of our lives in the person of Jesus Christ.

We have heard the word of truth, the good news of salvation and you have stamped each of us with the gift of your Holy Spirit so that we could become co-workers with you in the building of the Kingdom of God.

We are your people, we give you thanks **and we praise your holy name.**

Not many of us are wise by human standards, not many have achieved great things or have much wealth. Yet it is your will to choose the foolish and the weak to shame the strong to show how your strength is made perfect in our weakness.

In your love you stretch out your hand to heal us; freely and generously you transform our lives quietly performing signs and wonders which encourage us to walk with you in faith.

We are your people, we give you thanks **and we praise your holy name.**

So now we proclaim your glory with the angels and archangels and all the company of heaven as they sing this hymn of praise:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, my heart, my heart a - dore you! My  
In God's name is com - ing the One whom we call Bles - sed. Ho -



heart is glad to say the words: you are ho - ly, Lord.  
sann - a in the high - est. Praise and thanks to God.

*Sit* Father of all, we give you thanks  
for every gift that comes from heaven.

To the darkness Jesus came as your light.  
With signs of faith and words of hope  
he touched untouchables with love  
and washed the guilty clean.  
The crowds came out to see your Son,  
yet at the end they turned on him.

On the night he was betrayed  
he came to table with his friends  
to celebrate the freedom of your people.

Jesus blessed you, Father, for the food;  
he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and said:  
This is my body, given for you all.

Jesus then gave thanks for the wine;  
he took the cup, gave it to his disciples and said:  
This is my blood, shed for you all  
for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this in remembrance of me.

Therefore, Father,  
with this bread and this cup  
we celebrate the cross on which he died  
to set us free.  
Defying death he rose again  
and is alive with you to plead for us and all the world.

Let us proclaim the mystery of our faith:



You a - lone are ho - ly and you a - lone are Lord, and



you a lone are the most high, Je - sus Christ our Lord.

Send your Spirit on us now that by these gifts we may feed on Christ  
with opened eyes and hearts on fire.

May we and all who share this food offer  
ourselves to live for you  
and be welcomed at your feast in heaven  
where all creation worships you,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

### The Lord's Prayer

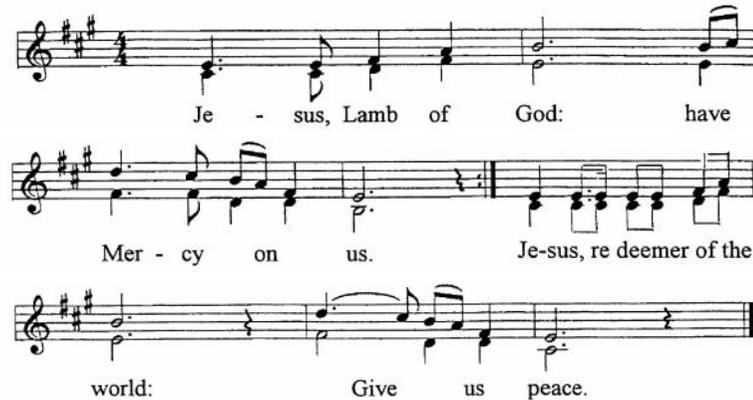
Lord Jesus, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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.**

### Fraction

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.  
**Though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share the one bread.**

## Agnus Dei



Je - sus, Lamb of God: have  
Mer - cy on us. Je-sus, re deemer of the  
world: Give us peace.

### Invitation to Communion

Come and kneel at the altar of God, not because you are strong but because you are weak. Come not because any goodness of your own gives you the right to come but because you need mercy and help. Come because you love the Lord a little and would like to love him more. Come because he loves you, and gave himself for you.

Lift up your hearts above the cares and fears and let this bread and wine be to you the token of the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, all meant for you if you will accept them in humble faith.

For this is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. Happy are they who are called to his supper.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you: but only say the word and I shall be healed.**

*At the time of Communion, please feel free to come forward to the chancel steps - either for communion or for a blessing. Jesus invites everyone, you too! Afterwards we keep as quiet as possible as we remember the presence of Christ among us.*

### After Communion

Instrumental: Lágrima (the Tear)

Francisco Tárrega

Communion Antiphon:

Our God has appeared on earth, and lived among us.

Post Communion:

Source of truth and joy, may we who have received the gift of divine life always follow in the way of your Son. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

**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.**

### Community Notices

#### The sending out: the Lighted Candle

*Stuart and Joemil bring Siena to the front of Church. A lighted candle is brought for Siena.*

By the light of Christ, your living Word,  
dispel the darkness of our hearts  
that we may walk as children of light  
and sing your praise throughout the world!

**Come, light of the world, come light up our lives;  
come, light of the world, light up our hearts.  
Dispel all darkness, remove our blindness;  
come, light of the world, be light for our eyes.**

Siena, you have received the light of Christ;  
walk in his light all the days of your life.

**Shine as a light in the world  
to the glory of God the Father.**

*Stuart, Joemil and Siena return to their seats*

### Blessing

May the Spirit of truth lead you into all truth, give you grace to confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, and strengthen you to proclaim the word and works of God; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be with you now and for ever. **Amen.**

### DISMISSAL

Go in the light and peace of Christ.  
**Thanks be to God.**