

> Christmas Eve 2016

During the 11:30pm Christmas Eve service we heard the nativity of the Christ Child told through Bible readings, prayers and songs.



The Advent Scultures provided a focus for our candle lighting.



Ian lit the Christ Candle at midnight as the liturgy unfolded.

The Meditation written by Saide with input from Ian was offered in 4 voices. At the place of journeying we asked *'Where are you on the journey? Do you hear the call this night? Do you know your destination as Mary & Joseph do on their journey to Bethlehem? Do you hold in your hearts the hope and promise of being known and named, held in the heart of God?'* At the birthing place we heard the invitation *'Come and be this village, a place where people can come to be welcomed, to be known and named and loved'*. At the place of the gifts we prayed *'God make us your gifts to the world, tonight, tomorrow and every day, always'*. And finally at the cradle we heard the invitation

'Hear him calling you to join him - reshaping the world with love, offering welcome, making peace. This is our call, to realise and offer our gifts at his manger, to be part of God's work bringing about the birth of the new creation'. You can read the full meditation [here](#).

We offered Prayers for the People remembering the projects we supported for the Christmas Bowl and celebrated Holy Communion by candlelight. Ian blessed us on our way to prepare for the celebrations of Christmas Day.

