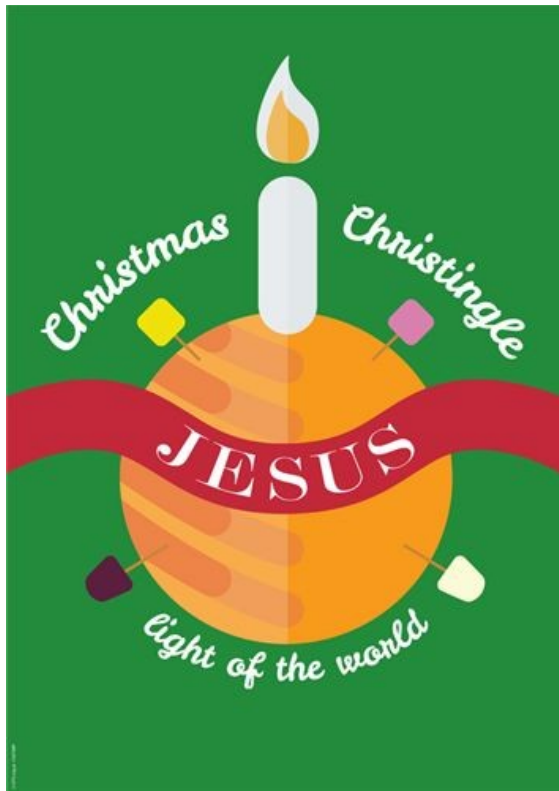


ST HILDA'S ASHFORD



CHRISTINGLE SERVICE

7TH DECEMBER 2025

WELCOME

Welcome to our Christingle Service, in which we celebrate Jesus, the Light of the World and the new life and hope he brings- and also raise money and awareness to support the work of the Children's Society, who bring light and hope to the lives of vulnerable children and young people across this country. Today we have an opportunity during our Christingle service to celebrate Jesus, the Light, coming into a world of darkness, and to share that light and hope with others.

Hymn - *It's rounded like an orange*

**It's rounded like an orange,
This earth on which we stand;
And we praise the God who holds it
In the hollow of his hand.**

**A candle, burning brightly,
Can cheer the darkest night,
And these candles tell how Jesus
Came to bring a dark world light.**

**The ribbon round the orange
Reminds us of the cost;
How the Shepherd, strong and gentle,
Gave his life to save the lost.**

**Four seasons with their harvest
Supply the food we need,
And the Spirit gives a harvest
That can make us rich indeed.**

**We come with our Christingles
To tell of Jesus' birth,
And we praise the God who blessed us
By his coming to this earth.**

**So Father, we would thank you
For all that you have done,
And for all that you have given us
Through the coming of your Son.**

[Basil Ernest Bridge © 1990 Oxford University Press]

Lighting the Advent Ring

Jesus, Light of the World

All Shine in this place

Jesus, Hope of the World.

All Live in our hearts.

Jesus, Light of the World,

All Shine in our lives.

Jesus, Hope of the World,

**All Bring hope to the ends of the earth
Amen.**

Reading: 1 John Chapter 3 verses 1 – 3 (Youth Bible version)

The Father has loved us so much that we are called children of God. And we really are his children. The reason the people in the world do not know us is that they have not known him. Dear friends, now we are children of God, and we have not yet been shown what we will be in the future. But we know that when Christ comes again, we will be like him, because we will see him as he really is. Christ is pure and all who have this hope in Christ keep themselves pure like Christ.

About Christingle and the Children's Society

Prayers

The Christingle is round like the world we live in.

Today we pray for the people all around God's world so they would know how much God loves them. **Amen**

We pray that we will shine with the light of Christ in the world so that everyone can see. **Amen.**

We pray that through sharing the light with others, everyone will come to know the light of Christ in their lives.
Amen

We pray that all those who lead us and look after us will be servants of the light of Christ in this world. **Amen**

We pray that all hungry or homeless children will find comfort in the light of Christ. **Amen**

We pray for all people who are sick or afraid, lonely or sad, that they may be cheered by the light of Christ. **Amen**

We pray for the work of the Children's Society, bringing light and hope to children in distress. **Amen**

The Lord's Prayer

**All Our Father in heaven
 Hallowed be your name.
 Your Kingdom come,
 Your will be done,
 On earth as it is in heaven.
 Give us this day 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 forever.
Amen.**

Collecting the Christingles.

The children can come forward row by row to collect their Christingle. When the children have returned to their places the candles can be lit and the grown-ups can help the children.

Christingle Prayer

**All Lord Jesus, Light of the World,
As I hold this Christingle
and think about your great love for me,
Help me to take this light out into the world
and to share your love with others,
especially those who need it most.
Amen.**

Hymn - *Away in a manger*

**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 bedside till 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.

[Anonymous]

***** Please extinguish the candles *****

Blessing

We go in peace

All To share the peace of God with all we meet.

We go in love:

All To share God's gift of love with the world.

We go in hope

All To share hope for the world with everyone

We go in the light of Christ:

**All To shine as lights in the world
To the glory of God the Father.**

Amen

Hymn — Shine Jesus shine.

(Please feel free to join in with actions in the chorus.)

**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

[Graham Kendrick © 1987 Make Way Music]

Donations can be made electronically through Givestar,
the Children's Society Christingle page under St Hilda's Church
Ashford.

Advent and Christmas Services in December

Sunday 14 th	10:00	Parish Eucharist
	16:00	Contemporary Carol Service with the schools
Sunday 21 st	10:00	Crib Service
	18:00	Traditional Carol Service
Wednesday 24 th	23:00	Midnight Mass
Thursday 25 th	10:00	Christmas Day service

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