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# Carol Service Christmas 2022

St Peter's Church, Black Lion Lane, Hammersmith

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*A retiring collection will be taken at the end of the service to support the work of two local charities, Glass Door and The Upper Room, which provide help for refugees, migrants and those who are homeless here in London. We hope you will give generously.*

## Carol: Once in Royal David's City

*Please remain seated for the first verse*

*Solo*           Once in royal David's city  
                  Stood a lowly cattle shed,  
                  Where a mother laid her baby  
                  In a manger for his bed:  
                  Mary was that Mother mild,  
                  Jesus Christ her little Child.

*Choir*           He came down to earth from heaven  
                  Who is God and Lord of all,  
                  And his shelter was a stable,  
                  And his cradle was a stall:  
                  With the poor and mean and lowly,  
                  Lived on earth our Saviour holy.

*All Stand*       **And through all his wondrous childhood  
                  He would honour and obey,  
                  Love and watch the lowly maiden,  
                  In whose gentle arms he lay:  
                  Christian children all must be  
                  Mild, obedient, good as he.**

**For he is our childhood's pattern,  
Day by day, like us he grew,  
He was little, weak, and helpless,  
Tears and smiles like us he knew:  
And he feeleth for our sadness,  
And he shareth in our gladness.**

**And our eyes at last shall see him,  
Through his own redeeming love,  
For that child so dear and gentle  
Is our Lord in heaven above;  
And he leads his children on**

**To the place where he is gone.**

**Not in that poor lowly stable,  
With the oxen standing by  
We shall see him, but in heaven,  
Set at God's right hand on high  
Where like stars his children crowned  
All in white shall wait around.**

**Welcome and opening prayer**

**Choir**

*'Up! good Christen folk, and listen'  
Tune from Piae Cantiones (1582) (harm. Woodward)*

**First Lesson**

*Isaiah 9.2, 6-7  
'The child of God, the Prince of Peace, is foretold'  
read by Jane Fryer*

**Choir**

*'All this time'*  
*(Walton)*

**Carol: O little town of Bethlehem**

*All*

**O little town of Bethlehem,  
How still we see thee lie.  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
The silent stars go by.  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth  
The everlasting Light,  
The hopes and fears of all the years  
Are met in thee tonight.  
O morning stars, together  
Proclaim the holy birth:  
And praises sing to God the King,  
And Peace to men on earth.  
For Christ is born of Mary,  
And, gathered all above,  
While mortals sleep, the angels keep  
Their watch of wondering love.  
  
How silently, how silently**

**The wondrous gift is given!  
So God imparts to human hearts  
The blessings of His heaven.  
No ear may hear His coming,  
But in this world of sin,  
Where meek souls will receive him, still  
The dear Christ enters in.**

**O holy Child of Bethlehem,  
Descend to us, we pray:  
Cast out our sin and enter in,  
Be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels  
The great glad tidings tell,  
O come to us, abide with us,  
Our Lord Emmanuel.**

## **Second Lesson**

*Luke 1.26-38  
'The Annunciation to Mary'  
read by Eva Daffarn*

## **Choir**

*'I sing of a maiden'*  
(Hadley)

### **Carol: It came upon the midnight clear**

*All*

**It came upon the midnight clear,  
That glorious song of old,  
From angels bending near the earth,  
To touch their harps of gold:  
'Peace on the earth, goodwill to men,  
From heaven's all-gracious King.'  
The world in solemn stillness lay,  
To hear the angels sing.**

**Still through the cloven skies they come,  
With peaceful wings unfurled,  
And still their heavenly music floats  
O'er all the weary world;  
Above its sad and lowly plains,  
They bend on hovering wing,  
And ever o'er its babel sounds  
The blessed angels sing.  
Yet with the woes of sin and strife  
The world has suffered long;  
Beneath the angel-strain have rolled  
Two thousand years of wrong;  
And man, at war with man, hears not  
The love-song which they bring;  
O hush the noise, ye men of strife,**

**And hear the angels sing!**

**For lo! the days are hastening on,  
By prophet bards foretold,  
When with the ever-circling years  
Comes round the age of gold  
When peace shall over all the earth  
Its ancient splendours fling,  
And the whole world give back the song  
Which now the angels sing.**

### **Third Lesson**

*Luke 2.1-7*

*'The birth of Jesus'*

*read by Catriona Sutherland-Hawes*

### **Choir**

*'Away in a manger'*

*Trad. Normandy tune arr. Jacques*

### **Fourth Lesson**

*Luke 2.8-19*

*'The adoration of the Shepherds'*

*read by Miles MacInnes*

## **Choir**

*'Its Brightness Knowing'*  
*Riognach Sachs (London première) &*  
*'Masters in this hall'*  
*French carol, trad. (arr. Willcocks)*

### **Carol: While shepherds watched**

*All*      **While shepherds watched their flocks by night,**  
**All seated on the ground,**  
**The angel of the Lord came down,**  
**And glory shone around.**  
**Fear not, said he, for mighty dread**  
**Had seized their troubled mind.**  
**Glad tidings of great joy I bring**  
**To you and all mankind.**  
**To you, in David's town, this day**  
**Is born of David's line**  
**A Saviour, who is Christ the Lord,**  
**And this shall be the sign.**  
**The heavenly Babe you there shall find**



**To human view displayed,  
All meanly wrapped in swathing bands,  
And in a manger laid.  
Thus spake the Seraph, and forthwith  
Appeared a shining throng  
Of Angels praising God who thus  
Addressed their joyful song.  
All glory be to God on high,  
And to the earth be peace;  
Good will henceforth from heaven to men  
Begin and never cease!**

## **Fifth Lesson**

*Matthew 2.1-12  
'The visit of the Magi'  
read by Alice Keown*

## **Choir**

*'Sans Day Carol'  
Cornish carol (arr. Rutter)*

**Please stand for the Sixth Lesson**

*John 1.1-14*

*'The Eternal Word'*

*read by the Revd Charles Clapham*

**Carol: Hark! the Herald Angels Sing**

*All*

**Hark! the herald angels sing  
Glory to the new-born King;  
Peace on earth and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled:  
Joyful all ye nations rise,  
Join the triumph of the skies,  
With the angelic host proclaim,  
Christ is born in Bethlehem:**

***Hark! the herald angels sing,  
Glory to the new-born King!***

**Christ, by highest heaven adored,  
Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
Late in time behold him come  
Offspring of a Virgin's womb!  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,  
Hail the incarnate Deity!  
Pleased as man with man to dwell,  
Jesus our Emmanuel:**

***Hark! the herald angels sing,  
Glory to the new-born King!***

**Hail the heaven-born Prince of peace!**

**Hail the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings,  
Risen with healing in his wings;  
Mild he lays his glory by,  
Born that man no more may die,  
Born to raise the sons of earth,  
Born to give them second birth:**

***Hark! the herald angels sing,  
Glory to the new-born King!***

## **Prayers**

*Lead by the Revd Charles Clapham*

## **Choir**

*'In the bleak midwinter'  
Harold Darke (1888-1976)*

## **The Blessing**

May the eagerness of the shepherds,  
the joy of the angels,  
the perseverance of the wise men,  
the obedience of Joseph and Mary,  
and the peace of the Christ-child,  
be yours this Christmas;

and the blessing of God Almighty;  
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,  
be with you now and always.

*All*      **Amen.**

**Carol: O come, all ye faithful**

*All*      **O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant:  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!  
Come and behold him, born the king of angels:**

***O come let us adore him,  
O come let us adore him:  
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord!***

**God of God, Light of Light,  
Lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;  
Very God, begotten not created:**

***O come let us adore him...***

**See how the shepherds summoned to his cradle  
Leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear;  
We too will thither bend our joyful footsteps:**

***O come let us adore him...***

**Lo! Star-led chieftains, Magi, Christ adoring,  
Offer him incense, gold and myrrh;  
We to the Christ Child,  
bring our hearts' oblations**

***O come let us adore him...***

**Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,  
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above:  
Glory to God in the highest!**

***O come let us adore him...***

*A retiring collection will be taken to support the work of two local charities, Glass Door and The Upper Room, which provide help for refugees, migrants and those who are homeless here in London.*

*To make a donation, you can use the credit card readers at the exit of the church, or scan the QR code with your mobile phone.*



*If you would like to donate cash, plates are available at the exit; if you are a tax payer, do please use a yellow envelope so that we can reclaim tax on your behalf.*

*Please give generously.*

**Christmas at St Peter's Church:**

**Christmas Eve (24th December)**

4.30 pm Crib Service

11.30 pm Midnight Mass

**Christmas Day (25th December)**

10.30 am Family Communion