

Online Carol Service

- **Welcome & Opening Responses:**

An ancient promise is coming true: **God's love lasts forever**

A secret mystery is being revealed: **God's love lasts forever**

A little child will soon be born: **God's love lasts forever**

God of wisdom, God of promise: **We will wait with you**

God of justice, God of integrity: **We will walk with you**

God of mystery, God of glory: **We will laugh with you**

- **Angel Dialogue**

- **Carol** *Hark! The herald angels sing*

- **Reading** Luke 1: 26-38

- **Carol** *The angel Gabriel*

- **Reading** Luke 2: 1-7

- **Carol** *Silent night, holy night*

- **Reading** Luke 2: 8-15

- **Carol** *While shepherds watched their flocks by night*

- **Reading** The Mary of your Christmas cards

- **Carol** *In the bleak midwinter*

- **Reading** John 1: 1-5, 10-14

- **Reflection & Prayers**

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

- **Blessing** We have heard the words of prophets - may we recognise God's truth

We have heard the words of angels - may we recognise God's joy
We have heard the words of promise - may we recognise God's love
And so may God bless us -
mystery of creation, child in the manger, Holy Spirit of glory -
and may we welcome and walk in the promises of God. Amen.

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,
dwell,

“Christ is born in Bethlehem.”

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

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 save the sons of earth,
born to give them second birth.

The Angel Gabriel from heaven came,
his wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame;
“All hail”, said he, “thou lowly maiden Mary,
most highly favoured lady.”

Gloria!

“For known a blessed Mother thou shalt be,
all generations laud and honour thee;
thy son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold;
most highly favoured lady.”

Gloria!

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head,
“To me be as it pleaseth God”, she said,
“My soul shall laud and magnify his holy name”;
most highly favoured lady.

Gloria!

Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ was born
in Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn,
and Christian folk throughout the world will ever say,
“Most highly favoured lady”.

Gloria!

Silent night! Holy night!
All is calm, all is bright
round the virgin and her child:
holy infant so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace;
sleep in heavenly peace!

Silent night! Holy night!
Shepherds quail at the sight,
glory streams from heaven afar,
heavenly hosts sing “Alleluia,
Christ the Saviour is born,
Christ the Saviour is born!”

Silent night! Holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light:
radiant beams your holy face
with the dawn of saving grace,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

(1)

While shepherds watched their flocks by night,
all seated on the ground,
the angel of the Lord came down,
and glory shone around.

(2)

“Fear not”, said he (for mighty dread
had seized their troubled mind),
“glad tidings of great joy I bring
to you and all mankind.

(3)

“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:

(4)

“the heavenly babe you there shall find
to human view displayed,
all meanly wrapped in swathing bands,
and in a manger laid.”

(5)

Thus spake the seraph, and forthwith
appeared a shining throng
of angels praising God, who thus
addressed their joyful song:

(6)

“All glory be to God on high,
and to the earth be peace;
good will henceforth from heaven to men
begin and never cease.”

(1)

In the bleak midwinter
frosty wind made moan,
earth stood hard as iron,
water like a stone.
snow had fallen, snow on snow,
snow on snow,
in the bleak midwinter
long ago.

(2)

Our God, heaven cannot hold him,
nor earth sustain;
heaven and earth shall flee away
when he comes to reign;
in the bleak midwinter
a stable place sufficed
the Lord God Almighty,
Jesus Christ.

(3)

Enough for him whom cherubim
worship night and day,
a breastful of milk
and a mangerful of hay;
enough for him whom angels
fall down before,
the ox and ass and camel
which adore.

(4)

Angels and archangels
may have gathered there,
cherubim and seraphim
thronged the air,
but only his mother
in her maiden bliss
worshipped the beloved
with a kiss.

(5)

What can I give him,
poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd
I would bring a lamb;
if I were a wise man
I would do my part;
yet what I can I give him -
give my heart.
**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...

Child, for us sinners
poor and in the manger,
fain we embrace thee, with awe and love;
who would not love thee,
loving us so dearly?
O come, let us adore him...

Sing, choirs of angels,
sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
glory to God
in the highest:
O come, let us adore him...

