

Christ Church

Stocksbridge

with Crane Moor

and Green Moor

Carols by Candlelight

20 Dec 2020 : 6.00 pm

christchurchonline.org

Welcome Adeste Fideles Prayer

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 th'angelic hosts 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 the Virgin's womb:
veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
hail th'incarnate Deity,

pleased with us in flesh to dwell,
Jesus, our Immanuel.

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 we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth,
born to give us second birth.

Reading : Luke 2 vv 1-7: The birth

See him lying on a bed of straw;
draughty stable with an open door,
Mary cradling the babe she bore;
The Prince of Glory is his name.
Star of silver, sweep across the skies,
show where Jesus in the manger lies;
shepherds, swiftly from your stupor rise
to see the saviour of the world.

Angels, sing again the song you sang,
sing the story of God's gracious plan;
sing that Beth'lem's little baby can
be the saviour of us all.

Mine are riches from your poverty,
from your innocence, eternity.
mine, forgiveness by your death for me;
child of sorrow for my joy.

The birth of Jesus

Behold, the grace appears!
The promise is fulfilled;
Mary, the wondrous virgin, bears,
And Jesus is the child.

To bring the glorious news
A heav'nly form appears;
He tells the shepherds of their joys,
And banishes their fears.

"Go, humble swains," said he,
"To David's city fly;
The promised infant born to-day
Doth in a manger lie."

"With looks and hearts serene,
Go visit Christ your King;
And straight a flaming troop was seen:
The shepherds heard them sing:

"Glory to God on high!
And heav'nly peace on earth;
Goodwill to men, to angels joy,
At the Redeemer's birth!

The Star

Who would think that what was needed
To transform and save the earth
Might not be a plan or army,
Proud in purpose, proved in worth?
Who would think, despite derision,
That a child should lead the way?
God surprises earth with heaven,
Coming here on Christmas Day.

Shepherds watch and wise men wonder,
Monarchs scorn and angels sing;
Such a place as none would reckon
Hosts a holy helpless thing;
Stable beasts and by-passed strangers
Watch a baby laid in hay:
God surprises earth with heaven
Coming here on Christmas Day.

Centuries of skill and science
Span the past from which we move,
Yet experience questions whether,
With such progress, we improve.
While the human lot we ponder,
Lest our hopes and humour fray,
God surprises earth with heaven
Coming here on Christmas Day.

Reading: Luke 2 vv 18-20 : The Shepherds

See, amid the winter's snow,
born for us on earth below,
see the tender Lamb appears,
promised from eternal years.

*Hail! Thou ever-blessed morn!
Hail, redemption's happy dawn!
Sing through all Jerusalem,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem."*

Lo, within a manger lies
He who built the starry skies;
He, who throned in height sublime,
sits amid the cherubim!

Say, ye holy shepherds, say,
what your joyful news today;
wherefore have ye left your sheep
on the lonely mountain steep?

"As we watched at dead of night,
lo, we saw a wondrous light;
angels singing 'Peace on earth'
told us of the Saviour's birth."

Sacred Infant, all divine,
what a tender love was Thine;
thus to come from highest bliss
down to such a world as this!

Teach, O teach us, Holy Child,
by Thy face so meek and mild,
teach us to resemble Thee
in Thy sweet humility!

Christmas Street Sparrow : Ken Windle

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.

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.

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

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.

Mary did you know? : Christine Gilbert

While shepherds watched their flocks by
night,
all seated on the ground,
an 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 simply wrapped in swaddling clothes
and in a manger laid."

Thus spoke the angel. Suddenly
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;
to those on whom his favour rests
goodwill shall never cease."

When the Son of Man was born:
Frank Hardman

Reading : John 1 vv 1-18

Silent night, holy night:
sleeps the world, hid from sight,
Mary and Joseph in stable bare
watch o'er the child beloved and fair,
sleeping in heavenly rest,
sleeping in heavenly rest.

Silent night, holy night;
shepherds first saw the light,

heard resounding clear and long,
far and near the angel song,
'Christ the Redeemer is here,
Christ the Redeemer is here.'

Silent night, holy night:
Son of God, O how bright
love is smiling from your face
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

Prayers and Lord's Prayer (Sung)

Sing all ye people of the earth today
For Jesus Christ was born on Christmas Day
Ring out, ye joyous bells in Heaven, ring on
For Christ is born

Born in a stable bare of humble birth
Born of a Virgin pure, to dwell on earth
Let all mankind rejoice on this great day
For Christ is born

He came to us that wars on earth may
cease
He came to bring us hope and joy and
peace
Worship o nations at His feet today
For Christ is born

Glory to God on high, we all will sing
Glory and praise we render to our King
Peace on earth, goodwill to men this day
For Christ is born

Blessing

