

# Village Carol Service Holy Trinity Church



## West Runton

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2021

*We stand for the opening carol and entrance of the Clergy:*

**Opening Carol:**

**O come all ye faithful**

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

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

Lo! star-led chieftains,  
Magi, Christ adoring,  
Offer him incense, gold, and myrrh;  
We to the Christ Child  
Bring our heart's oblations:  
*O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!*

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

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

*Sit*

### **Welcome and Opening Prayer**

#### **Carol: Once in Royal David's City (1<sup>st</sup> 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.

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.

And through all his wondrous childhood  
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 we 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.

### **A Prayer**

First Reading Micah 4: 2 – 4

*Response*

Leader: The Word of life which was from the beginning

**All: We proclaim to you**

Leader: The darkness is passing away and  
the true light is already shining.

**All: The Word of life which was from the beginning**

Leader: That which we heard, which we saw with our eyes  
and touched with our hands.

**All: We proclaim to you**

Leader: For our fellowship is with the Father  
and with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All: The Word of life which was from the beginning,  
We proclaim to you.**

*Stand*

**Carol: O Little Town of Bethlehem**

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!

*Sit*

Second Reading Luke 1: 26 – 38

*Stand*

**Carol: Silent Night, Holy Night**

Silent night, holy night!  
All is calm, all is bright.  
Round yon Virgin, Mother and Child,  
Holy infant so tender and mild,  
Sleep in heavenly peace,  
Sleep in heavenly peace

Silent night, holy night!  
Shepherds quake at the sight.  
Glories stream 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 from Thy holy face  
With dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus Lord, at Thy birth  
Jesus Lord, at Thy birth

*Sit*

Third Reading Luke 2: 1 – 7

*Stand*

**Carol: In the bleak midwinter**

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.

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.

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.

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.

*Sit*

*Response*

Leader: We proclaim not ourselves,  
but Christ Jesus as Lord.  
**All: And ourselves as your servants, for Jesus' sake**

Leader: For the God who said  
Let light shine out of darkness  
**All: has caused the light to shine within us.**

Leader: To give the light of the knowledge  
of the glory of God.  
**All: in the face of Jesus Christ.**

*Candles are lit from the Advent Wreath, the Church lights are dimmed and the candles remain lit until the end of the prayers.*

**Candle lit carol: 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 You, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky  
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus: I ask You to stay  
Close by me forever and love me, I pray;  
Bless all the dear children in Your tender care,  
And fit us for heaven to live with You there.

*Sit*

**Prayers**

*To the words* 'Jesus, light of the world'  
*Please respond:* **We worship and adore you.**

*Our prayers conclude with the Lord's prayer*

Fourth Reading Luke 2: 8 – 20

*Stand*

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

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 swaddling 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 on the earth be peace;  
Goodwill henceforth from heaven to men  
Begin and never cease.'

*Sit*

Fifth Reading Two Poems for Christmas

Final Reading John 1: 1 – 14

*Stand*

**Carol: God Rest you merry gentleman**

*Sit*

God rest you merry, gentlemen,  
Let nothing you dismay,  
Remember Christ our Saviour  
Was born on Christmas Day,  
To save us all from Satan's power  
When we were gone astray:  
*O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy!*  
*O tidings of comfort and joy!*

From God our heavenly Father  
A blessed angel came,  
And unto certain shepherds  
Brought tidings of the same,  
How that in Bethlehem was born  
The son of God by name:  
*O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy!*  
*O tidings of comfort and joy!*

And when they came to Bethlehem  
Where our dear Saviour lay,  
They found him in a manger,  
Where oxen feed on hay;  
His mother Mary kneeling down,  
Unto the Lord did pray:  
*O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy!*  
*O tidings of comfort and joy!*

Now to the Lord sing praises,  
All you within this place,  
In with true love and brotherhood  
Each other new embrace;  
This holy tide of Christmas  
All other doth efface:  
*O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy!*  
*O tidings of comfort and joy!*

**Conclusion and Blessing:**

**Final Carol:           Hark the herald angels sing**

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.*

*A minister says*

Go in peace to love and serve the lord.  
**In the name of Christ Amen.**

**Please join us for one of our other Christmas services in the Runton Parish, which are as follows:**

Christmas Eve 4:30 pm **Crib Service** at Holy Trinity West Runton.

Christmas Eve 11:30 pm **First communion of Christmas**, at Holy Trinity West Runton.

Christmas Day 9:15 am **Holy Communion for Christmas**, at St Andrews East Runton.

Boxing Day 10:30 am **Holy Communion for St Stephen**, at Holy Trinity West Runton.