

Sunday 22nd December 2024 Informal Carols 10.30 am Are you ready for Christmas"

Welcome

Today we remember Jesus and his love for us and all our world;

Jesus is our King.

Let us bless the living God: He was born of the Virgin Mary, **revealed in his glory,** worshipped by the angels, **proclaimed among the nations,** believed in throughout the world, **exalted to the highest heavens.** Blessed be God, our strength and our salvation, **now and for ever. Amen.**

Song 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, O come, let us adore him,

God of God, Light of Light, lo, he abhors not the virgin's womb; very God, begotten, not created: *O come, let us....* Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation, sing all ye citizens of heaven above: "Glory to God in the highest:" O come, let us....

Are you ready. Mary was ready Reading Luke 1:20-38 or drama Mary and the angel

Comment

Song The Virgin Mary had a baby boy The Virgin Mary had a baby boy The Virgin Mary had a baby boy And they said that his name was Jesus He came from the glory He came from the glorious kingdom He came from the glorious kingdom Oh yes, believer! Oh yes, believer! He came from the glory He came from the glory He came from the glory

The angels sang when the baby was born The angels sang when the baby was born The angels sang when the baby was born And proclaimed him the Saviour Jesus. *He came from....*

The wise men saw where the baby born The wise men saw where the baby born The wise men saw where the baby born And they said that his name was Jesus. *He came from....*

Reading. Luke 2:8-20. The shepherds were ready to go.

Comment

Song.

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 The 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 and 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. "

You are worthy, O Lord our God: to receive glory and honour and power. Glory to God in the highest. For you created all things: and by your will they existed and were created. Glory to God in the highest. You are worthy, O Christ, for you were slain: and by your blood you ransomed us for God.

Glory to God in the highest.

From every tribe and tongue and people and nation: you made us a kingdom of priests to serve our God. Glory to God in the highest.

To him who sits upon the throne and to the Lamb:

be blessing and honour and glory and might for ever and ever. Amen.

Glory to God in the highest.

Reading Matthew 2:1+2 & 9-13. The Kings had been ready for a long time.

Comment

Song

Into the darkness of this world Into the darkness of this world, into the shadows of the night, into this loveless place you came, lightened our burdens, eased our pain, and made these hearts your home. Into the darkness once again, O come, Lord Jesus, come. Come with your love to make us whole. Come with your light to lead us on, driving the darkness far from our souls: O come, Lord Jesus, come.

Into the longing of our souls, into these heavy hearts of stone, shine on us now your piercing light, order our lives and souls aright, by grace and love unknown, until in you our hearts unite – O come, Lord Jesus, come. Come with your love to make us whole... O Holy Child, Emmanuel, Hope of the ages, God with us, visit again this broken place, till all the earth declares your praise and your great mercies own. Now let your love be born in us – O come, Lord Jesus, come. *Come with your love to make us whole...*

Come in your glory, take your place, Jesus, the Name above all names we long to see you face to face: O come, Lord Jesus, come.

Prayers.

Collect

God our redeemer, who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son: grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour, so we may be ready to greet him when he comes again as our judge; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name your kingdom come your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today 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 for ever. Amen.

Song.

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, good will 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.

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.

Blessing

As we wait for your loving-kindness, O God, in the midst of your temple.

The glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all flesh shall see it together.

Show us your mercy, O Lord, and grant us your salvation. Amen Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon us, scatter the darkness from before our path, and make us ready to meet him when he comes in glory; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among us and remain with us always. **Amen.**

Notice to take home *Please note this sheet covers two weeks*.

A very happy Christmas and peaceful New Year to everyone at St Peter's.

22nd December 4th Sunday of Advent
9.00 am Holy Communion Micah 5:2-5 and Luke 1:39-45
10.30 am Informal Carol Service
6.00 pm Candlelight Carols

Christmas Services

Christmas Eve 4.30 pm All age Crib Service 11.30 pm Midnight Communion Christmas Day 10.00 am All age Christmas Celebration with Communion 20th December 1st Sunday of Christmas

29th December 1st Sunday of Christmas

NB no 9.00 am on 29th December

10.30 am Morning Worship Colossians 3:12-17 and Luke 2:41-end NB no service on Wednesday 1st January

5th January Epiphany

9.00 am Holy Communion Ephesians 3:1-12 and Matthew 2:1-12
10.30 am Morning Worship Ephesians 3:1-12 and Matthew 2:1-12
Wednesday 8th January Holy Communion at St Andrew's

Thank you

Thank you to everyone who has helped with all the Christmas arrangements at St Peter's – doing flowers, cleaning the church, taking part in the services delivering Christmas info

An eco tip

Celebrate a Greener Christmas. Find ways to make your Christmas festivities both a joyous celebration of Christ's coming and environmentally conscious. Explore A Rocha UK's twelve tips for a greener Christmas at arocha.org.uk/our-twelve-tips-fora-greener-christmas

Black Country Food Bank

The on-going needs and these are: Tinned Veg, Tinned Potatoes, Tinned Fish, Tinned Fruit in Juice, Breakfast Cereal, Long Life Milk, Tea Bags 40's, Small Jar Coffee, ILT Cartons of Long Life Fruit Juice, Toilet Rolls, Bars of Soap, Shower Gel and Roll on Deodorant.