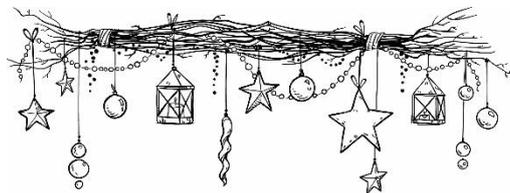


Carol Service 13 December, 6pm 'The Star'



Welcome and introduction – Rev Roz Lawson

CAROL: O Come O Come Emmanuel

Text Eighteenth century, trans. T.A Lacey (1853–1931)

Music Fifteenth century French Franciscan processional, arr. David Willcocks (1919-2015)

1. O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.*
2. O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free
thine own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell they people save,
and give them victory o'er the grave:
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.*
3. O come, O come, thou Lord of might,
who to they tribes, on Sinai's height,
in ancient times didst give the law
in cloud and majesty and awe:
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.*
4. O come, thou Key of David, come,
and open wide our heavenly home;
make safe the way that leads on high,
and close the path to misery:
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.*
5. O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer
our spirits by thine advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadows put to flight:



FIRST READING: Psalm 8:1, 3-4, 9

O Lord, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!
You have set your glory above the heavens.
When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,
The moon and the stars that you have established;
What are human beings that you are mindful of them,
Mortals that you care for them?
O Lord, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

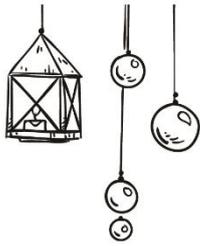
FIRST CANDLE LIGHTING (*Light candle, then read the following*):

As we light this candle,
We remember that you made the stars,
Lord, we remember that you made light itself.
Father, we wonder at your creation,
We are in awe at the work of your hands.
Compared to the stars, we feel small,
Yet you remember us.



CAROL: Angels from the Realms of Glory

Text G. R. Woodward (1848 – 1934). Music French traditional melody arr. David Willcocks.



1. Angels from the realms of glory,
wing your flight o'er all the earth;
ye who sang creation's story
now proclaim Messiah's birth:
*Come and worship
Christ, the new-born King.
Come and worship,
worship Christ, the new-born King.*

2. Shepherds in the fields abiding,
watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing,
yonder shines the infant Light:
Come and worship...

3. Wise men, leave your contemplations;
brighter visions beam afar;
seek the great Desire of nations;
ye have seen his natal star:
Come and worship...

4. Though an infant now we view him,
he will share his Father's throne,
gather all the nations to him;
every knee shall then bow down:
Come and worship...

5. All creation, join in praising
God the Father, Spirit, Son,
evermore your voices raising
to the eternal Three in One:
Come and worship...

SECOND READING: Isaiah 9.2, 6-7

The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light; on those who lived in a land as dark as death, a light has dawned... For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; Authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and righteousness from this time forward and for evermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

SECOND CANDLE LIGHTING (*Light candle, then read the following*):

One candle dispels the darkness:
Lord, help us walk in your light.
Child of God, be born anew in us.
May we recognise your rule of peace
and imagine new ways of living
as your people,
From this time forward and forevermore.



CAROL: O come, all ye faithful

Text & melody J.F. Wade (c. 1711–1786), trans. F. Oakley, W.T. Brooke and others, arr. David Willcocks.

1. 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.*
2. 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.*
3. 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...
4. Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
born that happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory given:
Word of the Father,
now in flesh appearing:
O come, let us adore him...



CHOIR PIECE: Carol of the Field Mice by Eoghan Desmond



THIRD READING: Matthew 2: 1-12

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd by people Israel'".

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage". When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

THIRD CANDLE LIGHTING

As we light this candle,
We remember that your creation, your star, became a sign;
An arrow pointing to you, the child-king.
May we too be overwhelmed with joy
To know that you, Immanuel, are with us.
And we recall that others sought to snuff out your light
From the very beginning.
But through the prophets, and a mother's love, and a dream,
Your kingdom could not be quenched.



CAROL: O Little Town of Bethlehem

Text Phillips Brooks (1835–1893)

Music English traditional melody arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958) & Thomas Armstrong (1898–1994)

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.

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 morning stars, together
proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the King,
and peace to all on earth.
For Christ is born of Mary;
and, gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wondering love.

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.



Transition to the Cloisters



Wrap up warm and follow the Chapel Choir as they lead the procession! Please join in the singing of *While shepherds watched their flocks* and *Once in Royal* (see over).

SONG FOR THE JOURNEY: While Shepherds Watched

Text Nahum Tate (1652 – 1715). Music Este's Psalter (1592), final verses arr. David Willcocks.

While shepherds watch'd 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”.

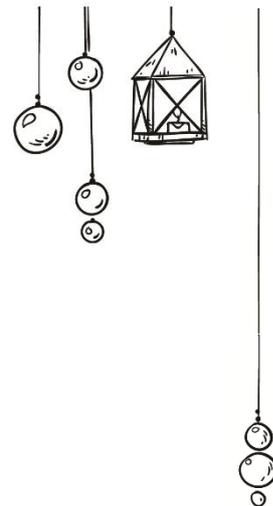
Thus spake the seraph, and forthwith
Appeared a shining throng
Of angels praising God, who thus
Addressed their joyful song:

“All glory be to God on high
And on the earth be peace
Goodwill henceforth from heaven to men
Begin and never cease”.

SONG FOR THE JOURNEY (if needed): Once in Royal David's City

Text C. F. Alexander (1818–1895). Music H. J. Gauntlett (1805–1876), vv. 1-5 harm. by A.H. Mann (1850–1929).

1. 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.
2. 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
3. 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.
4. 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



Mild, obedient, good as he.

To the place where he is gone.

5. 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;
When like stars his children crowned
All in white shall wait around.



In the Cloisters



CHOIR PIECE: Lux Aurumque by Eric Whitacre

CHOIR PIECE (all welcome to join in): Ding, Dong, Merrily on High

Text G. R. Woodward. Music Sixteenth-century French melody, arr. Peter Hunt.

1. Ding-dong! Merrily on high
in heaven the bells are ringing.
Ding-dong! Verily the sky
is riven with angels singing:
Gloria, hosanna in excelsis!
2. E'en so, here below, below,
let steeple bells be swungen;
and *i-o, i-o, i-o,*
by priest and people sungen!
Gloria, hosanna in excelsis!
3. Pray you, dutifully prime
your matin chime, you ringers;
may you beautifully rhyme
your evetime song, you singers:
Gloria, hosanna in excelsis!

CAROL: We Three Kings – Star of Wonder

Text & melody J. H. Hopkins (1820–1891), arr. David Willcocks



1. We three kings of Orient are;
bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain,
following yonder star.
*O star of wonder, star of light,
Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to they perfect light.*
2. Born a King on Bethlehem's plain,
gold I bring to crown him again,
King forever, ceasing never,
over us all to reign.
O star of wonder...
3. Frankincense to offer have I;
incense owns a Deity nigh;
prayer and praising, voices raising,
worshipping God on high.
O star of wonder...

4. Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume
breathes a life of gathering gloom;
sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying
sealed in the stone-cold tomb.
O star of wonder...

5. Glorious now behold him arise;
King and God and sacrifice:
Alleluia, Alleluia,
sounds through the earth and skies.
O star of wonder...

CAROL: Hark the Herald Angels Sing

Text Charles Wesley (1707–1788) and others. **Music** F. Mendelssohn (1809–1847)

1. 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 hosts proclaim,
‘Christ is born in Bethlehem’.
*Hark! the herald angels sing,
‘Glory to the new-born King’.*

2. 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’.*

3. 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:



CAROL: Silent Night

Text Joseph Mohr (1792–1848). **Music** Franz Gruber (1787–1863), arr. Barry Rose

1. 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.

2. 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.

3. 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.

CAROL: Joy to the World

Text Isaac Watts (1674–1748). **Music** Lowell Mason (1792–1872), arr. John Rutter

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the world, the Saviour reigns!
let all their songs employ;
while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.

Benediction: Rev Roz Lawson

Lord Jesus Christ, Prince of Peace, Saviour and King,
Thank you for coming to us, the Word, the light shining in the darkness.
Just as the star which came from the East pointed to your glory,
May we, in this Advent season, bring your love, joy, and peace to a wounded world.
May we follow your leading and kneel in wonder as the wise men did long ago.
Blessed be your holy name: Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer.
Amen.

