



**Welcome**  
**St Andrew's Carol Service**  
*Sunday 1st December 2024*  
with **Blackley Band**

The Lord be with you  
**and also with you**

**Carol: Once in Royal David's City**

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  
He would honour and obey,  
love and watch the gentle mother  
in whose tender arms he lay:  
Christian children all should be  
kind, obedient, good as he.

For he is our childhood's pattern:  
day by day like us he grew,  
He was little, weak and helpless,  
tears and smiles like us he knew;  
and he feels for all our sadness,  
and he shares in all 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.

**Reading: Isaiah 9. 2 – 7**

**Carol: Unto us a boy is born**

Unto us a boy born!  
King of all creation;  
came he to a world forlorn,  
the lord of every nation,  
the lord of every nation.

Cradled in a stall was he,  
watched by cows and asses;  
but the very beasts could see  
that he the world surpasses,  
that he the world surpasses.

Then the fearful Herod cried,  
“Pow’r, is mine in Jewry!”  
So the blameless children died  
the victims of his fury,  
the victims of his fury.

Now may Mary’s son, who came  
long ago to love us,  
lead us all with hearts aflame  
unto the joys above us,  
unto the joys above us.

Omega and alpha he!  
Let the organ thunder,  
while the choir with peals of glee  
shall rend the air asunder,  
shall rend the air asunder.

**Reading: Isaiah 11. 1 – 9**

**Carol: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel**

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.

O come, Thou Rod of Jesse, free  
thine own from Satan's tyranny;  
from depths of hell Thy people save,  
and give them victory o'er the grave.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to thee, O Israel.

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.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Thou Key of David, come  
and open wide our heav'nly home;  
make safe the way that leads on high,  
and close the path to misery.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, O come thou Lord of might,  
who to Thy 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.

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

## Carol: Angels from the realms of glory

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 newborn King:  
Come and worship,  
worship Christ, the newborn King.*

Shepherds, in the field abiding,  
watching o'er your flocks by night,  
God with us is now residing,  
yonder shines the infant light:

*Come and worship,  
Christ, the newborn King:  
Come and worship,  
worship Christ, the newborn King.*

Sages, leave your contemplations;  
brighter visions beam afar:  
seek the great Desire of Nations;  
ye have seen his natal star:

*Come and worship,  
Christ, the newborn King:  
Come and worship,  
worship Christ, the newborn King.*

Saints before the altar bending,  
watching long in hope and fear,  
suddenly the Lord, descending,  
in his temple shall appear:

*Come and worship,*

*Christ, the newborn King:*

*Come and worship,*

*worship Christ, the newborn King.*

Though an infant now we view him,  
he shall fill his Father's throne,  
gather all the nations to him;  
every knee shall then bow down:

*Come and worship,*

*Christ, the newborn King:*

*Come and worship,*

*worship Christ, the newborn King.*

**Reading: Matthew 1. 18 - 25**

**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;  
Heav'n 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 throned 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.

**Reading: Luke 2. 1 – 7**

**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 the dark streets shineth the everlasting light;  
the hopes and fears of all the years  
are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary;  
and, gathered all above,  
while mortals sleep the angels keep their watch of wond'ring love;  
O morning stars, together  
proclaim thy holy birth,  
and praises sing to God the King,  
and peace upon the Earth.

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.

**Reading: Luke 2. 8 - 20**

**Carol: While shepherds watched**

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 heav'nly 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 to the Earth be peace;  
goodwill henceforth from heav'n to men  
begin and never cease.'

**Reading: John 1. 1 - 14**

**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.*

Sing, choirs of angels,  
sing in exultation,  
sing, all ye citizens of heav'n 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.*

**Address: Rev'd Pam Smith**

## **Prayers**

On this Carol Service evening let us pray for our community and our world.

Almighty God, who's son was born with great fanfare from the angels,  
into ordinary and humble beginnings,  
save us from the vanity and ambition of those around us.  
As we celebrate the birth of our humble king  
grant us leaders who follow that call to servanthood.  
And who pursue unity and peace.  
Lord in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer**

At Christmas the angels sang, 'Peace to God's people on earth.'  
Yet our streets are often places of fear, especially for the young.  
We pray for those who work to keep our community safe  
May we shine in the darkness an everlasting light  
Lord in your mercy

**Hear our prayer**

Just as Mary and Joseph fled as refugees, carrying their infant son  
So we pray for all those who are refugees in our world.  
May we be a nation moved by compassion humanity.  
In our plenty may we give generously of what we have.  
And may we work together to seek a fairer world  
Lord in your mercy

**Hear our prayer**

That first Christmas there was no room in the Inn  
We pray for all those who are homeless and vulnerable  
May we be determined to address the immediate needs  
And also invest rightly in the public services of our nation.  
Lord in your mercy

**Hear our prayer**

In the darkness of midwinter  
we for all those for whom this time of year is a struggle  
Be near us we pray, and may we see the bright morning star  
that leads to the dawn of hope.  
Lord in your mercy

**Hear our prayer**

The wise men left their palaces and comforts to seek your perfect light  
in a world of prejudice and division  
So may we have courage and faith to seek you  
and pursue the way of love and truth.

Lord in your mercy

**Hear our prayer**

And together we pray the prayer that Jesus taught us...

**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.**

## **Christmas Invitations**

*Please pick up a flyer as you leave church  
Join us for refreshments after the service*

May the joy of the angels,  
the eagerness of the shepherds,  
the perseverance of the wise men,  
the obedience of Joseph and Mary,  
and the peace of the Christ-child be yours this Christmas;  
And the blessing of God Almighty,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
be with you now, and evermore,  
Amen

### Carol: Hark, the herald angels sing

Hark, the herald angels sing  
Glory to the newborn 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 host proclaim,  
'Christ is born in Bethlehem'  
*Hark, the herald angels sing, glory to the newborn King.*

Christ, by highest heav'n adored,  
Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
late in time behold him come,  
offspring of a virgin's womb!  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,  
hail, th'incarnate Deity!  
Pleased with man as us to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel.  
*Hark, the herald angels sing, glory to the newborn King.*

Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!

Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!

Light and life to all he brings,

ris'n 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.

*Hark, the herald angels sing,*

*glory to the newborn King.*