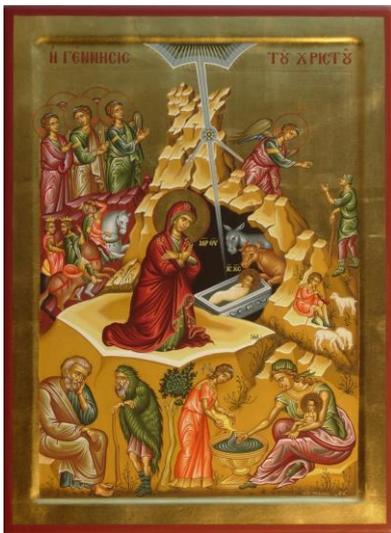


Meon Bridge Benefice

Corhampton & Meonstoke, Droxford, Exton with Preshaw



Christmas and Epiphany Lessons and Carols from Exton in the Pandemic

Church of St. Peter and St. Paul

Church of St. Peter and St. Paul, Exton (Hampshire) dating back to the 13th century, stands on the foundations of an earlier church built in 940. Of the four churches in the benefice, St. Peter and St. Paul is the only one with a 'weeping' chancel, in which the centre line of the chancel inclines to the south of the centre line of the nave, reflecting the inclination of Christ's head on the cross. The church has been worked on and modernised over the years, and recently the early 20th century stencil of the Tree of Life at the east end of the church was discovered, and restored to its original condition.

Christmas and Epiphany Lessons and Carols from Exton in the Pandemic of 2020

The Greeting and Welcome

Bidding Prayer and Introduction

Lord our God,
on this the first day of creation
you made the light that scatters all darkness.

Let Christ, the light of lights,
shine on all your people and free us from the darkness of sin.

Fill our lives with joy as we prepare to celebrate
the coming of your Son, our saviour.

**We celebrate together the coming of Christ into the world.
As your kingdom dawns,
turn us from the darkness of sin to the light of Holiness.**

Jesus came for our salvation.
Let us in heart and mind go once again to Bethlehem,
to hear the message of the angels
and worship afresh the Son of God.

Carol I

Once in Royal David's City

- 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 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.
- 3 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
Mild, obedient, good as He.
- 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
To the place where He is gone.

Meter: 87 87 77

1st Lesson

The Prophecy of the Messiah's Birth

The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined. For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgement and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.

Isaiah 9 v 2, 6-7

Thanks be to God.

Carol 2

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

- 1 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.
- 2 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 over its Babel sounds
The blessed angels sing.
- 3 Yet with the woes of sin and strife
The world has suffered long;
Beneath the angel strain have rolled
Two thousand years of wrong;
And man, at war with man, hears not
The love-song which they bring;
O hush the noise, ye men of strife
And hear the angels sing.
- 4 And ye, beneath life’s crushing load,
Whose forms are bending low,
Who toil along the climbing way
With painful steps and slow,
Look now! for glad and golden hours
Come swiftly on the wing.
O rest beside the weary road,
And hear the angels sing!

- 5 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 send back the song
Which now the angels sing.

Meter: DCM

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear
Edmund Hamilton Sears (1810 – 1876)
NOEL

Composer unknown
Arranger: Arthur Seymour Sullivan (1842 – 1900)
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2nd Lesson

The Peace that Christ will bring is Foretold.

And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots: and the spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord; and shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the Lord. With righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth. The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them. And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together: and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice' den. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.

Isaiah 11, v.1-3,6-9

Thanks be to God

Carol 3

O Little Town of Bethlehem

- 1 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.
- 2 For Christ is born of Mary;
And gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep
Their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars, together
Proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the King,
And Peace to men on earth.

3 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.

4 O holy Child of Bethlehem,
Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in,
Be born to us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell:
O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Emmanuel.

Meter: DCM.

O Little Town of Bethlehem
Phillips Brooks (1835 – 1893)
Public Domain

FOREST GREEN with Descant

Composer unknown, based upon the ballad *The Ploughboy's Dream*
Arranged by Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872 – 1958)

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3rd Lesson

The Annunciation to Mary

And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth, to a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary.

And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women. And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be. And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God. And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: and he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end. Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man? And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God. And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word. And the angel departed from her.

St Luke 1: 26-35,38

Thanks be to God

Carol 4

The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came

- 1 The angel Gabriel from heaven came,
His wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame.
“All hail” said he “thou lowly maiden Mary,
Most highly favoured lady.” Gloria!
- 2 “For know a blessed mother thou shalt be,
All generations laud and honour thee;
Thy son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold,
Most highly favoured lady.” Gloria!
- 3 Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head;
“To me be as it pleaseth God,” she said.
“My soul shall laud and magnify God’s holy name.”
Most highly favoured lady.” Gloria!
- 4 Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ, was born
In Bethlehem all on a Christmas morn,
And Christian folk through-out the world will ever say:
“Most highly favoured lady.” Gloria!

Meter: 10 10 12 10

The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came

Sabine Baring-Gould (1834 – 1924)

Public Domain

BIRINA GAZTETTOBAT ZEGOEN

Traditional Basque melody

Arranged by © Richard Mark Stephen Irwin (b. 1955).

Melody Public Domain

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4th Lesson

St Luke tells of the Birth of Jesus

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Cæsar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judæa, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) to be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

St Luke 2: 1, 3-7

Thanks be to God

Carol 5

In English

Silent Night

- 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 the dawn of redeeming grace:
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

Auf Deutsch

Stille Nacht

- 1 Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht!
Alles schläft, einsam wacht
Nur das traute hochheilige Paar.
Holder Knabe im lockigen Haar,
Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh,
Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh
- 2 Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht,
Hirten erst kundgemacht
Durch der Engel Hallelujah,
Tönt es laut von fern und nah,
Christ, der Retter ist da,
Christ, der Retter ist da!
- 3 Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht,
Gottes Sohn, o wie lacht
Lieb aus Deinem göttlichen Mund,
Da uns schlägt die rettende Stund,
Christ, in Deiner Geburt,
Christ, in Deiner Geburt!

Meter: Irregular

Silent Night (Stille Nacht)

Joseph Francis Mohr (1792 – 1848)

Translator: John Freeman Young (1820 – 1885)

STILLE NACHT

Franz Grüber (1787 – 1863)

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Arrangement based on Grüber's original guitar score by Richard Mark Stephen Irwin

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5th Lesson

The Shepherds go to the Manger

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men. And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us. And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.

St Luke 2: 8-16

Thanks be to God

Carol 6

While Shepherds Watched their Flocks by Night

- 1 While shepherds watched their flocks by night,
all seated on the ground;
the angel of the Lord came down,
and glory shone around.
2. “Fear not!” said he, (for mighty dread
had seized their troubled mind):
“Glad tidings of great joy I bring
to you and all mankind.”
3. “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:”
4. “The heavenly babe you there shall find
to human view displayed,
all meanly wrapped in swathing bands,
and in a manger laid.”
5. Thus spake the seraph and forthwith
appeared a shining throng
of angels praising God, who thus
addressed their joyful song:
6. “All glory be to God on high,
and to the earth be peace;
good will henceforth from heaven to men
begin and never cease!”

Meter: CM

While Shepherds Watched their Flocks by Night

Nahum Tate (1652 – 1715)

Public Domain

WINCHESTER OLD

Christopher Tye (c.1505 – c.1573)

from Thomas Este’s Psalter (1592)

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The Blessing of the Crib

Dear friends, as we meet to celebrate the birth of Christ, let us pray that God will bless this crib, that all who worship his Son, born of the Virgin Mary, may come to share his life in glory.

God our Father, on this *day* your Son Jesus Christ was born of the Virgin Mary for us and for our salvation:

bless this crib, which we have prepared to celebrate that holy birth; may all who see it be strengthened in faith and receive the fullness of life he came to bring, who is alive and reigns for ever.

Amen.

Carol 7

Away in a Manger

- 1 Away in a manger, no crib for His 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.
- 2 The cattle are lowing, the Baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus no crying He makes.
I love Thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.
- 3 Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask Thee to stay
Close by me forever and love me I pray.
Bless all the dear children, in Thy tender care,
And fit us for heaven, to live with Thee there.

Meter: | | | | | |

Away in a Manger

William James Kirkpatrick (1838 – 1921)

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CRADLE SONG

William James Kirkpatrick (1838 – 1921)

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6th Lesson

The Wise Men come from the East

Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judæa in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him. When Herod the king had heard these things, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born. And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judæa: for thus it is written by the prophet, And thou Bethlehem, in the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel.

St. Matthew 2:1-6

Thanks be to God

Carol 8

We Three Kings

- 1 We three kings of Orient are,
Bearing gifts we traverse afar,
Field and fountain, moor and mountain,
Following yonder Star.

Refrain

- O, star of wonder, star of might,
Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to the perfect light.*
- 2 Born a babe on Bethlehem's plain;
Gold we bring to crown Him again;

King forever, ceasing never,
Over us all to reign.

Refrain

3 Frankincense to offer have I;
Incense owns a Deity nigh;
Prayer and praising, all men raising,
Worship Him, God on High.

Refrain

4 Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume
Breathes a life of gathering gloom;
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,
Sealed in the stone-cold tomb.

Refrain

5 Glorious now behold Him arise,
King and God and sacrifice,
Heaven sings, "Hallelujah!"
Hallelujah!" Earth replies.

Refrain

Meter: 86 86 and Refrain

We Three Kings

John Henry Hopkins (1820 – 1891)

KINGS OF ORIENT

John Henry Hopkins (1820 – 1891)

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7th Lesson

The Wise Men are led by the Star to Jesus

Then Herod, when he had privily called the wise men, inquired of them diligently what time the star appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, Go and search diligently for the young child; and when ye have found him, bring me word again, that I may come and worship him also. When they had heard the king, they departed; and lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts, gold, and frankincense, and myrrh. And being warned of God in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed into their own country another way.

Matthew 2: 7-12

Thanks be to God

Carol 9

The First Nowell

- 1 The first Nowell the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain:

Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
born is the King of Israel!

- 2 They lookèd up and saw a star,
shining in the east, beyond them far,
and to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and night.
Refrain

- 3 And by the light of that same star,
three wise men came from country far;
to seek for a king was their intent,
and to follow the star wherever it went.
Refrain

- 4 This star drew nigh to the north-west,
o'er Bethlehem it took its rest,
and there it did both stop and stay,
right over the place where Jesus lay.
Refrain

- 5 Then entered in those Wise Men three,
full rev'rently upon their knee,
and offered there in his presence,
their gold and myrrh and frankincense.
Refrain

- 6 Then let us all with one accord
sing praises to our heavenly Lord,
who with the Father we adore
and Spirit blest for evermore.
Refrain

Meter: Irregular and Refrain

The First Nowell

William Sandy (1792 – 1874)

THE FIRST NOWELL

Traditional English melody

Arranger: John Stainer (1840 – 1901)

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8th Lesson

The Incarnation of the Word of God

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not. There was a man sent from God, whose name was

John. The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe. He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

John 1: 1-14

Thanks be to God.

Prayers

Beloved in Christ,
at this Christmas-tide it has been our delight
to hear again the message of the angels.

We have read and marked in Holy Scripture
the tale of the loving purposes of God
and the glorious redemption brought us by this Holy Child.

Let us now pray for the needs of the whole world;
for peace on earth and goodwill amongst all His people
and especially in our villages of Exton, Meonstoke, Droxford,
Corhampton and Preshaw.

Heavenly Father, who chose the lowly virgin Mary to be the mother of the promised saviour: fill us your servants with your grace, that in all things we may embrace your Holy will, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

As we are gathered here in the name of Christ,
we pray for the world he came to save,
that all its peoples may recognise their responsibility for its future,
and maybe inspired by the message of Christmas to work together
for the establishment of justice, freedom and peace everywhere.

We pray for the poor and helpless, the cold,
the hungry and the oppressed;
the sick and those that mourn,
the lonely and the unloved, the aged and the little children;
all those who know not the Lord Jesus,
or who love Him not, or have grieved His heart.

May they know the presence of your Son,
Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name;
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth, as it is in Heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Carol 10

O Come All Ye Faithful (Adeste Fideles)

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;

Refrain

*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.

Refrain

3 See how the shepherds,
summoned to his cradle,
leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly
fear;
we too will thither
bend our joyful footsteps:

Refrain

4 Lo! star-led chieftains,
Magi, Christ adoring,
offer him incense, gold, and myrrh;
we to the Christ child
bring our heart's oblations:

Refrain

5 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?

Refrain

6 Sing, choirs of angels,
sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
glory to God
in the highest:

Refrain

Meter: Irregular and Refrain

O Come All Ye Faithful

Anon

Translator: Frederick Oakeley (1802 – 1880)

ADESTE FIDELES

John Francis Wade (1711 – 1786)

Music and Lyrics Copyright Public Domain

Christmas Morning only
[7 Yea, Lord, we greet Thee,
Born this happy morning;
Jesu, to Thee be glory given;
Word of the Father,
Now in flesh appearing.

Refrain]

1. Adeste fideles, læti, triumphantes,
Venite, venite in Bethlehem.
Natum videte Regem angelorum.
Venite adoremus, Venite adoremus,
Venite adoremus, Dominum.

2. Deum de Deo, Lumen de Lumine,
Gestant puellae viscera,
Deum verum, Genitum non factum.
Venite adoremus, Venite adoremus,
Venite adoremus, Dominum.

3. Cantet nunc "Io!" chorus angelorum;
Cantet nunc aula caelestium:
"Gloria in excelsis Deo!"
Venite adoremus, Venite adoremus,
Venite adoremus, Dominum.

[4. Ergo qui natus Die hodierna,
Iesu tibi sit gloria!
Patris aeterni Verbum caro factum.
Venite adoremus, Venite adoremus,
Venite adoremus, Dominum.]

5. En grege relicto, humiles ad cunas
Vocati pastores appropriant;
Et nos ovanti gradu festinemus;
Venite adoremus, Venite adoremus,
Venite adoremus, Dominum.

6. Stella duce, Magi, Christum adorantes,
Aurum, thus et myrrham dant munera.
Iesu infanti corda praebeamus;
Venite adoremus, Venite adoremus,
Venite adoremus, Dominum.

7. Pro nobis erenum et foeno cubantem,
Piis foveamus amplexibus.
Sic nos amantem quis non redamaret?
Venite adoremus, Venite adoremus,
Venite adoremus, Dominum.

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Closing Prayer, the Collect and Blessing

Father in Heaven,
who sent your Son to redeem the world
and will send Him again to be our judge:
give us grace so to imitate Him in the humility and purity
of His first coming that,
when He comes again we may be ready to greet Him
with joyful love and firm faith.

**O Lord, kindle in us the fire of your spirit
that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again
we may shine as lights before His face. Amen.**

The Collect

The Lord be with you.
And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.
Almighty God,
who hast given us thy only-begotten Son
to take our nature upon him,
and as at this time to be born of a pure Virgin:
Grant that we being regenerate,
and made thy children by adoption and grace,
may daily be renewed by thy Holy Spirit;
through the same our Lord Jesus Christ,
who liveth and reigneth with thee
and the same Spirit,
ever one God, world without end. **Amen.**

May the joy of the angels,
the eagerness of the shepherds,
the perseverance of the wise men,
and the obedience of Joseph and Mary,
be yours this Christmas;
May he who by his Incarnation gathered into one
things earthly and heavenly,
grant you the fullness of inward peace and goodwill;
and the (✠)blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always.

Amen.

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Opening Voluntary

LUIÑNEACH

a traditional Irish melody by an unknown composer.

Arrangement © 2016 Richard M S Irwin

Melody in Public Domain

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Carols

Once in Royal David's City

Cecil Frances Alexander (1818 – 1895)

IRBY

Henry John Gauntlett (1805 – 1876)

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Trumpet descant – arranger: Richard M S Irwin

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It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

Edmund Hamilton Sears (1810 – 1876)

NOEL

Composer unknown

Arranger: Arthur Seymour Sullivan (1842 – 1900)

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O Little Town of Bethlehem

Phillips Brooks (1835 – 1893)

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FOREST GREEN with Descant

Composer unknown, based upon the ballad The Ploughboy's Dream

Arranged by Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872 – 1958)

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The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came

Sabine Baring-Gould (1834 – 1924)

Public Domain

BIRINA GAZTETTOBAT ZEGOEN

Traditional Basque melody

Arranged by © Richard Mark Stephen Irwin (b. 1955).

Melody Public Domain

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Silent Night (Stille Nacht)

Joseph Francis Mohr (1792 – 1848)

Translator: John Freeman Young (1820 – 1885)

STILLE NACHT

Franz Grüber (1787 – 1863)

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Arrangement based on Grüber's original guitar score by Richard Mark Stephen Irwin

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While Shepherds Watched their Flocks by Night

Nahum Tate (1652 – 1715)

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WINCHESTER OLD

Christopher Tye (c.1505 – c.1573)

from Thomas Este's Psalter (1592)

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Away in a Manger

William James Kirkpatrick (1838 – 1921)

Public Domain

CRADLE SONG

William James Kirkpatrick (1838 – 1921)

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Performance © Kevin Mayhew. No Organist? No problem! [CD1]

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We Three Kings

John Henry Hopkins (1820 – 1891)

KINGS OF ORIENT

John Henry Hopkins (1820 – 1891)

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The First Nowell

William Sandy (1792 – 1874)

THE FIRST NOWELL

Traditional English melody
Arranger: John Stainer (1840 – 1901)

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O Come All Ye Faithful

Anon

Translator: Frederick Oakeley (1802 – 1880)

ADESTE FIDELES

John Francis Wade (1711 – 1786)

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Closing Voluntary

PERSONENT HODIE (Theodoric)

Composer Unknown
Published in Piae Cantiones (1582)

Arranger: Richard Mark Stephen Irwin
Performance © 2008 Richard M S Irwin
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Personent hodie
voces puerulae,
laudantes iucunde
qui nobis est natus,
summo Deo datus,
et de virgineo ventre procreatus.

In mundo nascitur,
pannis involvitur
praesepi ponitur
stabulo brutorum,
rector supernorum.
perdidit spolia princeps infernorum.

Magi tres venerunt,
parvulum inquirunt,
Bethlehem adeunt,
stellulam sequendo,
ipsum adorando,
aurum, thus, et myrrham ei offerendo.

Omnes clericuli,
pariter pueri,
cantent ut angeli:
advenisti mundo,
laudes tibi fundo.
ideo gloria in excelsis Deo.

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**Peace and Joy and Blessings of
this Christmastide to one and all.
Happy and Healthy New Year**