

FAMILY CAROL SERVICE 2021

THE GREETING

The Lord be with you

AND ALSO WITH YOU

Christ has brought us out of darkness

TO LIVE IN HIS MARVELLOUS LIGHT

WELCOME

OPENING PRAYER

Dear God, thank you for the fun and excitement of Christmas and the chance to retell the wonderful story of Jesus' birth.

We pray that you would be with us today and open our eyes in new ways to the nativity story.

AMEN

SONG: MARY'S BOY CHILD

**LONG TIME AGO IN BETHLEHEM,
SO THE HOLY BIBLE SAYS
MARY'S BOY CHILD, JESUS CHRIST
WAS BORN ON CHRISTMAS DAY**

**HARK, NOW HEAR THE ANGELS SING,
A NEW KING BORN TODAY
AND MAN WILL LIVE FOR EVERMORE,
BECAUSE OF CHRISTMAS DAY
TRUMPETS SOUND AND ANGELS SING,
LISTEN TO WHAT THEY SAY,
THAT MAN WILL LIVE FOR EVERMORE,
BECAUSE OF CHRISTMAS DAY.**

**AFTER A WHILE THEY FOUND A PLACE
IN A STABLE ALL FORLORN,
AND IN A MANGER COLD AND DARK,
MARY'S LITTLE BOY WAS BORN.**

**HARK, NOW HEAR THE ANGELS SING,
A NEW KING BORN TODAY
AND MAN WILL LIVE FOR EVERMORE,
BECAUSE OF CHRISTMAS DAY
TRUMPETS SOUND AND ANGELS SING,**

**LISTEN TO WHAT THEY SAY,
THAT MAN WILL LIVE FOR EVERMORE,
BECAUSE OF CHRISTMAS DAY.
BECAUSE OF CHRISTMAS DAY.**

PRAYER TO SAY SORRY

**FATHER GOD, WE ARE SORRY FOR THE THINGS WE DO AND SAY AND THINK,
WHICH MAKE YOU SAD, AND FOR NOT THINKING OF OTHERS BEFORE
OURSELVES.
PLEASE FORGIVE US AND HELP US TO LOVE YOU AND OTHER PEOPLE MORE
AND MORE.
AMEN.**

PRAYER OF FORGIVENESS

May God who loved the World so much
that he sent His Son to be our Saviour.
Forgive us and make us holy to serve Him in the World,
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.
AMEN

A PRAYER OF HOPE

Lord Jesus,
We freely admit our weakness and failure but our eyes are fixed on you.
Thank you that, in a world full of despair,
You are our Hope.
In a world full of darkness
You are our Light.
In a world of sorrow
You are our Joy.
Help us to share the Hope of our hearts with one another.
Enable us through the work of your Holy Spirit among us to give Hope to
others.
AMEN

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

Jesus Christ is the Light of the World:
A LIGHT NO DARKNESS CAN QUENCH.
The shepherds kept watch by night,
AND YOUR GLORY SHONE ROUND ABOUT THEM.

The darkness is not dark to You,
THE NIGHT IS AS BRIGHT AS THE DAY
Let Your light scatter the darkness
AND FILL YOUR CHURCH WITH YOUR GLORY

SONG: LITTLE DONKEY

**LITTLE DONKEY, LITTLE DONKEY
ON THE DUSTY ROAD
GOT TO KEEP N PLODDING ONWARDS
WITH YOUR PRECIOUS LOAD.**

**BEEN A LONG TIME, LITTLE DONKEY,
THROUGH THE WINTER'S NIGHT
DON'T GIVE UP NOW, LITTLE DONKEY,
BETHLEHEM'S IN SIGHT**

**RING OUT THOSE BELLS TONIGHT
BETHLEHEM, BETHLEHEM
FOLLOW THAT STAR TONIGHT
BETHLEHEM, BETHLEHEM.**

**LITTLE DONKEY, LITTLE DONKEY,
HAD A HEAVY DAY
LITTLE DONKEY, CARRY MARY
SAFELY ON HER WAY.**

**LITTLE DONKEY, LITTLE DONKEY,
JOURNEY'S END IS NEAR
THERE ARE WISE MEN WAITING FOR A
SIGN TO BRING THEM HERE.**

**DO NOT FALTER LITTLE DONKEY,
THERE'S A STAR AHEAD
IT WILL GUIDE YOU, LITTLE DONKEY
TO A CATTLE SHED.**

**RING OUT THOSE BELLS TONIGHT
BETHLEHEM, BETHLEHEM
FOLLOW THAT STAR TONIGHT
BETHLEHEM, BETHLEHEM.**

LITTLE DONKEY, LITTLE DONKEY,
HAD A HEAVY DAY
LITTLE DONKEY, CARRY MARY
SAFELY ON HER WAY.

LITTLE DONKEY, CARRY MARY
SAFELY ON HER WAY.

STORY: TONIGHT IN THE PALACE

CAROL: AWAY IN A MANGER

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.

THE CATTLE ARE LOWING
THE POOR BABY WAKES
BUT LITTLE LORD JESUS
NO CRYING HE MAKES
I LOVE THEE, LORD JESUS
LOOK DOWN FORM THE SKY
AND STAY BY MY SIDE,
'TIL MORNING IS NIGH.

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 TAKE US TO HEAVEN
TO LIVE WITH THEE THERE.

PRAYER FOR OTHERS

Jesus, the Light of the World,
As we celebrate your birth,
May we begin to see the world in the light of

Understanding you give us.
As you chose the lowly, the outcasts and the poor
To receive the greatest news the world had known,
So may we worship You in meekness of heart.
May we also remember our sisters and brothers
less fortunate than ourselves in this season of giving.
AMEN

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray;

**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 TEMPATATION
BUT DELIVER US FROM EVEIL.
FOR THINE IS THE KINGDOM, THE POWER
AND THE GLORY ARE YOURS
NOW AND FOR EVER.
AMEN.**

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,...

**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,...

CLOSING PRAYER

May the joy of the angels,
The gladness of the shepherds,
The perseverance of the wise men
The love of Mary and Joseph,
And the peace of the Christ child
be ours and for all whom we love,
this Christmastide and beyond.

AMEN

FINAL PIECE: CAROL OF THE BELLS

Performed by Daniel King Smith