



BRITAIN'S NEWS CHANNEL

Presents

Carols by Candlelight

4pm

Saturday 13th December 2025

With thanks to Fr. Henry Everett SSC
and Saint George's Bickley Parish Church

All Stand

Carol

Once in Royal David's City

Mrs C. F. Alexander (1818-95)

Solo:

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.

All:

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

Day by day like us he grew,
He was little, weak, and helpless,
Tears and smiles like us he knew:
And he feelth for our sadness,
And he shareth in 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.

Not in that poor lowly stable,
With the oxen standing by,
We shall we see him: but in heaven,
Set at God's right hand on high,
Where like stars his children crowned,
All in white shall wait around.

All Sit

Bidding Prayer

Led by Fr. Henry Everett

All:

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,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

First Lesson
Genesis 3: 8-19

All Stand

Carol
In the Bleak Midwinter
Christina Rossetti (1830-94)

All:

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;
Heaven 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
Thronged 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.

All Sit

Second Lesson

Isaiah 9: 2, 6-7

All Stand

Carol

Ding Dong, Merrily on High

George Ratcliffe Woodward (1848-1934)

All:

Ding dong, merrily on high!
In heav'n the bells are ringing;
Ding dong, verily the sky
Is riv'n with angel singing.
Gloria, hosanna in excelsis!
Gloria, hosanna in excelsis!

E'en so here below, below,
Let steeple bells be swungen,
And io, io, io,
By priest and people sungen.
Gloria, hosanna in excelsis!
Gloria, hosanna in excelsis!

Pray ye dutifully prime
Your matin chime, ye ringers;
May ye beautifully rhyme
Your evetime song, ye singers.
Gloria, hosanna in excelsis!
Gloria, hosanna in excelsis!

All Sit

Third Lesson

Isaiah 11: 1-9

All Stand

Carol

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Bishop Phillips Brooks (1835-93)

All:

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 to-night.

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

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.



All Sit

Address

by the Revd Chris Tufnell



Remain Seated

Fourth Lesson

Luke 1: 26-38



Remain Seated

Carol

O, Holy Night

Placide Cappeau (1808-77) tr JS Dwight (1813-93)

Choir only:

O holy night, the stars are brightly shining,
It is the night of the dear Saviour's birth;
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,
‘Till he appeared and the soul felt its worth.
A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices,
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn;
Fall on your knees, O hear the angel voices!
O night divine! O night when Christ was born.
O night, O holy night, O night divine.

Led by the light of Faith serenely beaming;
With glowing hearts by his cradle we stand:
So, led by light of a star sweetly gleaming,
Here come the wise men from Orient land,
The King of Kings lay thus in lowly manger,
In all our trials born to be our friend;
He knows our need, To our weakness no stranger!
Behold your King! Before Him lowly bend!
Behold your King! your King! before him bend!

Truly He taught us to love one another;
His law is Love and His gospel is Peace;
Chains shall he break, for the slave is our brother,
And in his name all oppression shall cease,
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we;
Let all within us praise his Holy name!
Christ is the Lord, then ever! ever praise we!
His pow’r and glory, evermore proclaim!
His pow’r and glory, evermore proclaim!

Remain Seated

Fifth Lesson

Luke 2: 1-7

All Stand

Carol
Silent Night

Joseph Mohr (1792-1848) tr JF Young (1820-85)

All:

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.

Silent night, holy night.
Shepherds quake at the sight,
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heav'nly hosts sings alleluia:
Christ, the Saviour is born,
Christ, the Saviour is born.

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.



All Sit

Sixth Lesson
Luke 2: 8-20

All Stand

Carol

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Latin 18th century tr F Oakley (1802-80) et al.

All:

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:

Sing, choirs of Angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
Glory to God
In the Highest:



Remain Standing

Seventh Lesson

John 1: 1-14



Remain Standing

The Blessing

by Fr. Henry Everett

Carol

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

C Wesley (1707-88) et al.

All:

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 host proclaim,
Christ is born in Bethlehem:

*Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King.*

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:

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:

May your Christmas be filled with love and joy.
From your GB News Family.

