

# ST PETER'S CHURCH

## LUTTON PLACE, EDINBURGH

The Diocese of Edinburgh • The Scottish Episcopal  
Church • The Anglican Communion



# Christmas Carol Service

Readings and Carols

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> December, 2021, 6.30pm

# **A warm welcome to our Christmas Carol Service!**

Due to the recent alarming increase in the  
Omicron variant of Covid-19,  
this Carol Service is now on YouTube.

*There would have been a retiring collection for our  
2021 Christmas Charity,  
'The Woodland Trust, Couldoran Appeal'.  
Details of how to give can be found through our website:  
<http://stpetersedinburgh.org.uk>  
Thank you!*

CCL Licence 43554 St Peter's Church

Organ Voluntary

*In dulci jubilo*, BuxWV 197

Buxtehude (1637-1707)

## Congregational Hymn

Once in Royal David's City

NEH 34, vv. 1, 2, 3 & 5

- Solo 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.
- All 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.
- All 3.** 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 feeleth for our sadness,  
And he shareth in our gladness.
- All 5.** 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.

Welcome, Opening Prayer & Lord's Prayer

*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.**

**First Reading**      Isaiah 9: 2, 6 & 7      (Read by John Smith)

*Christ's birth and kingdom are foretold by Isaiah.*

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness - on them light has shined. 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 with righteousness from this time onward and for evermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

**Carol:** *There is no rose of such virtue* John Joubert (1927-2019)

**Congregational Hymn:** O Come, all ye Faithful NEH 30, vv. 1 - 3 & 6

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]*

6. Sing, choirs of Angels,  
Sing in exultation,  
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;  
Glory to God  
In the Highest: *[Refrain]*

**Second Reading** Micah 5: 2 – 5a (Read by Christine Sharp)

*From the lowly and humble in Israel comes a King.*

The Lord says to his people: But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labour has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel.

And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace.

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

**Carol:** *Alleluia! A new work is come on hand* Ghislaine Reece-Trapp

**Third Reading** Luke 1: 26-35 & 38 (Read by Rev Sue Whitehouse)

*The Annunciation of the birth of Jesus*

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.' But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David.

He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I am a virgin?' The angel said to her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called

Son of God. Then Mary said, 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.' Then the angel departed from her.

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

**Congregational Hymn: Away in a Manger**

NEH 22

1. Away in a manger, no crib for a 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 for ever, and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,  
And fit us for heaven, to live with thee there.

**Fourth Reading Luke 2: 1, 3-7** (Read by Catherine Rednall)

*St Luke tells of the birth of Jesus*

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child.

While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

## Congregational Hymn: Silent Night

CAHON 597

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,  
heav'nly 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.

### Fifth Reading      **Luke 2: 8 - 16**

(Read by Liz Hare)

#### *The shepherds go to the manger*

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see – I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and 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 heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!' When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**



**Congregational Hymn: Unto us a boy is born**

NEH 39

1. Unto us a boy is born!  
King of all creation,  
Came he to a world forlorn,  
The Lord of every nation.

2. Cradled in a stall was he  
With sleepy cows and asses;  
But the very beasts could see  
That he all men surpasses.

3. Herod then with fear was filled:  
'A prince,' he said, 'in Jewry!'  
And all the little boys he killed  
At Bethlem in his fury.

4. Now may Mary's son, who came  
So long ago to love us,  
Lead us all with hearts aflame  
Unto the joys above us.

5. Omega and Alpha he!  
Let the organ thunder,  
While the choir with peals of glee  
Doth rend the air asunder.

**Sixth Reading     Matthew 2: 1 - 11     (Read by Rupert Forbes)**

*The wise men are led by the star to Jesus*

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 my 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.

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

**Carol:** *Coventry Carol* trad.

**Reading** John 1: 1 - 14 (Read by Rev Nick Wills)

*St John unfolds the great mystery of the incarnation*

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

**Congregational Hymn:** Hark! The herald angels sing NEH 26, vv. 1–3

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 host 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:

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

**Blessing**

Closing Voluntary *In dulci jubilo*, BWV 729 J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

*Wishing you a very  
Peaceful and Joyful Christmas  
and a Happy New Year.*

*Christmas Services at St Peter's*

- Fri 24<sup>th</sup> Dec Crib Service ♦ 4pm On Zoom**  
**Fri 24<sup>th</sup> Dec Midnight Mass ♦ 11.30pm (In church)**  
**Sat 25<sup>th</sup> Dec Christmas Day Service ♦ 10.45am (In Church)**  
**Sun 26<sup>th</sup> Dec Service of the Word ♦ 10.45am On Zoom**  
**Sun 2<sup>nd</sup> Jan Service of the Word ♦ 10.45am On Zoom**

*(There are NO SERVICES IN CHURCH on  
Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> December or 2<sup>nd</sup> January, 2022.)*

***Please check the Webpage for updates on any last minute  
changes that may be made for the Midnight Mass and  
Christmas Day services, [www.stpetersedinburgh.org.uk](http://www.stpetersedinburgh.org.uk)***

