

# St Stephen's Ealing



Community growing  
in the love of Jesus

**Carol Service**  
**14<sup>th</sup> December 2025**

Welcome to St Stephen's for our service of carols and readings  
in preparation for Christmas.

We are delighted that you are able to join us for our Carol Service as we come  
together to celebrate God's wonderful gift of his Son, Jesus Christ.

Please stand to join in the congregational carols which are indicated in this  
order of service and remain seated for the choir pieces, readings and prayers.

As you leave you are invited to make a financial gift to charity. You can make a  
gift in one of three ways: cash, card or using this QR code.



Your gift will be divided equally between:

**Ealing Churches Winter Night Shelter**  
(providing shelter and support for the homeless in Ealing)

and

**Tearfund**  
(providing aid and support in the developing world).

Remember: if you are a UK Tax Payer you can increase the value of your gift  
by 25% at no extra cost to yourself through Gift Aid. Just complete one of the  
yellow Gift Aid envelopes for cash gifts or complete the details on the  
giving tablet.

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## 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 from God,  
Light from 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 heaven 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!*

Yea, Lord, we greet thee,  
born for our salvation;  
Jesu, to thee be glory given  
Word of the Father now in flesh appearing.

*O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord!*

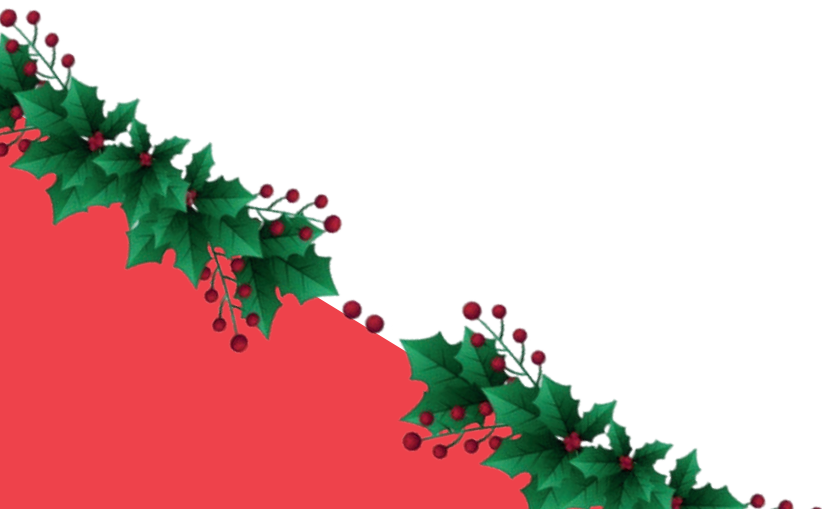
# **Welcome and Introduction**

Revd David Baylor

## **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.

**Choir: Come thou long-expected Jesus**







## **Isaiah 11:1-9**

### **The Branch From Jesse**

A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse;  
from his roots a Branch will bear fruit.  
The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him—  
the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding,  
the Spirit of counsel and of might,  
the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the Lord—  
and he will delight in the fear of the Lord.

He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes,  
or decide by what he hears with his ears;  
but with righteousness he will judge the needy,  
with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth.  
He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth;  
with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked.  
Righteousness will be his belt  
and faithfulness the sash around his waist.

The wolf will live with the lamb,  
the leopard will lie down with the goat,  
the calf and the lion and the yearling together;  
and a little child will lead them.  
The cow will feed with the bear,  
their young will lie down together,  
and the lion will eat straw like the ox.  
The infant will play near the cobra's den,  
and the young child will put its hand into the viper's nest.  
They will neither harm nor destroy  
on all my holy mountain,  
for the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the Lord  
as the waters cover the sea.

## It came upon the midnight clear

It came upon the midnight clear,  
That glorious song of old,  
From angels bending near the earth  
To touch their harps of gold!  
"Through all the earth, good will and peace,  
From heaven's all-gracious King!"  
The world in solemn stillness lay  
To hear the angels sing.


With sorrow brought by sin and strife  
The world has suffered long;  
and, since the angels sang, have passed  
Two thousand years of wrong;  
the nations, still at war, hear not  
The love song which they bring:  
O hush the noise, and cease the strife,  
To hear the angels sing.

And those whose journey now is hard,  
Whose hope is burning low,  
Who tread the rocky path of life  
With painful steps and slow:  
O listen to the news of love  
Which makes the heavens ring!  
O rest beside the weary road  
And hear the angels sing.

And still the days are hastening on,  
By prophet seen of old,  
Towards the fullness of the time  
When comes the age foretold;  
Then earth and heaven renewed shall see  
The prince of peace, their King;  
And the whole world repeat the song  
Which now the angels sing.

Words: EH Sears in this version The Jubilate Group.





## **Luke 1:26-38**

### **The birth of Jesus foretold**

In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favoured! The Lord is with you."

Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favour with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end."

"How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?"

The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month. For no word from God will ever fail."

"I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May your word to me be fulfilled." Then the angel left her.

**Choir: Love came down at Christmas**

## 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 thy dark streets shineth  
The everlasting light;  
The hopes and fears of all the years  
Are met in thee tonight.

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.

Words: Bishop Phillips Brooks,

Music: R. Vaughn Williams



## **Luke 2:1-7**

### **The birth of Jesus**

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) And everyone went to their own town to register.

So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

### **Joy has dawned upon the world**

Joy has dawned upon the world,  
promised from creation:  
God's salvation now unfurled,  
hope for every nation.  
Not with fanfares from above,  
not with scenes of glory,  
but a humble gift of love:  
Jesus, born of Mary.

Sounds of wonder fill the sky  
with the songs of angels,  
as the mighty Prince of Life  
shelters in a stable.  
Hands that set each star in place  
shaped the earth in darkness,  
cling now to a mother's breast,  
vulnerable and helpless.

Shepherds bow before the Lamb,  
gazing at the glory;  
gifts of men from distant lands  
prophesy the story.  
Gold, a King is born today,  
incense, God is with us,  
myrrh, his death will make a way,  
and by his blood he'll win us.

Son of Adam, Son of heaven,  
given as a ransom,  
reconciling God and man,  
Christ our mighty Champion!  
What a Saviour, what a Friend,  
what a glorious mystery:  
once a babe in Bethlehem,  
now the Lord of history!

Words and music: Stuart Townend and Keith Getty

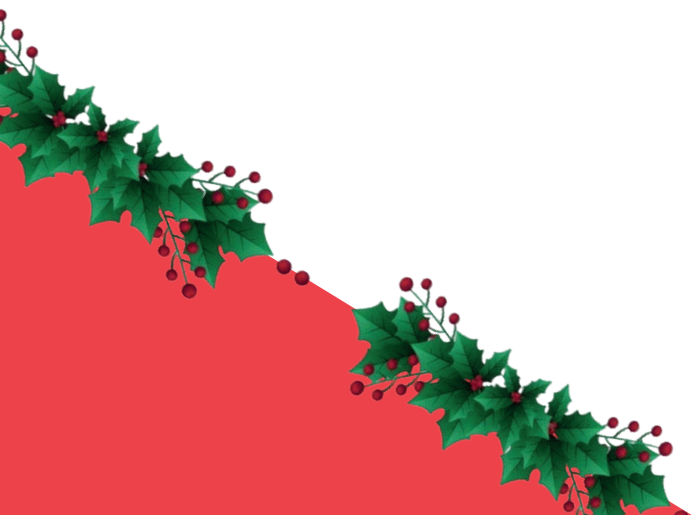
## Angels from the realms of glory

*Come and worship  
Christ, the new-born king;  
come and worship,  
worship Christ the new-born king.*

Angels from the realms of glory,  
wing your flight through all the earth;  
heralds of creation's story  
now proclaim Messiah's birth!  
*Come and worship...*

Though an infant now we view him,  
he will share his Father's throne,  
gather all the nations to him;  
every knee shall then bow down:  
*Come and worship...*

Words: J Montgomery in this version The Jubilate Group.  
Music: French traditional melody arranged David Peacock





## **Luke 2:8-20**

### **The shepherds visit Jesus**

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favour rests."

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

**Choir: Star carol**

## **Matthew 2:1-12**

### **The Magi visit the Messiah**

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him."

When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. "In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "for this is what the prophet has written:

"But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;  
for out of you will come a ruler  
who will shepherd my people Israel."

Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him."

After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.





## The First Noel

The First Noel 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.

*Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,  
Born is the King of Israel.*

They looked 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.

*Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, ...*

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.

*Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, ...*

This star drew nigh to the northwest,  
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest,  
And there it did both stop and stay  
Right over the place where Jesus lay.

*Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, ...*

Then entered in those Wise men three  
Full reverently upon their knee  
And offered there in His presence  
Their gold and myrrh and frankincense.

*Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, ...*

Then let us all with one accord  
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord  
That hath made Heaven and earth of nought  
And with his blood mankind has bought.

*Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, ...*



**Address**  
**Revd David Baylor**

**Choir: Nativity Carol**

**Prayers of Intercession**





## **Hark! the herald angels sing**

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

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.

Words: C. Wesley and others

## **Blessing and Dismissal**

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