

All Saints Church Parish of Staplehurst  
Sunday 20 December 2020

**A SERVICE  
OF  
NINE LESSONS & CAROLS**



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streamed live via Zoom

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<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/8365783814>

Meeting ID: 836 578 3814

Password 424158

## OPENING CAROL

### First verse 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.

### Second verse choir only

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 meek and lowly,  
lived on earth our Saviour holy.

### All

And through all  
His wondrous childhood,  
He would honour and obey,  
love and watch the lowly mother,  
in whose gentle arms He lay.  
Christian children all must be,  
mild, obedient, good as He.

For He is our child-hood's pattern,  
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.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I would like to thank all who have helped to organise this service.  
I am very grateful to the Choir, the Readers, the production sound team who have made this service possible

If you would like to join the adult choir, please contact us.

### FOR ANY FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

**Rector:** Revd. Silke Tetzlaff 01580 891 258 (Day off ~ Monday)

**Administrator:** Julia Page 01580 891 258

### Parish Office Opening Times per telephone and e-mail only:

**Tuesday 11.00-13.00 + Wednesday 11.00-13.00.**

Please put correspondence into the Green Office Post box.

For notices to be received via e-mail or for your notices to be announced, please email the Parish Office [allsaintsstaplehurst@enterprise.net](mailto:allsaintsstaplehurst@enterprise.net) by 10.00am Thursday

### DONATIONS

**Our Church costs £2400 per week to run.**

[www.allsaintsstaplehurst.co.uk](http://www.allsaintsstaplehurst.co.uk)

If you wish to make a donation to All Saints Church, you can do so by **One off Donations** or by Standing **Order**,

All **cheques** are payable to '**All Saints Church PCC**'.

**Text** 'giveALL 5' to 70085 to donate £5. This costs £5 plus a standard rate message.

Alternatively, you can give any whole amount from £1 to £20. Thanks!

You can also now register with the following link

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/allsaintschurchstaplehurst/>



Scan the **QR Code** with your mobile and follow the instructions to donate via a credit or debit card.

Thank you for your support!

Sing choirs of angels  
Sing in exultation  
O 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**

### **COLLECT FOR CHRISTMAS DAY**

### **FINAL BLESSING**



On behalf of All Saints Church, I would like to wish you all  
a peaceful & blessed Christmas.

*Yours Silke*

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 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 AND INTRODUCTION**

### **BIDDING PRAYER**

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

### **CHRISTMAS NIGHT COLLECT**

### **LESSON 1: Genesis 3: 8-14**

*'God tells sinful Adam he has lost the life of Paradise'*

Read by Andrew Brady  
Friends of All Saints Church, Chair

**CHOIR:** 'Torches' by Jean Joubert

**LESSON 2:** Genesis 22

*'God promises to faithful Abraham that in his seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed.'*

Read by Audrey Bullock  
All Saints Church Representative

**CAROL:**

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 star, together  
Proclaim the holy birth,  
And praises sing to God the King,  
And peace to all the earth.  
For Christ is born of Mary;  
and gathered all above,  
while mortals sleep, the angels keep  
their watch of wond'ring love.

How silently, how silently,  
the wondrous gift is giv'n!  
So God imparts to human hearts  
the blessings of his heav'n.  
No ear may hear his coming:  
but in this world of sin,  
where meek souls will receive him still,  
the dear Christ enters in.

**A CHRISTMAS PRAYER**

by Robert Louis Stevenson

Read by Charlotte Voules, Roman Catholic Church

O God, our loving Father, help us  
Rightly to remember the birth of Jesus,  
That we may share in the song of the  
Angels, the gladness of the shepherds  
And the worship of the wise men.

Close the door of hate and open the  
Door of love all over the world.  
Deliver us from evil by the blessing  
That Christ brings, and teach us  
To be merry with clear hearts.

May the Christmas morning make us happy  
To be thy children and the Christmas  
Evening bring us to our beds with  
Grateful thoughts, forgiving, and  
Forgiven, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

**CAROL:**

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 Gods  
Light of light  
Lo he abhors not the virgin's womb;  
Very God  
Begotten not created:

**Refrain:**

**CAROL:**

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 Son of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all He brings,  
Risen with healing in His wings  
Mild He lays His glory by,  
Born that we 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.*

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

**LESSON 3:** Isaiah 9

*'The prophet Micah foretells the coming of the Saviour'*

Read by John Swannick  
Staplehurst Tennis & Cricket Club

**CHOIR:** 'Do You Hear What I Hear?'  
lyrics by Noël Regney and music by Gloria Shayne.

**LESSON 4:** Isaiah 11

*'The Peace that Christ will bring is foreshown'*

Read by Roy Barclay  
All Saints Church Bell Ringers

**CHOIR** 'Star Carol' by John Rutter

**LESSON 5:** Luke 1

*'The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary'*

Read by John Perry  
Ward Member for Staplehurst at Maidstone Borough Council

**LESSON 6:** Luke 2

*'St. Luke tells of the birth of Jesus'*

Read by Tom Burnham  
Staplehurst Churches Together

**CAROL:**

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.

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.

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.

**LESSON 7:** Luke 2

*'The Shepherds go to the manger'*

Read by Louise Brice  
Ward Member for Staplehurst at Maidstone Borough Council

**CAROL:**

While shepherds watched  
Their flocks by night  
All seated on the ground  
The angel of the Lord came down  
And glory shone around

"Fear not," said he,  
for mighty dread  
Had seized their troubled minds,  
"Glad tidings of great joy I bring  
To you and all mankind,

'To you in David's town this day  
Is born of David's line  
The Savior who is Christ the Lord  
And this shall be the sign.'

'The heavenly Babe you there shall find  
To human view displayed  
And meanly wrapped in swathing bands,  
And in a manger laid.'

Thus spake the seraph, and forthwith  
Appeared a shining throng  
Of angels praising God, who thus  
Addressed their joyful song:

'All glory be to God on high,  
And to the earth be peace;  
Goodwill henceforth from heaven to men  
Begin and never cease.'

**LESSON 8:** Matthew 2

*'The wise men are led by a star to Jesus'*  
Read by Timothy Mumford  
Freeman of the City of London

**SOLO SINGER:** 'I Wonder'

Sung by Gerald Finley  
Accompanied by Stevie Higgins

**LESSON 9:** John 1

*'St. John unfolds the mystery of the Incarnation'*

Read by Joanne Holmes  
Deputy Lieutenant of Kent