

## **Carol service December 2020**

### **Carol: My soul in stillness waits**

*R/ For you, O Lord, my soul in stillness waits; truly my hope is in you.*

O Lord of Light, our only hope of glory,  
your radiance shines in all who look to you,  
come, light the hearts of all in dark and shadow. **R/**

O Spring of Joy, rain down upon our spirits,  
our thirsty hearts are yearning for your Word,  
come, make us whole, be comfort to our hearts. **R/**

O Root of Life, implant your seed within us,  
and in your advent, draw us all to you,  
our hope reborn in dying and in rising. **R/**

### **Welcome and Opening Prayer**

We pray together

We pray Lord in the midst of the Covid darkness that you bring us light to guide our way. May this holy Advent season bring joy to our hearts, a joy the world cannot give; a joy to uplift us when our spirits feel low; a joy to refresh us when our life feels weary; a joy to sustain us when our days feel empty, the joy of knowing that the Lord is with us this Christmas and always. Amen.

### **① Luke 1. 26-38**

### **The Annunciation to Mary**

#### ***Prayer response***

We pray Lord for your light to lead us from the darkness. Let us reflect Mary's trust in you and say yes to you, whatever you ask of us. Amen.

### **Carol: The angel Gabriel from heaven came**

The angel Gabriel from heaven came,  
his wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame;  
"All hail," said he, "thou lowly maiden Mary,  
most highly favoured lady," Gloria!

"For know a blessed Mother thou shalt be,  
all generations laud and honour thee,  
thy Son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold,  
most highly favoured lady," Gloria!

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head,  
"To me be as it pleaseth God," she said,  
"my soul shall laud and magnify his holy Name."  
Most highly favoured lady, Gloria!

**② Luke 1. 39-45                      The Visitation**

***Prayer response***

We pray Lord for your light to lead us from the darkness. Let us be filled with the Holy Spirit as we prepare for your coming.

**Carol: Long ago, prophets knew**

Long ago, prophets knew  
Christ would come, born a Jew,  
come to make all things new;  
bear his people's burden,  
freely love and pardon.

*Refrain:*

*Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring!*  
*Sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!*  
*When he comes,*  
*when he comes,*  
*who will make him welcome?*

Mary hail! Though afraid,  
she believed, she obeyed.  
In her womb, God is laid:  
till the time expected,  
nurtured and protected, *Refrain*

**③ Matthew 1.18-24 & Luke 2:4-5 The Annunciation to Joseph and Journey**

***Prayer response***

We pray Lord for your light to lead us from the darkness. Help us to not be afraid of the future and to be guided by you always.

**Carol: Good Christians all, rejoice**

Good Christians all, rejoice  
with heart, and soul, and voice!  
Now ye hear of endless bliss,  
Jesus Christ was born for this;  
He hath heaven's door  
and we are blest for evermore.  
Christ was born for this!  
Christ was born for this!

Good Christians all, rejoice  
with heart, and soul, and voice!  
Now ye need not fear the grave;  
Jesus Christ was born to save,  
Calls you one and calls you all,  
to gain his everlasting hall.  
Christ was born to save!  
Christ was born to save!

***Prayer response***

We pray Lord for your light to lead us from the darkness. We welcome you Lord into our hearts and lives. Let us never be 'too full' to welcome those whom you love and direct to us.

**Carol: Silent night, holy night**

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

Heavenly hosts sing 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 dawn of redeeming grace,

Jesus Lord, at Thy birth

Jesus Lord, at Thy birth

**Carol: 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!

***Prayer response***

We pray Lord for your light to lead us from the darkness. We praise you with the angels Lord and ask for your peace on earth and an end to the pandemic

## **Carol: Gaudete**

Gaudete, gaudete, Christus est natus  
Ex Maria virgine. Gaudete (X 2)

Nature marvels at the sight,  
angels sing the glory  
God becomes a little child  
Shepherds tell the story  
Gaudete, gaudete, Christus est natus  
Ex Maria virgine. Gaudete (X 2)

Hail Mary, ever blest  
Mother of the promise.  
By your word the Word –made- flesh  
Came to dwell among us  
Gaudete, gaudete, Christus est natus  
Ex Maria virgine. Gaudete (X 2)

With the wise men from the East  
With the stars of heaven  
With the shepherd and the sheep  
Come, let us adore him  
Gaudete, gaudete, Christus est natus  
Ex Maria virgine. Gaudete (X 2)

Now is born Emmanuel  
Now is come salvation  
Sing we all noel noel  
Sing in exultation  
Gaudete, gaudete, Christus est natus  
Ex Maria virgine. Gaudete (X 2)

## **⑦ Matthew 2. 9-12**

## **The Wise Men**

### ***Prayer response***

We pray Lord for your light to lead us from the darkness. We worship you Lord and offer our gifts and talents for your greater glory.

### **Carol: The First 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  
Born is the King of Israel!

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  
Born is the King of Israel!

### **Carol: Joy to the World**

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare Him room,  
And Heaven and nature sing,  
And Heaven and nature sing,  
And Heaven, and Heaven, and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Saviour reigns!  
Let men their songs employ;  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and  
plains  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy

He rules the world with truth and grace,  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of His righteousness,  
And wonders of His love,  
And wonders of His love,  
And wonders, wonders, of His love.