

**Order of Service for our Christmas Day All Age Celebration –
Wednesday 25th December 2024 at 10:00am**

**David Rue is leading our service this morning
and Tom Watts is speaking**

Welcome

Opening Song: ‘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.

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 man no more may die;
Born to raise the sons of earth;
Born to give them second birth.

Charles Wesley, T Whitefield, M Madam & others altd

Christmas Quiz: Tom Watts

Song: 'Joy has dawned'

JOY HAS DAWNED UPON THE WORLD

Promised from creation
God's salvation now unfurled
Hope for ev'ry 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
Prophecy the story
Gold a King is born today
Incense God is with us
Myrrh His death will make a way
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 Savior what a Friend
What a glorious mystery
Once a babe in Bethlehem
Now the Lord of history

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Keith Getty | Stuart Townend
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Confession:

We confess that in all the joys and festivities of this season we have sometimes forgotten what Christmas really means, and have left the Lord Jesus out of our thinking and living:

ALL: Father, forgive us.

Help us to remember that you loved the world so much that you gave your only Son, who was born to be our Saviour.

ALL: Lord, help us.

We confess that we have allowed the most important event in history to become dulled by familiarity:

ALL: Father, forgive us.

Help us in this act of worship to recapture a sense of wonder, and to discover again the stupendous fact that the Creator of the universe has come to us as a newborn baby:

ALL: Lord, help us.

We confess to a selfish enjoyment of Christmas while we do little To help those suffering in your world.

ALL: Father, forgive us.

**ALL: Fill our hearts with the love that cares,
That understands and gives;
Show us how we can best serve those in need;
For the sake of him who was laid in a manger,
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Prayers

Reading: Matthew 1:18-25 on page 965 (Kerry Jones)

Song: 'The King of Christmas'

LET THE CHRISTMAS TREE REMIND YOU

Of the one who trusts the Lord
Who walks the path of godliness
And loves to hear God's word
Pray that as you grow up
That's just how you will be
Standing tall for Jesus
Like the Christmas tree

*Let your love show ho ho
Let your faith grow ho ho
That everyone will know
Christ the King of Christmas*

Well let the fairy lights remind you
Of that bright and shining star
Spotted by the wise men
Who travelled from afar
They gave Jesus all their treasures
And then they worshiped Him that night
Let your worship of King Jesus
Shine like fairy lights

Well let the candy cane remind you
Of God's amazing grace
Red the blood of Jesus
As He suffered in our place
White the full forgiveness
Won as Jesus rose again
You can tell your friends the gospel
With a candy cane

Well let all the gifts at Christmas time
Fill your heart with praise
To God for all His goodness
Shown in O so many ways
That everyday in every way
We'd be completely His
Give your life to Jesus
As a Christmas gift

CCLI Song # 4829100

Colin Buchanan

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Talk 1

Song: 'God rest you merry, gentlemen'

GOD REST YOU MERRY, GENTLEMEN,

Let nothing you dismay,
For Jesus Christ our Saviour
Was born upon this day,
To save us all from Satan's power
When we were gone astray:

*O tidings of comfort and joy,
Comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy.*

From God our heav'nly Father
A blessed angel came,
And unto certain shepherds
Brought tidings of the same,
How that in Bethlehem was born
The Son of God by name:

The shepherds at those tidings
Rejoiced much in mind,
And left their flocks a-feeding,
In tempest, storm and wind,
And went to Bethlehem straightway
This blessed babe to find:

But when to Bethlehem they came,
Whereat this infant lay,
They found him in a manger,
Where oxen feed on hay;
His mother Mary kneeling,
Unto the Lord did pray:

Now to the Lord sing praises,
All you within the place,
And with true love and brotherhood
Each other now embrace;
This holy tide of Christmas
doth bring redeeming grace

English traditional carol, arranged by D. Willcocks

Talk 2

Song: 'Immanuel'

FROM THE SQUALOR OF A OF A BORROWED STABLE

By the Spirit and a virgin's faith
To the anguish and the shame of scandal
Came the Savior of the human race
But the skies were filled
With the praise of heav'n
Shepherds listen as the angels tell
Of the gift of God come down to man
At the dawning of Immanuel

King of heaven now the friend of sinners
Humble servant in the Father's hands
Filled with power and the Holy Spirit
Filled with mercy for the broken man
Yes He walked my road and He felt my pain
Joys and sorrows that I know so well
Yet His righteous steps give me hope again
I will follow my Immanuel

Through the kisses of a friend's betrayal
He was lifted on a cruel cross
He was punished for a world's transgressions
He was suffering to save the lost
He fights for breath He fights for me
Loosing sinners from the claims of hell
And with a shout our souls are free
Death defeated by Immanuel

Now He's standing in the place of honor
Crowned with glory on the highest throne
Interceding for His own beloved
'Til His Father calls to bring them home
Then the skies will part as the trumpet sounds
Hope of heaven or the fear of hell
But the bride will run to her Lover's arms
Giving glory to Immanuel

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Closing Prayer