

# All Age Christingle Service



## Welcome

The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light. For unto us a child is born; unto us a son is given. His name shall be called: wonderful counsellor, mighty God, everlasting Father, and the prince of peace. *Isaiah 9*

The light shines in the darkness.  
**And the darkness has never put it out.**

## 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,  
Christ the Lord.*

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

*O come...*

Sing Choirs of angels,  
Sing in exultation,  
Sing all ye citizens of heaven above.  
Glory to God  
In the highest:

*O come...*

Yea, Lord, we greet thee,  
Born for our salvation  
Jesus to thee be glory given!  
Word of the Father  
Now in flesh appearing

*O come...*

## **First Reading**

1. At the very beginning of all things, God made the world we know. The earth was dark and empty and a wind swept over the waters. Then God said, 'Let there be light' and the world was filled with light.
2. God separated the day and the night and made the seasons of the year. He created all kinds of plants, the grains and those that bear fruit. He gave them to man and woman for food. But people became disobedient to God. By doing wrong things they turned from light to darkness.

## **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 stars together,  
proclaim the holy birth,  
And praises sing to God the King,  
And peace to all 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.

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

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. 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. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then the 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.

### **Carol**

See him lying on a bed of straw  
A draughty stable with an open door,  
Mary cradling the babe she bore  
The Prince of Glory is his name

*O now carry me to Bethlehem  
To see the Lord appear to men,  
Just as poor as was the stable then,  
The Prince of Glory when he came*

Star of silver sweep across the skies  
Show where Jesus in the manger lies  
Shepherds swiftly from your stupor rise  
To see the saviour of the world

*O now carry me...*

Angels sing again the song you sang  
Bring God's glory to the heart of man  
Sing that Bethl'em's little baby can  
Be salvation to the soul.

*O now carry me...*

### **Third Reading**

1. The true light came into the world yet the world did not recognise Him. But to those who did receive Him and who walked by this light, He gave the right to become God's children.
2. Jesus said, I am the Light of the world. Whoever follows me will have the light of life and will never walk in darkness.

### **The Christingle**

#### **Carol**

The Christingle is made of an orange,  
Which is round like the world God made!

For he showed us his love in creation;  
In the world we see his power displayed

*Sing Christingle! Sing Christingle!  
Sing Christingle, It's the light of Christ.  
Sing Christingle! Sing Christingle!  
Sing Christingle, light of Christ.*

Every year we give thanks for the seasons,  
And the fruits of the earth God gives.  
The Christingle is here to remind us,  
Of the love of God for all that lives.

*Sing Christingle...*

Then to show us his love, God sent Jesus.  
We remember his birth again,  
But the red ribbon round the Christingle,  
Shows that our sin cost him blood and pain.

*Sing Christingle...*

To complete the Christingle a candle,  
Shining out with a bright new flame,  
Telling us of the true light of Jesus  
Shining out in those who love his name.

### **The Candles are lit**

Jesus Christ is the Light of the world  
**Jesus Christ the Light of the world**  
**was born on Christmas Day. Alleluia!**

### **Carol**

*First Verse Children Only*  
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.

*All Sing*

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.

*After the Carol the following prayer is used:*

Grant, O Lord, that through these Christingles your Spirit may help us to receive and share both the love and the light which you offer to all in the coming of your Son Jesus Christ into the world.

**Amen**

*The Candles are blown out*

*The Christingle should be lit again on Christmas day to remember that Jesus Christ, the Light of the world, has come into the world.*

### **Prayers of Thanksgiving**

Let us give thanks to God for all that Christmas

means to us; for his great love in giving us Jesus to be born on the first Christmas day to share our life with us

**Thank you, heavenly Father**

For our homes. for comfort and safety and for the love of our family and friends.

**Thank you, heavenly Father**

For the light of the star leading people to Bethlehem and the manger to see Jesus the Light of the world

**Thank you, heavenly Father**

For the worldwide family of your Church, and for our freedom to share the light of your love with others

**Thank you, heavenly Father**

Leader: For the work of all who look after and care for children; for parents and grandparents; and for organisations who reach out to the young who are in need.

**Thank you, heavenly Father. Amen**

### **The Collect Prayer**

Father of lights, from whom comes every good and perfect gift: keep us in the light of Christ, to shine in your world, that all may believe in you through Jesus Christ our Lord Amen.

### **Prayer for the Children's Society**

*Who first brought the Christingle to England*

Heavenly Father, hear our prayer for the work of the Children's Society that it may bring care and the knowledge of your love to children, young people and families, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **Carol (collection for Children's Society)**

Now praise the Father, now praise the Spirit,

Now praise our Saviour, Jesus the Son,

Praise our creator, Praise our redeemer,

Shout Alleluia, sing everyone.

Jesus our Saviour, came from his Father,

Lived here among us, joined in our fun,

Showed how he loved us, died for us gladly;

Shout Alleluia!, sing everyone.

Though the disciples turned away children -

Jesus rebuked them, and he said, "Come",

Put his arms round them, gave us his blessing,

Shout Alleluia, sing everyone.

Light your Christingle, think of the Saviour,  
Born in a stable, how the star shone.  
Jesus is with us. Light in the darkness,  
Shout Alleluia, sing everyone.

Now praise the Father, now praise the Spirit,  
Now praise our Saviour, Jesus the Son,  
Praise our creator, Praise our redeemer,  
Shout Alleluia, sing everyone.

### **The Blessing**

God shines in our hearts

#### **PRAISE TO CHRIST OUR LIGHT**

Christ is the Light of the World

#### **PRAISE TO CHRIST OUR LIGHT**

Go in the power of the Spirit to bright light in the darkness

#### **PRAISE TO CHRIST OUR LIGHT**

*The Priest says the blessing*

### **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 the 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 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