

*Paul introduces the podcast service*

**Angels from the realms of glory,  
wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
ye who sang creation's story  
now proclaim Messiah's birth:  
*Come and worship, Christ the new-born  
King  
come and worship,  
worship Christ the new-born King.***

**Shepherds in the field abiding,  
watching o'er your flocks by night,  
God with us is now residing;  
yonder shines the infant Light:**

**Sages, leave your contemplations;  
brighter visions beam afar;  
seek the great Desire of Nations;  
ye have seen his natal star:**

**Though an infant now we view him,  
he shall fill his Father's throne,  
gather all the nations to him;  
every knee shall now bow down:**

*Words: James Montgomery (1771- 854)*

*Music: French traditional carol*

## ***The Greeting***

I bring you good news of great joy

**A Saviour has been born to us. Alleluia!**

Unto us a child is born

**Unto us a Son is given. Alleluia!**

He is Christ the Lord. Alleluia.

**We worship and adore him. Alleluia!**

Lord Jesus, Light of light,  
you have come Among us.  
Help us who live by your light  
to shine as lights in your world.  
Glory to God in the highest. **Amen.**

A reading from the Gospel of Luke.

Every year the parents of Jesus went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Assuming that he was in the group of travellers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, 'Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety.' He said to them, 'Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?' But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favour.

### *John Rutter – Angel's Carol*

Have you heard the sound of the angel voices  
ringing out so sweetly, ringing out so clear?  
Have you seen the star shining out so brightly  
as a sign from God that Christ the Lord is here?

Have you heard the news that they bring from heaven  
to the humble shepherds who have waited long?  
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!  
Hear the angels sing their joyful song.

He is come in peace in the winter's stillness,  
like a gentle snowfall in the gentle night.  
He is come in joy, like the sun at morning,  
filling all the world with radiance and with light.

He is come in love as the child of Mary.  
In a simple stable we have seen his birth.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!  
Hear the angels singing 'Peace on earth'.

He will bring new light to a world in darkness,  
like a bright star shining in the skies above.  
He will bring new hope to the waiting nations,  
when he comes to reign in purity and love.

Let the earth rejoice at the Saviour's coming.  
Let the heavens answer with a joyful morn:  
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!  
Hear the angels singing, 'christ is born'  
Hear the angels singing, 'christ is born'

## *Meditation on the Bible reading*

### *Prayers of Intercession led by Lynda, and concluding with . . .*

Rejoicing in the presence of God here among us, as  
our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**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.**

## ***The Peace***

Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given, and his name shall be called the Prince of Peace. The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**and also with you.**

If we are able, we offer one another a sign of peace.

## ***Carol***

**See, amid the winter's snow, born  
for us on earth below, see, the  
tender Lamb appears, promised  
from eternal years!**

***Hail, thou ever-blessèd morn!  
Hail, redemption's happy dawn!  
Sing through all Jerusalem:  
Christ is born in Bethlehem!***

**Lo, within a manger lies  
he who built the starry skies,  
he who, throned in heights sublime,  
sits amid the cherubim!**

**Say, ye holy shepherds, say,  
what your joyful news today;  
wherefore have ye left your sheep  
on the lonely mountain steep?**

**'As we watched at dead of night,  
lo, we saw a wondrous light;  
angels, singing "Peace on earth"**

**told us of a Saviour's birth.'**

**Sacred Infant, all divine,  
what a tender love was thine,  
thus to come from highest bliss  
down to such a world as this!**

*Words: Edward Caswall (1814-1878) Music:  
John Goss (1800-1880)*

### ***FINAL PRAYER***

God our Father, whose Word has come among us  
in the Holy Child of Bethlehem:  
may the light of faith illumine our hearts  
and shine in our words and deeds; through him who is Christ the Lord.  
**Amen.**

### ***Blessing***

May the joy of the angels, the eagerness of  
the shepherds, the perseverance of the  
wise men, the obedience of Mary and  
Joseph, and the peace of the Christ-child  
be yours this Christmas; and the blessing  
of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and  
the Holy Spirit, be among you in this holy  
season  
and remain with you always

**Amen.**

### ***Carol***

**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 world, the Saviour reigns!  
Let all 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.**

*Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748)*

*Music: W. Holford's Voce di Melodia c1834*

Go in peace. Proclaim the good news that Christ has come.

**Glory, thanks and praise to God.**

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