



# Christmas Carol Service.

(The Ancient and Accepted Rite; Knight Templars; Red Cross of Constantine;  
in conjunction with the Weston super Mare Lodges, Orders, and Degrees)



All Saints Church  
Weston super Mare

16<sup>th</sup> December 2021

## **Once in Royal David's City**

*(First verse Choir only)*

1. 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.
2. 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 mean, the lowly,  
lived on earth our Savior holy.
3. And, through all his wondrous childhood,  
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.
4. And our eyes at last shall see Him,  
through his own redeeming love;  
for that Child who seemed so helpless  
is our Lord in heaven above;  
and he leads his children on  
to the place where he is gone.
5. 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 Opening Prayer**

*(The Reverend Stuart Boyd, Provincial Grand Chaplain, Mark Master Masons)*

### **An Act of Remembrance**

#### **The Heads of Orders**

### **The Truth from Above**

*Sung by St Cecilia's Choir*

### **First Reading: Isaiah 9.2, 6-7**

*(The prophecy of the Messiah's birth)*

R.W. Bro. David Medlock D.L.,  
Provincial Grand Master, Somerset

### **In the Bleak Mid Winter**

*Sung by St Cecilia's Choir*

### **Second Reading: Isaiah 11: 1 - 4, 6 - 9**

*(The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown).*

R. Ill Comp. Keith Surry, District Grand Master, Royal and Select Masters

## It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

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| <p>1) It came upon the midnight clear<br/>That glorious song of old<br/>From angels bending near the Earth<br/>To touch their harps of gold<br/>Peace on the Earth, goodwill to men<br/>From heaven's all gracious kin<br/>The world in solemn stillness lay<br/>To hear the angels sing.</p> <p>3) O ye beneath life's crushing load<br/>Whose forms are bending low<br/>Who toil along the climbing way<br/>With painful steps and slow<br/>Look now for glad and golden hours<br/>Come swiftly on the wing<br/>O rest beside the weary road<br/>And hear the angels sing</p> | <p>2) Still through the cloven skies they come<br/>With peaceful wings unfurl<br/>And still their heavenly music floats<br/>O'er all the weary world<br/>Above its sad and lowly plains<br/>They bend on hovering wings<br/>And ever o'er its Babel Sounds<br/>The blessed angels sing</p> <p>4) For lo the days are hastening on<br/>By prophets seen of old<br/>When with the ever circling years<br/>Comes round the age of gold<br/>When peace shall over all the earth<br/>Its ancient splendours fling<br/>And the whole world send back the song<br/>Which now the angels sing</p> |
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### **Third Reading: Micha 5:2- 4**

*(A great Ruler shall come from Bethlehem)*

Mrs Vanessa Johnstone-Smith, representing

V. Ill Bro. Ray Johnstone-Smith Inspector General, The Ancient and Accepted Rite

## O Little Town of Bethlehem

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|---|--|
| <p>1. O little town of Bethlehem,<br/>how still we see thee lie!<br/>Above thy deep and dreamless sleep<br/>the silent stars go by;<br/>yet in thy dark streets shineth<br/>the everlasting Light;<br/>the hopes and fears of all the years<br/>are met in thee tonight.</p> <p>3. How silently, how silently<br/>the wondrous gift is given!<br/>So God imparts to human hearts<br/>the blessings of his heaven.<br/>No ear may hear his coming,<br/>but in this world of sin,<br/>where meek souls will receive Him,<br/>still the dear Christ enters in.</p> | <p>2. O morning stars, together<br/>Proclaim the holy birth!<br/>and praises sing to God the King,<br/>and peace to men on earth.<br/>For Christ is born of Mary;<br/>and gathered all above,<br/>while mortals sleep, the angels keep<br/>Their watch of wondering love.</p> <p>4. O holy Child of Bethlehem<br/>Descend to us, we pray;<br/>cast out our sin and enter in,<br/>Be born in us today.<br/>We hear the Christmas angels<br/>the great glad tidings tell;<br/>O come to us, abide with us,<br/>Our Lord, Emmanuel!</p> |
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## **Fourth Reading: Luke 1:26-38**

*(The Annunciation to Mary)*

Rt. Ill. Kt David Palmer Intendant-General  
Red Cross of Constantine, Somerset and Bristol Division

### **While Shepherds watched their flocks by night**

1. While shepherds watched their flocks by night,  
all seated on the ground,  
the angel of the Lord came down,  
and glory shone around.

2. Fear not," said he, for mighty dread  
had seized their troubled mind;  
"Glad tidings of great joy I bring,  
to you and all mankind

3. To you, in David's town, this day  
is born of David's line  
a Savior, who is Christ the Lord;  
and this shall be the sign:

4. The heavenly Babe you there shall find  
to human view displayed,  
all meanly wrapped in swathing bands,  
and in a manger laid."

5. Thus spake the seraph, and forthwith  
appeared a shining throng  
of angels praising God, who thus  
addressed their joyful song:

6. All glory be to God on high  
and on earth be peace;  
good will henceforth from heaven to me  
begin and never cease."

## **Fifth Reading: Luke 2.1-7**

*(The birth of Jesus)*

W. Bro. Tony Guthrie  
Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Mark Master Masons, Somerset

### **God rest ye merry, gentlemen**

1) God rest ye merry, gentlemen,  
Let nothing you dismay,  
Remember Christ our Savior  
Was born on Christmas 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!

3 "Fear not, then," said the angel,  
"Let nothing you affright;  
This day is born a Savior  
Of a pure virgin bright,  
To free all those who trust in him  
From Satan's power and might. "  
O tidings of comfort and joy,  
Comfort and joy,  
O tidings of comfort and joy!

2 From God our heavenly 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.  
O tidings of comfort and joy  
Comfort and joy,  
O tidings of comfort and joy!

4 Now to the Lord sing praises,  
All you within this place,  
And with true love and brotherhood  
Each other now embrace;  
This holy tide of Christmas  
Doth bring redeeming grace  
O tidings of comfort and joy,  
Comfort and joy,  
O tidings of comfort and joy

## **Sixth Reading: Luke 2.8-16**

*(The shepherds go to the manger)*

E. Comp. Clive Lambert

The Deputy Grand Superintendent in Charge, Royal Arch, Somerset

## **Quem Pastores Laudavere (14<sup>th</sup> Century Carol)**

Sung by St Cecilia's Choir.

## **Seventh Reading: Matthew 2.1-11**

*(The visit of the Magi)*

Mrs Carole Davis

Representing R. E. Kt. Barry D. Burridge, Provincial Prior, Knights Templar

## **The First Nowell**

1) The first Nowell the angel did say  
was to certain poor shepherds in fields  
as they lay; in fields as they lay,  
keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's  
night that was so deep  
*Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell*  
*Born is the King of Israel*

2) They looked up and saw a star  
shining in the east beyond them far,  
and to the earth it gave great light,  
and so it continued both day and night  
*Nowell, Nowell Nowell, Nowell,*  
*Born is the King of Israel*

3) 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  
*Nowell, Nowell,, Nowell, Nowell*  
*Born is the King of Israel*

4 This star drew nigh to the northwest  
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest  
And there it did both stop and stay,  
Right over the place where Jesus lay  
*Nowell, Nowell,, Nowell, Nowell*  
*Born is the King of Israel*

5) Then entered in those wise men three  
full reverently upon their knee  
and offered there in his presence  
Both gold and myrrh and frankincense  
*Nowell, Nowell Nowell, Nowell,*  
*Born is the King of Israel*

6) Then let us all with one accord  
sing praises to our heavenly Lord;  
that hath made heaven and earth of nought,  
and with his blood mankind hath bought.  
*Nowell, Nowell Nowell, Nowell*  
*Born is the King of Israel*

## **Eighth Reading: John 1.1-14**

*(The Incarnation of the Word of God)*

Father Andrew Hughes, Priest in Charge, All Saints

## **Adan Lay YBounden (15<sup>th</sup> Century Tune Boris Ord)**

*Sung by St Cecilia's Choir*

## **ADDRESS**

*(The Rev'd Steve Hawkins)*  
Grand High Prelate Red Cross of Constantine

## **PRAYERS**

*(the response is 'Hear our Prayer')*  
(The Rev'd Stuart Boyd)

**Personent Hodie** (German Carol 1360)  
Sung by St Cecilia's Choir.

### **Hark the Herald Angels Sing**

*(During which a collection will be taken)*

1. 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.*

2. 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.*

3. 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.  
*Hark, the herald-angels sing  
glory to the new-born King.*

### **Closing Prayer and Blessing**

(The Rev'd Stuart Boyd)

## **Adeste Fideles**

Sung by St Cecilia's Choir

Leading us into:-

## **O Come All ye Faithful**

1. 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.*

2. God of God  
Light of Light  
lo! He abhors not  
the Virgin's womb;  
Very God,

Begotten not created  
*O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord..*

3. See how the shepherds,  
summoned to His cradle,  
Leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear;  
We too will thither,

Bend our joyful footsteps,  
*O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him  
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord*

4. Lo! Star-led chieftains,  
Magi, Christ adoring,  
Offer Him incense, gold, and myrrh;  
We to the Christ Child  
Bring our hearts' oblations.

*O come let us adore Him, O come let us adore him  
O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord*

5. Child, for us sinners  
Poor and in the manger  
Fain we embrace thee, with love and awe  
who would not love thee,  
loving us so dearly

*O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord*

6. Sing, choirs of angels  
sing in exultation  
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*

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*(After the service please stay to enjoy a glass of wine and a mince pie)*

### **With Thanks to:**

Father Andrew Hughes, Priest in Charge, All Saints Church

W. Bro Richard Kilburn, Provincial Grand Organist

The St. Cecilia Ensemble - which comprises members, family and friends of the St Cecilia Lodge,  
together with their Musical Director: David Smith,