

WELCOME TO THE ANGLICAN PARISH OF

ST GEORGE

EAST IVANHOE, MELBOURNE

CAROLS FOR CHRISTMAS

Children's Service

5PM, FRIDAY 24 DECEMBER 2021



WELCOME

St George's is a community committed to making and sustaining connections: with God, with one another, with the local and wider community, and with the environment. We value liturgical worship, encouraging fellowship and community service. We believe in God - the beauty of transcendent holiness, present in our connectedness; and in caring passionately for all in need. All are welcome in this sacred space.

INTRODUCTION TO THE SEASON

The celebration of Christ's incarnation at Christmas is one of the two poles of the Christian year. The wonderful mystery of God's dwelling among us in the fullness of humanity, as Emmanuel, foretold by the prophets and born of Mary, provides the material of the feast.

Christmas is much more than simply the celebration of Jesus' birth, and neither of the great Christmas morning readings (Hebrews 1 and John 1) is taken from the infancy narratives. The task of the Christmas liturgy is to recall us, amid all the joyful customs and celebrations of Christmas, to this central truth of the Word made flesh for our salvation.

It is, of course, Christ's nativity that has provided the occasion for this festival of the incarnation, since the end of the third century. Christmas carols are a medieval tradition, which has been notably developed from the end of the nineteenth century. The Christmas season is often celebrated for twelve days, ending with the Epiphany.

O COME ALL YE FAITHFUL

ADESTE FIDELIES irregular

Later form of melody probably by
John Francis Wade c. 1711-1786

Adeste, fideles, laeti, triumphantes

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:

Refrain: *O come, let us adore him,*
 O come, let us adore him,
 O come, let us adore him,
 Chirst the Lord!

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?

Refrain

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above,
'Glory to God, glory in the highest';

Refrain

Possibly by John Francis Wade c. 1711-1786
tr. Frederick Oakeley 1802-80,
William Mercer 1811-73 and others

THE FIRST NOWELL

THE FIRST NOWELL irregular

English traditional melody
Harmony from
David Evans 1874-1948

The first Nowell the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay,
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

*Refrain: Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell,
 born is the king of Israel.*

When they looked up they 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.

Refrain

This star drew nigh to the north-west;
over Bethlehem it took its rest,
and there it did both stop and stay
right over the place where Jesus lay.

Refrain

Anon., English c. 17th cent.

WE THREE KINGS

We three kings of Orient are
bearing gifts we traverse afar
field and fountain, moor and mountain
following yonder star.

*Refrain: O Star of wonder, star of night
 Star with royal beauty bright
 Westward leading, still proceeding,
 Guide us to Thy perfect light*

Born a King on Bethlehem's plain
gold I bring to crown Him again
king forever, ceasing never
over us all to rein.

Refrain

Frankincense to offer have I
incense owns a Deity nigh
prayer and praising, all men raising
worship Him, God most high.

Refrain

WHILE SHEPHERDS WATCHED THEIR FLOCKS

LYNCHAM 86.86 EXTENDED

THOMAS JARMAN 1776-1861

LUKE 2.8-15

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

‘Fear not,’ said he, (for mighty dread
had seized their troubled mind),
‘glad tidings of great joy I bring
you and all humankind.

‘To you in David’s town, this day
is born of David’s line
a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord;
and this shall be the sign:

‘the heavenly babe you there shall find
to human view displayed,
all meanly wrapped in swaddling clothes
and in a manger laid.’

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

‘All glory be to God on high,
and to the earth be peace;
goodwill henceforth from Heaven to men
begin and never cease.’

Nahum Tate 1652-1715 alt.

AWAY IN A MANGER

CRADLE SONG

11 11.11 11 anapaestic

Melody by

William James Kirkpatrick. 1838-1921

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.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from on high,
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you 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 you there.

Anon.

*The community that gathers at
St George Peace Memorial Church,
a church at the heart of East Ivanhoe Village,
wish you a happy and holy Christmas.*

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Introduction to the seas are copyright © The Archbishops' Council of the Church of England.

Scripture quotations from the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible are copyright 1946, 1952 and 1971 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. and are used by permission. All rights reserved.

Scripture and Theme indices to the Australian Hymn Book (1977) © The Australian Hymn Book Company, used with kind permission.