



HOLY TRINITY TWICKENHAM

CAROL SERVICE

4th Sunday of Advent



“For God so loved the world that he gave his only son.....” John 3 (16)

Sunday 19 December 2021

WELCOME
Revd. Cara Kear

Lighting of the advent candles and the Bidding Prayer.

CONGREGATIONAL CAROL

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.

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 and lowly
Lived on earth our Saviour holy.

And through all His wondrous childhood
He would honour and obey,
Love and watch the lowly maiden,
In whose gentle arms He lay:
Christian children all must be
Mild, obedient, good as He.

For He is our childhood's pattern:
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.

And our eyes at last shall see Him
Through His own redeeming love;
For that child, so dear and gentle,
Is our Lord in heaven above;
And He leads His children on
To the place where He is gone.

1st Reading - Genesis 3 (1-15)

Now the snake was more crafty than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, **'Did God really say, "You must not eat from any tree in the garden"?'** ²The woman said to the snake, **'We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden,** ³**but God did say, "You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die."** ⁴**'You will not certainly die,' the snake said to the woman.** ⁵**'For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.'** ⁶When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. ⁷Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realised that they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves. ⁸Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the Lord God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the Lord God among the trees of the garden. ⁹But the Lord God called to the man, **'Where are you?'**

¹⁰**'He answered, 'I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid.'** ¹¹**And he said, 'Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree from which I commanded you not to eat?'** ¹²The man said, **'The woman you put here with me – she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it.'** ¹³Then the Lord God said to the woman, **'What is this you have done?'**

The woman said, 'The snake deceived me, and I ate.' ¹⁴So the Lord God said to the snake, **'Because you have done this, 'Cursed are you above all livestock and all wild animals! You will crawl on your belly and you will eat dust all the days of your life.** ¹⁵**And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.'**

CONGREGATIONAL CAROL

CHRISTIANS, AWAKE, SALUTE THE HAPPY MORN

Whereon the Saviour of the world was born;
Rise to adore the mystery of love,
Which hosts of angels chanted from above:
With them the joyful tidings first begun
Of God incarnate and the Virgin's Son.

Then to the watchful shepherds it was told,
Who heard the angelic herald's voice, "Behold,
I bring good tidings of a Saviour's birth
To you and all the nations of the earth:
This day hath God fulfilled his promised Word,
This day is born a Saviour, Christ the Lord."

He spoke; and straightway the celestial choir
In hymns of joy, unknown before, conspire;
The praises of redeeming love they sang,
And heaven's whole orb with alleluias rang:
God's highest glory was their anthem still,
Peace on the earth, and unto men good will.

2nd Reading - Luke 1 (26-35)

God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee. The **angel said, "Greetings, you who are highly favoured! The Lord is with you."**

Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. **But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favour with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end."**

CHOIR CAROL

"Rejoice O Ye People" *Mendelssohn*

3rd Reading - Luke 2 (8-16)

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. **But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”**

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, **“Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favour rests.”**

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the **shepherds said to one another, “Let’s go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.”** So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger.

CHOIR CAROL

“Carol of the Bells” *Leontovich*

4th Reading - John 1 (1-14)

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was with God in the beginning. ³Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. ⁴In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. ⁶There was a man sent from God whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. ⁸He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light. ⁹The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world.

¹⁰He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognise him. ¹¹He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. ¹²Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God—¹³children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a

husband's will, but born of God.¹⁴The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

CONGREGATIONAL CAROL

IT CAME UPON THE MIDNIGHT CLEAR,
That glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth
To touch their harps of gold!
Peace on the earth, goodwill to men,
From heaven's all gracious King!
The world in solemn stillness lay
To hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come
With peaceful wings unfurled
And still their heavenly music floats
O'er all the weary world;
Above its sad and lowly plains
They bend on hovering wing.
And ever o'er its Babel sounds
The blessed angels sing.

Yet with woes of sin and strife
The world has suffered long;
Beneath the angel-strain have rolled
Two thousand years of wrong;
And man, at war with man, hears not
The love song which they bring;
O hush the noise, ye men of strife,
And hear the angels sing.

For lo! the days are hastening on,
By prophet bards foretold,
When, with the ever-circling years,
Comes round the age of gold;
When peace shall over all the earth
Its ancient splendours fling,
And all the world sendback the song
Which now the angels sing.

THE SERMON

CHOIR CAROL

“The Little Road to Bethlehem” *Head*

PRAYERS

ending with the Lord’s Prayer

CONGREGATIONAL 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, (x3)
Christ the Lord.

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

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, (x3)
Christ the Lord.

THE FINAL BLESSING

CHOIR CAROL

“Joy Shall be Yours” *Fraser-Simson*

*A collection towards church funds will be taken after the service.
Gift Aid envelopes and card readers are available.*

**At the heart
of Christmas**



We invite you to sign up for 12 Days of stories
and meditations for Christmas at
www.churchofengland.org