

Hymn Sheet for Sunday 17th December 2023 at 4pm
Carol Service Rev Andrew Mudharara
Light and Life to all He brings

Welcome and Lighting of Candles

Carol MP493

O come, O come, Immanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice, rejoice! Immanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.

Men:

O come, O come, Thou Lord of might,
who to Thy tribes, on Sinai's height
in ancient times didst give the law
in cloud and majesty and awe.
(All) Rejoice, rejoice! Immanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Thou rod of Jesse, free
Thine own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell Thy people save,
and give them victory o'er the grave.
Rejoice, rejoice! Immanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.

Ladies:

O come, Thou dayspring, come and cheer
our spirits by Thine advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadows put to flight.
(All) Rejoice, rejoice! Immanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Thou key of David, come
and open wide our heavenly home;
make safe the way that leads on high,
and close the path to misery.
Rejoice, rejoice! Immanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.

Intro to Theme and Opening Prayer

Light...

Reading Isaiah 9: 2 – 7 Christ's birth and kingdom foretold

Song MP1086

Light of the world, You stepped down into darkness,
opened my eyes, let me see
beauty that made this heart adore You,
hope of a life spent with You.

(Chorus)...

*So here I am to worship, here I am to bow down,
here I am to say that You're my God.
And You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy,
altogether wonderful to me.*

King of all days, Oh so highly exalted,
Glorious in heaven above;
Humbly You came to the earth You created,
All for love's sake became poor.

(Chorus)

And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon the cross.
And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon the cross.

(Chorus)

Choir The truth from above

Reading Micah 5: 2 - 4 The prophet Micah foretells the story of Bethlehem

Carol MP503

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 men on earth.
For Christ is born of Mary;
and, gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wond'ring love.

How silently, how silently,
the wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts
the blessings of His heav'n.
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 Immanuel.

Talk 1

Life....

Reading Luke 1: 26 – 38 The birth of Jesus foretold

Carol MP 597

Silent night, holy night!
Sleeps the world; hid from sight,
Mary and Joseph in stable bare
watched o'er the child beloved and fair
sleeping in heavenly rest,
sleeping in heavenly rest.

Silent night, holy night!
Shepherds first saw the light,
heard resounding clear and long,
far and near, the angel-song:
'Christ the Redeemer is here ,
Christ the Redeemer is here.'

Silent night, holy night!
Son of God, O how bright
love is smiling from Your face!
Strikes for us now the hour of grace,
Saviour, since You are born,
Saviour, since You are born.

Reading Luke 2: 1 – 7 The birth of Jesus

Carol MP337

In the bleak mid-winter, frosty wind made moan,
earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;
snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,
in the bleak mid-winter, long ago.

Our God, heaven cannot hold Him, nor earth sustain,
heaven and earth shall flee away when He comes to reign;
in the bleak mid-winter a stable-place sufficed
the Lord God almighty, Jesus Christ.

Angels and archangels may have gathered there,
cherubim and seraphim thronged the air;
but His mother only, in her maiden bliss,
worshipped the Beloved with a kiss.

What can I give Him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
if I were a wise man, I would do my part;
yet what I can I give Him give my heart.

Talk 2

To All...

Reading Luke 2: 8 – 16 The shepherds and the angels

Carol

God rest you merry, gentlemen, let nothing you dismay
For Jesus Christ our Saviour was born upon this 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!

From God our heav'nly Father a blessèd 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!

The shepherds at those tidings rejoicèd much in mind,
And left their flocks a-feeding in tempest, storm and wind,
And went to Bethlehem straightway, this blessèd babe to find.
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy!

But when to Bethlehem they came, whereat this Infant lay
They found Him in a manger where oxen feed on hay;
His mother Mary kneeling unto the Lord did pray.
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy!

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 all others doth deface.
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy!

Choir Good Christians all rejoice

Reading Matthew 2: 1 – 11 The wise men are led by a star to Jesus

Carol MP740

We three kings of Orient are,
bearing gifts we travel afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain,
following yonder star:
*O star of wonder, star of night,
star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding,
guide us to the perfect light.*

Born a King on Bethlehem plain,
gold I bring to crown Him again:
King for ever, ceasing never,
over us all to reign.
O star of wonder. . .

Frankincense for Jesus have I,
God on earth yet Priest on high;
prayer and praising all men raising:
worship is earth's reply.
O star of wonder . . .

Myrrh is mine: its bitter perfume
tells of His death and Calvary's gloom;
sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,
sealed in a stone-cold tomb.
O star of wonder . . .

Glorious now, behold Him arise,
King, and God, and sacrifice!
Heaven sings out `Alleluia',
`Amen' the earth replies.
O star of wonder . . .

Reading John1: 1 – 14 The Word became flesh

Talk 3

Prayers of Intercession and Lord's Prayer

Choir: A Christmas Blessing

Offertory and Offertory Prayer

Carol MP211

Hark! the herald-angels sing
`Glory to the new-born King!
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled.'
Joyful, all you 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 a virgin's womb!
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see!
Hail, the incarnate Deity!
Pleased as man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Immanuel.
Hark! the herald-angels sing
`Glory to the new-born King!'

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!'

The Grace

Exit Music: Toccata from Symphony No 5 by C M Widor