

### 14th December 2025

#### WELCOME TO OUR CAROL SERVICE

Jointly hosted by the Furzedown Churches: St James, St Paul's, St Alban's and Mitcham Lane Baptist Church. The Service will follow the order as printed.

**WELCOME** by Revd Marc Richeaux, Vicar of St Alban's

## Solo (Please stand) 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.

#### ΑII

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 mother In whose gentle arms He lay. Christian children all must be Mild, obedient, good as He.

#### Women:

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.

#### Men:

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.

#### All:

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.

## **FIRST READING:**

Isaiah 9: 1-2, 6-7 – The Birth Prophesied (Dawn Thomas, Furzedown Community Network)



# All (Please stand): JOY TO THE WORLD

Let earth receive her King Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room And heav'n and nature sing And heav'n and nature sina And heav'n and heav'n and nature sing Joy to the earth the Savior reigns Let men 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 alories of His righteousness And wonders of His love And wonders of His love And wonders wonders of His love Isaac Watts, Public Domain

#### **SECOND READING:**

Micah 5 v 2-5a - Out of Bethlehem shall come a ruler (Amaju Ofili, Furzedown Foodbank)



## All (Please stand): 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 upon the 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 Emmanuel
Phillips Brooks, Public Domain

## THIRD READING:

Luke 1 v 26-38 - The Angel visits Mary (Jeremy Yankey, Deaf Bible fellowship)

### **Choir Carol:**

There is no Rose (words: 15th Cent,

Music: Mark Pybus)

### **FOURTH READING:**

Luke 2 v 1-7 - The Birth of Jesus (Stuart Eggleton, Furzedown Literary Festival)



Earth stood hard as iron,
Water like a stone;
Snow had fallen, snow on snow,
Snow on snow,
In the bleak midwinter, long ago.

#### Choir:

Our God, heav'n cannot hold him, Nor earth sustain; Heav'n and earth shall flee away When he comes to reign. In the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed The Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ.

#### Men:

Angels and archangels may have gathered there,
Cherubim and seraphim thronged the air;

#### Women:

But only his mother, in her maiden bliss, Worshipped the beloved with a kiss.

#### All:

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 can I give him? Give my heart.

Christina Rosetti

## FIFTH READING:

Luke 2 v 8-20 - Shepherds & Angels (Stacey Smith, Furzedown Safer Neighbourhood Panel Chair)

## All: (Please stand) WHILE SHEPHERD'S 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 To you and all mankind

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 bands 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 on the earth be peace Goodwill hence forth From heaven to men Begin and never cease Nahum Tate, Public Domain

#### **Choir Carol:**

## Silent Night

(Franz Grüber arr. Mark Pybus)

## SIXTH READING:

John 1:1-14 – The Word Became Flesh (Sandra Shaw, The Furzedown Project)

**ADDRESS** by Rev Chris Andre-Watson

## **Choir Carol:**

How Many Kings? (Marc Martel/Jason Germaine arr. Mark Pybus)

## ALL: (Please stand)

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!

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:

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, Born that happy morning, Jesus, to Thee be glory given; Word of the Father now in flesh appearina:

18th C. TR. F. Oakley, W.T. Brooke & others Public Domain

#### **NOTICES**

## **ALL: (Please stand)** 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.'

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.

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.
C. Wesley (1707-1788) and others Public Domain

### **BLESSING**

## **Organ Voluntary:**

Toccata (Charles Marie Widor)

We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



All Furzedown Churches continue to gather for Worship on Sunday mornings throughout December but here are some special services we wish to highlight



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