



Christingle and Crib Service

Welcome

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death, a light has dawned.

All Jesus, Light of the World,
 Let your light shine on us.

Carol O Little town of Bethlehem

**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 street 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 wondering love.**

**How silently, how silently,
the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts
the blessings of his heaven.
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.**

Opening Prayer

Today we come to celebrate Jesus, the Word of God and Light of the world, who was born in Bethlehem. We remember too the world which is so precious to Jesus and we pray for his peace and love to heal its brokenness and pain. We remember children throughout the

world and today we remember especially the work of the Children's Society and for all who care for children in need.

Living God, source of all light, shine your light into the dark places of the world so that we might know your healing love and be filled with the Life you long to give us. Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen

Reading - Luke 1 vs 26-32

Carol Little Donkey

**Little donkey, little donkey
On the dusty road
Got to keep on plodding onward
With your precious load**

**Been a long time little donkey
Through the winters night
Don't give up now little donkey
Bethlehem's in sight**

**Ring out those bells tonight
Bethlehem, Bethlehem
Follow that star tonight
Bethlehem, Bethlehem**

**Little donkey, little donkey
Had a heavy day
Little donkey,
Carry Mary safely on her way**

**Little donkey, little donkey
Journey's end is near
There are wise men waiting for a
Sign to bring them here**

**Do not falter, little donkey
There's a star ahead
It will guide you, little donkey
To a cattle shed.**

**Little donkey, little donkey
Journey's end is near
There's a guiding star up in the
Heaven shining clear**

**Ring out those bells tonight
Bethlehem, Bethlehem
Follow that star tonight
Bethlehem, Bethlehem**

**Little donkey, little donkey
Had a heavy day
Little donkey,
Carry Mary safely on her way**

**Little donkey,
Carry Mary safely on her way**

Reading - Luke 2 vs 4-8

Carol Away in a Manger

**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 the sky
And stay by my side
Until morning is nigh**

**Be near me, Lord Jesus
I ask You to stay
Close by me forever
And love me I pray**

**Bless all the dear children
In Your tender care
And fit us for heaven
To live with You there**

Reading - Luke 2 vs 8-15

Carol It was on a Starry Night

**It was on a starry night
When the hills were bright
Earth lay sleeping,
sleeping calm and still
Then in a cattle shed
In a manger bed
A boy was born,
King of all the world**

**And all the angels sang for Him
The bells of heaven rang for Him
For a boy was born,
King of all the world
And all the angels sang for Him
The bells of heaven rang for Him
For a boy was born,
King of all the world**

**Soon the shepherds came that way
Where the baby lay
And were kneeling, kneeling by His side
And their hearts believed again
For the peace of men
For a boy was born,
King of all the world.**

**And all the angels sang for Him
The bells of heaven rang for Him
For a boy was born,
King of all the world
And all the angels sang for Him
The bells of heaven rang for Him
For a boy was born,
King of all the world**

THE BLESSING OF THE CRIB

TALK

CHRISTINGLE

Carol Silent Night

The Christingles will be Lit during the Carol

**Silent night, holy night.
All is calm, all is bright.
Round yon virgin mother and child;
Holy infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace.
Sleep in heavenly peace**

BLESSING OF THE CHRISTINGLES

PRAYER

Lord, we bring before you at this time the work of the Children's Society, who help the poor and vulnerable children of our country.

May the light of your love shine upon all children especially those whose lives are dominated by loneliness and fear. Give them strength to grow in confidence and a sense that they are secure in your love and care.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord

All Amen.

PRAYERS

The response to Jesus Light of the world is
All Shine in the darkness.

Choir Carol

DISMISSAL AND BLESSING

God shines in our hearts
All Praise to Christ our Light

Christ is the Light of the World
All Praise to Christ our Light

Go in the power of the Spirit to bring light to others

All In the name of Christ our Light

May the light of Christ shine in your hearts so that you may be filled with his joy and peace.

And the blessing of God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
be amongst you and your family this
Christmas and remain with you always.

All Amen.

Carol Come and join the celebration

**Come and join the celebration
It's a very special day
Come and share the jubilation
There's a new King born today**

**See the shepherds
Hurry down to Bethlehem
Gaze in wonder
At the Son of God who lay before them**

**Come and join the celebration
It's a very special day
Come and share the jubilation
There's a new King born today**

**God is with us
Round the world the message bring
He is with us
Welcome all the bells on earth are peeling**

**Come and join the celebration
It's a very special day
Come and share the jubilation
There's a new King born today**

Let us go in the light of Christ,
to bring light to all whom we meet.

All With the help of God. Amen.

There is a retiring collection at the end of the service for the life and work of the church in the Parish of Washington.

You can donate with cash, contactless machine at the back of church or using the QR code below



Thank you for your generosity

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