

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.

Prelude music by the Furzedown Wind Band and organist Anne Willson

WELCOME by Revd Rob Powell,
Team Rector of Furzedown

Congregation to stay seated until verse 3

 **Solo by Rev. Canon Dr Sue Clarke**
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.

Choir (a cappella)

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.

All (Please stand):

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 (with descant)

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.

Cecil F. Alexander Public Domain

FIRST READING:

Isaiah 9: 1-2, 6-7 – The Birth Prophesied
(Adam Seymour-Davies, Furzedown
Community Network)

Joy to the World - Cello & Steel Pan
Duet performed by Maia & Marcelina
Ganesh

SECOND READING:

Micah 5 v 2-5a - Out of Bethlehem shall
come a ruler
(Tom Reynolds – Furzedown Foodbank)

 **All (Please stand):**
DING! DONG! MERRILY ON HIGH

In heaven the bells are ringing
Ding dong, verily the sky
Is riv'n with angel singing

Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis! (Repeat)

E'en so here below, below
Let steeple bells be swungen
And io, io, io
By priest and people sungen
Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis! (repeat)

Pray you, dutifully prime
Your matin chime, ye ringers
May you beautifully rime
Your eve time song, ye singers
Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis! (repeat)
Words- Woodward, 15thc. French tune, harmonised C.Wood

THIRD READING:

Luke 1 v 26-38 - The Angel visits Mary
(Good Hope Deaf Club)

Gospel Soloist Roger Samuels

FOURTH READING:

Luke 2 v 1-7 - The Birth of Jesus
(Iris Farmer-Moshiri – Furzedown Youth Centre)

 **All: (Please stand):**
IN THE BLEAK MIDWINTER, 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 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 Rossetti

FIFTH READING:

Luke 2 v 8-20 - Shepherds & Angels
(Egla Aitkins – Tooting New Testament Assembly)



All: (Please stand)

WE THREE KINGS OF ORIENT ARE,

Bearing gifts we traverse 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 Thy perfect light.*

Solo: Rev Marc Richeux

Born a king on Bethlehem plain
Gold I bring to crown him again
King for ever, ceasing never,
Over us all to reign.

Solo: Graham Connell

Frankincense to offer have I;
Incense owns a Deity nigh;
Prayer and praising all men raising:
Worship Him God most high!

Solo: Rev Rob Powell

Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume
Breathes a life of gathering gloom:
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,
Sealed in the stone-cold tomb.

ALL:

Glorious now, behold Him arise,
King and God, and sacrifice!
'Alleluia!' 'Alleluia!'
Heaven to earth replies.

J.H. Hopkins Public Domain

SIXTH READING:

John 1:1-14 – The Word Became Flesh
(Sandie Andrews – Penwortham School)

Furzedown Churches Choir:

1. **GAUDETE** (Traditional)
2. **O LITTLE ONE SWEET** (Old German tune harmonised by J. S. Bach)
3. **SIR CHRISTEMAS** (William Matthias)

ADDRESS by Dr Eleasah Phoenix Louis
(Researcher & Resource Developer)

 **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
appearing:

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

Tambourine Trio:

Di Berry, Sylvia Robinson, and Major
Christine Kingscott - 'Christmas Praise'

We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

*Music after the Service by Peter Ramell
(organist)*

St James Church: 236 Mitcham Lane, Streatham, London SW16 6NT

☎ 020 8677 3947 ✉ admin_stjameschurch@btinternet.com 🌐 www.stjames-streatham.org.uk
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