

## Carol Service – Frodsham 2021

### Welcome / Prayer (Rev E)

#### Carol: Once in Royal David's City

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.

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.  
When like stars his children crowned,  
all in white shall wait around.

#### A message from Mary (Wendy)

#### Carol: In The Bleak Midwinter

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.

Enough for him whom cherubim  
worship night and day—  
a breastful of milk  
and a manger full of hay;  
enough for him whom angels  
fall down before,  
the ox and ass and camel which adore!

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

#### A message from Marcus (David Leslie)

#### 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 streets shineth  
the everlasting light;  
the hopes and fears of all the years  
are met in thee to-night.

O morning stars, together  
proclaim the holy birth,  
and praises sing to God the King,  
and peace to all the 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.

#### A message from Joseph (Andrew)

#### Carol: While Shepherds watched

While shepherds 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 mortal fear  
had seized their troubled mind)  
'for joyful news I bring to you  
and all of humanmankind.

To you in David's town is born,  
of David's royal line  
a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord;  
and this shall be the sign:

The heav'nly child you there shall find  
to human view displayed,  
with only swathing bands to wear,  
and in a manger laid.'

Thus spoke the angel, and at once  
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 from heav'n to all the world  
begin and never cease.'

#### A message from Seth (Joy)

**Carol: Silent Night**

Silent night, holy night:  
sleeps the world; hid from sight,  
Mary and Joseph in stable bare  
watch o'er the child belovèd and fair  
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!'

Silent night, holy night:  
Son of God, O how bright  
love is smiling from your face!  
Strikes for us now the hour of grace,  
Jesus, Lord at your birth.

**A message from Melchior (Kath)****Carol: Calypso Carol**

See him lying on a bed of straw:  
a draughty stable with an open door;  
Mary cradling the babe she bore-  
the prince of glory is his name.  
O now carry me to Bethlehem  
to see the Lord of love again:  
just as poor as was the stable then,  
the prince of glory when he came.

*Star of silver, sweep across the skies,  
show where Jesus in the manger lies;  
shepherds, swiftly from your stupor rise  
to see the saviour of the world!*

Angels, sing again the song you sang,  
sing the glory of God's gracious plan;  
sing that Bethl'em's little baby can  
be the saviour of us all.

Mine are riches, from your poverty,  
from your innocence, eternity;  
mine, forgiveness  
by your death for me,  
child of sorrow for my joy.

**A message to Mary (Elaine Graham)****Carol: Away in a Manger**

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,  
the little Lord Jesus  
lay 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 thee Lord Jesus,  
look down from the sky  
and stay by my side  
until morning is nigh.

Be near me Lord Jesus,  
I ask thee to stay,  
close by me forever,  
and love me I pray;  
bless all the dear children  
in thy tender care,  
and fit us for heaven  
to live with thee there.

**A message to Jesus (Rev E)****Carol: O Come all ye Faithful**

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.

See how the shepherds,  
summoned to his cradle,  
leaving their flocks,  
draw nigh with lowly fear;  
we too will thither  
bend our joyful footsteps:

Lo! Star-led chieftains,  
Magi, Christ adoring,  
offer him incense, gold and myrrh;  
we to the Christ child  
bring our hearts' oblations:

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 for our salvation;  
Jesus, to thee be glory given!  
Word of the Father  
now in flesh appearing.

**Reading (Phil)****Prayer****Carol: Hark! the Herald Angels sing**

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.  
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.

**Blessing**