

## **Lord's Day worship: Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2020**

**Before we join together: to help us prepare, sing a hymn and a children's song**

"O come, O come, Emmanuel": <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KZggySBrrroc>

"Away in a manger": <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OWDzqQGWqEw>

**At 10.45am: Welcome**

**Scriptural call to worship – Matthew 1:21**

*"...You shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."*

**Hymn: 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 tonight.

2. 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.

3. 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.

4. 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.

**Confessing our sins and seeking the assurance of forgiveness**

Lord God, we have sinned against you;  
we have done evil in your sight.  
We are sorry and repent.  
Have mercy on us according to your love.  
Wash away our wrongdoing and cleanse us from our sin.  
Renew a right spirit within us  
and restore us to the joy of your salvation,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

**Congregational Bible reading – Psalm 35**

**Prayers of intercession**

## Declaring our faith using the Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church, the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.  
Amen.

## Song: Prepare our hearts O God

Prepare our hearts, O God  
Help us to receive  
Break the hard and stony ground  
Help our unbelief  
Plant Your Word down deep in us  
Cause it to bear fruit  
Open up our ears to hear  
Lead us in Your truth

*Show us Christ, show us Christ  
O God, reveal Your glory  
Through the preaching of Your Word  
Until every heart confesses  
Christ is Lord*

Your Word is living light  
Upon our darkened eyes  
Guards us through temptations  
Makes the simple wise  
Your Word is food for famished ones  
Freedom for the slave  
Riches for the needy soul  
Come speak to us today

*Show us Christ, show us Christ...*

Where else can we go, Lord  
Where else can we go?  
You have the words of eternal life  
Where else can we go, Lord  
Where else can we go?  
You have the words of eternal life

*Show us Christ, show us Christ...*

## **Bible reading and sermon – 1 John 2:28 – 3:10**

**Jesus came to destroy the works of the devil (1 John 3:8)**

**What are the works of the devil?**

**Jesus was born to destroy the works of the devil**

**→ Jesus has made me God's child**

**→ Jesus has forgiven my sins**

**→ Jesus is changing me to become like Him**

### **Song: O Holy Night**

1. O holy night, the stars are brightly shining,  
It is the night of our dear Saviour's birth.  
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,  
Till He appeared and the soul felt its worth.  
A thrill of hope, the weary world rejoices,  
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn.  
Fall on your knees, O hear the angel voices!  
O night divine, O night when Christ was born

2. Humbly He lay, Creator come as creature,  
Born on the floor of a hay-scattered stall.  
True Son of God, yet bearing human feature,  
He entered earth to reverse Adam's fall.  
In towering grace, He laid aside His glory,  
And in our place, was sacrificed for sin.  
Fall on your knees! O hear the gospel story!  
O night divine, O night when Christ was born!

3. Come, then, to Him Who lies within the manger,  
With joyful shepherds, proclaim Him as Lord.  
Let not the Promised Son remain a stranger;  
In reverent worship, make Christ your Adored.  
Eternal life is theirs who would receive Him;  
With grace and peace, their lives He will adorn.  
Fall on your knees! Receive the Gift of heaven!  
O night divine, O night when Christ was born  
O night, O holy night when Christ was born

### **Final prayer and blessing**

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