



SAINT JOHN'S MALONE



Adoration of the Shepherds J. Bautista 16th century.

A SERVICE OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS

**Sunday 22th December 2024
10.30am**

Hymn 177

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.

(Solo)

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.

(Choir only)

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 should be
kind, 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 all in white shall wait around.

Bidding and Lord's Prayer

1st Lesson Genesis 3: 8-15, 22-24 - The Fall of man

Choir: The truth from above – English traditional arr. R. Vaughan Williams

*This is the truth sent from above,
The truth of God, the God of love,
Therefore don't turn me from your door,
But hearken all both rich and poor.*

*The first thing which I do relate
Is that God did man create;
The next thing which to you I'll tell
Woman was made with man to dwell.*

*Thus we were heirs to endless woes,
Till God the Lord did interpose;
And so a promise soon did run
That he would redeem us by his Son.*

*And at that season of the year
Our blest Redeemer did appear;
He here did live, and here did preach,
And many thousands he did teach.*

*Thus he in love to us behaved,
To show us how we must be saved;
And if you want to know the way,
Be pleased to hear what he did say.*

2nd Lesson Genesis 22: 15-18, 22-24 - Promise to Abraham

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Choir: Lord, when you came to earth – Barry Rose

*Lord when you came to earth, humbled by virgin birth,
Born of a Maiden mild Mary the undefiled;
Told by the prophets long, God's own beloved son,
Now is salvation won, You came to save us;
Hear as we sing the true story of Christmas!*

*See in the cattle stall Jesus, the child for all,
Lying in helpless state, He who the nations wait
Long since the world began, this is God's timeless plan,
Sinding his son, a man, dying to save us; We kneel to worship the glory of Christmas!*

*Come to that stable bare, watch o'er his mother's care,
Join with the kings to see meekness in majesty.
Follow his star today, hear what the Gospels say
This is the only way; Christ comes to save us,
Born in a manger the true light of Christmas!*

Hymn 133 – Long ago, prophets knew
Long ago, prophets knew
Christ would come, born a Jew,
come to make all things new,
bear his people's burden,
freely love and pardon.

*Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring!
Sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!
When he comes, when he comes,
who will make him welcome?*

God in time, God in man,
this is God's timeless plan:
he will come, as a man,
born himself of woman,
God divinely human:

Mary hail! Though afraid,
she believed, she obeyed.
In her womb God is laid,
till the time expected,
nurtured and protected:

Journey ends: where afar
Bethlehem shines, like a star,
stable door stands ajar.
Unborn Son of Mary,
Saviour, do not tarry.

*Ring bells, ring, ring, ring!
Sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!
Jesus comes, Jesus comes:
We will make him welcome.*

3rd Lesson Isaiah 9: 2, 6, 7 - Prophecy of the Messiah's birth

Instrumental In the Bleak Mid Winter – Philip Stopford

Choir: Good King Wenceslas – arr. Reginald Jacques

*Good King Wences'las looked out, on the Feast of Stephen,
When the snow lay round about, deep and crisp and even;
Brightly shone the moon that night, tho' the frost was cruel,
When a poor man came in sight, gath'ring winter fuel.*

*"Hither, page, and stand by me, if thou know'st it, telling,
Yonder peasant, who is he? Where and what his dwelling?"
"Sire, he lives a good league hence, underneath the mountain;
Right against the forest fence, by Saint Agnes' fountain."*

*"Bring me flesh, and bring me wine, bring me pine logs hither:
Thou and I shall see him dine, when we bear them thither."
Page and monarch, forth they went, forth they went together;
Through the rude wind's wild lament and the bitter weather.*

*"Sire, the night is darker now, and the wind blows stronger;
Fails my heart, I know not how; I can go no longer."
"Mark my footsteps, good my page. Tread thou in them boldly
Thou shalt find the winter's rage freeze thy blood less coldly."*

*In his master's steps he trod, where the snow lay dinted;
Heat was in the very sod which the saint had printed.
Therefore, Christian men, be sure, wealth or rank possessing,
Ye who now will bless the poor, shall yourselves find blessing.*

4th Lesson Isaiah 11: 1-9 - The Prophecy of the Messiah's Kingdom

Choir: What Child is This – Thomas Hewitt-Jones

*What child is this, who, laid to rest
On Mary's lap, is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring him laud,
The babe, the son of Mary.*

*Why lies he in such mean estate
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear: for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce him through,
The cross be borne for me, for you.
Hail, hail the Word made flesh,
The babe, the son of Mary.*

*So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh,
Come, peasant, king, to own him;
The King of kings salvation brings,
Let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise a song on high,
The virgin sings her lullaby.
Joy, joy, for Christ is born,
The babe, the son of Mary.*

5th Lesson St Luke 1: 26-33, 38 - The Annunciation of our Lord

Choir: Mary's Magnificat – Andrew Carter
*Softly a light is stealing
Sweetly a maiden sings
Ever wakeful, ever wistful
Watching faithfully, thankfully, tenderly Her King of kings*

*My soul doth magnify the Lord:
And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour*

*Mary her song to Jesus
Softly, serenely sings:
'I will love you, I will serve you
May my lullaby glorify, magnify My King of kings.'*

6th Lesson St. Luke 2: 1-7 - The birth of Jesus

HYMN 184 –Unto us a child is born

Unto us is born a son,
King of quires supernal:
See on earth his life begun,
of lords the Lord eternal.
of lords the Lord eternal.

Christ, from heav'n descending low,
comes on earth a stranger;
Ox and ass their Owner know
becradled in a manger.
becradled in a manger.

This did Herod sore affray, **(Men Only)**
and did him bewilder,
so he gave the word to slay,
and slew the little childer.
and slew the little childer.

Of his love and mercy mild **(Ladies & children)**
this the Christmas story:
O that Mary's gentle Child
might lead us up to glory!
Might lead us up to glory!

We adore him A and O,
cum cantibus in choro,
let our merry organ go,
Benedicamus Domino.
Benedicamus Domino.

7th Lesson St. Luke 2: 8-16 - The Shepherds go to the manger

Choir: Away in a manger – arr. Willcocks

*1 Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head;
the stars in the heavens looked down where He lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.*

*2 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.*

*3 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.*

8th Lesson St. Matthew 2: 1-11- The Magi are led by a star

Choir: O Holy Night – Adolphe Adam

*O Holy night! The stars are brightly shining
It is the night of our dear Savior's birth
Long lay the world in sin and error pining
'Til He appears 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
O night, O Holy night, O night divine!*

*Led by the light of Faith serenely beaming
With glowing hearts by His cradle we stand
So led by light of a star sweetly gleaming
Here come the Wise Men from Orient land
The King of kings lay thus in lowly manger
In all our trials born to be our friend
He knows our need, He guardeth us from danger:
Behold your King; before the lowly bend
Behold your King; before Him lowly bend.*

9th Lesson (Gospel) All stand John: 1: 1 – 14 - St John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation

Hymn 172 (v.1,2,3,6,7b) *During which a collection will be taken up for the Simon Community <https://simoncommunity.org/>. There will also be an opportunity for contactless donations on the way out of church.*

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, 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 the cradle,
leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear;
We too will thither
bend our joyful footsteps:

Sing, choirs of angels,
sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
glory to God
in the highest:

Yea, Lord, we bless thee,
born for our salvation;
Jesu! Jesu, to thee be glory given;
Word of the Father,
now in flesh appearing:

Collect and Blessing
all kneel

Hymn 160

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 us 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.

Organ: Final (Symphonie No 1) – Louis Vierne

Rector: Rev. Canon Stephen Fielding
Assistant Priests: Revd Brian Cadden; Revd Dr Brian Crowe
Diocesan Reader: Ms Maxine Judge
Director of Music: Mr Richard Campbell
Churchwardens: Rosemary Black (Rector's), Sarah Carson (People's)

**Many thanks to all who have prepared for this service, especially our organist,
choir, parish musicians and lesson readers.**

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Advent & Christmas
in St John's Malone

15 Dec 9.00 Eucharist, 10.30

Eucharist & Nativity Play

*22 Dec 9am Eucharist, 10.30 Nine
Lessons & Carols*

*24 Dec Christmas Eve 11.00pm Midnight
Eucharist*

*25 Dec Christmas Day 9.00 Eucharist,
10:30 A Christmas Morning Service*

26 Dec St Stephen 10.30 Eucharist

27 Dec St John 10.30 Eucharist

*29 Dec 9.00 Eucharist for The Holy
Innocents Day, 10.30 Eucharist with
carols for Christmas I*

*5 Jan 2025 9.00 Eucharist, 10.30 Sunday
First for Epiphany*

A happy and holy Christmas to all our friends and

parishioners!

