**Wivelsfield Parish Church**

**Worship for Christmas Day**

**25th December 2020**

**The Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**for use at the Zoom Service at 10.30am**

**or for your personal use at home**

**Introduction:**

A hallowed day has dawned upon us. Come and worship the Lord:

**for a great light has shone on the earth.**

When peaceful silence lay over all

and night was in the midst of her swift course,

from your royal throne, O God, down from the heavens,

leapt your almighty word.

God’s love for us was revealed when God sent his only Son into the world

so that we could have life through him.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Carol: O come, all ye faithful**

1 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!*

2 God of God,
 Light of light,
 Lo, he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
 very God,
 begotten, not created:
 *Chorus*

6 Sing, choirs of angels,
 sing in exultation,
 sing, all ye citizens of heaven above:
 'Glory to God
 in the highest:'
 *Chorus*

7A Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
 born this happy morning,
 Jesu, to thee be glory giv'n;
 word of the Father,
 now in flesh appearing:
 *Chorus*

 *Adeste fideles
 Anonymous Latin, attributed to John Francis Wade (1711-1786) Etienne Jean Francois Borderies ((1764- 1832) William Mercer (1811-1873), Frederick Oakeley (1802-1880), William Thomas Brooke (1848-1917) and others*

**Responses**

The people who walked in darkness

**have seen a great light.**

For to us a child is born

**to us a Son is given.**

His name will be called Wonderful Counsellor, mighty God,

**the everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.**

Glory to God in the highest

**and peace to his people on earth.**

**The Collect**

Almighty God, you have given us your only-begotten Son

to take our nature upon him

and as at this time to be born of a pure virgin:

grant that we, who have been born again

and made your children by adoption and grace,

may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit;

through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,

who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever. Amen.

**Reading – Isaiah 52 (Marion Whear)**

**Choir – Sans Day Carol (arr. John Rutter)**

**Reading – Hebrews (Robert Wood)**

**Carol – Ding dong, merrily on high**

1 Ding! dong! merrily on high

 In heav'n the bells are ringing;

 Ding! dong! verily the sky

 Is riv'n with angel singing.

 *Gloria! Hosanna in excelsis!*

 *Gloria! Hosanna in excelsis!*

2 E'en so here below, below,

 Let steeple bells be swungen,

 And 'Io, io, io!'

 By priest and people sungen:

 Chorus

3 Pray you, dutifully prime

 Your matin chime, ye ringers!

 May you beautifully rime

 Your evetime song, ye singers!

 Chorus

 *George Ratcliffe Woodward (1848-1934)*

**Gospel Reading – John 1:1-14**

**Sermon – The Bishop of Chichester**

**Affirmation of Faith**

Let us bless the living God:

He was born of the Virgin Mary,

**revealed in his glory,**

worshipped by the angels,

**proclaimed among the nations,**

believed in throughout the world,

**exalted to the highest heavens.**

Blessed be God, our strength and our salvation,

**now and for ever. Amen.**

**Carol – Away in a manger**

1 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.

2A 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 for ever, and love me, I pray.

 Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,

 and fit us for heaven, to live with thee there.

*Sometimes attributed to John Thomas Macfarland (1851-1913*

**Prayers of Intercession – led by Anne Martin**

**Choir – I saw a maiden**

**The Peace**

**Notices**

**Carol – Joy to the world**

1 Joy to the world, the Lord has come!

 Let earth receive her King;

 let every heart prepare him room,

 and heaven and nature sing.

2 Joy to the world, the Saviour reigns!

 Let us our songs employ;

 while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains

 repeat the sounding joy.

3 He rules the world with truth and grace,

 and makes the nations prove

 the glories of his righteousness,

 and wonders of his love.

*Isaac Watts (1674-1748)*

**Blessing**

Christ the Son of God, born of Mary,

fill you with his grace to trust his promises and obey his will;

and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,

be with you and remain with you this Christmastide and always.

**Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

*This service sheet has been prepared for use by those participating in*

*the services arranged by Wivelsfield Parish Church*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| C:\Users\Christopher\Dropbox\Wivelsfield\logos.jpg | **St Peter and St John the Baptist, Wivelsfield**[**www.wivelsfieldchurch.org.uk**](http://www.wivelsfieldchurch.org.uk)*Registered Charity Number 1130751**Hymns used By Permission. CCL Licence No. 297551Copied from HymnQuest: Copyright Licence Users' Edition*Common Worship is copyright © [The Archbishops' Council](https://www.churchofengland.org/copyright) 2000 and published by [Church House Publishing](https://www.chpublishing.co.uk/). |  |