

**West Downland Benefice  
Open Air Carol Service 2021**



*With thanks to Sophie, from Chaddleworth St Andrew and Great Shefford Primary Schools, for our Christmas logo*

**Once in Royal David's city**

*sung by St Martin's Voices, with soloist Victoria Meteyard*

- 1      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.
  
- 2      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.

- 3     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.
- 4     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 Frances Alexander (née Humphreys) (1818-1895)*  
*CCLI Licence 1178930*

### **O little town of Bethlehem**

*sung by St Martin's Voices*

- 1     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 to us today.  
      We hear the Christmas angels  
      the great glad tidings tell:  
      O come to us, abide with us,  
      our Lord Emmanuel.

*Phillips Brooks (1835-1893)*  
*CCLI Licence 1178930*

### **Away in a manger**

*sung by Westbury-on-Trym Parish Church Choir*

- 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.
- 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 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), Gabriel's Vineyard Songs (1892 Louisville), Little Children's Book: For  
Schools and Families (1885 Philadelphia)*  
*CCLI Licence 1178930*

**While Shepherds watch'd their Flocks by Night,**

All seated on the Ground,  
The Angel of the Lord came down,  
And Glory Shone all around.

"Fear not," said he, (for mighty Dread  
Had seiz'd their troubled Mind)  
"Glad Tidings of great Joy I bring  
To you and all mankind.

To you in *David's* Town this Day  
Is born of *David's* Line,  
A Saviour, which is Christ the Lord;  
And this shall be the Sign.

The heav'nly Babe you there shall find  
To human View display'd.  
All meanly wrapt in swaddling Bands,  
And in a Manger laid."

"Thus spake the Seraph, and forthwith  
Appeared a shining Throng  
Of Angels praising God, and thus  
Addressed their joyful Song:

"All glory be to God on high,  
And to the earth be Peace;  
Good Will, henceforth, from Heaven to Men  
Begin and never cease."

## **Hark! the herald angels sing**

*sung by St Martin's Voices*

- 1     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!*
  
- 2     Christ, by highest heaven adored,  
Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
late in time behold him come,  
offspring of the 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!*
  
- 3     Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!  
Hail the Son 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!"*

*Charles Wesley (1707-1788)*  
*CCLI Licence 1178930*

## **Prayers & Christmas Blessing**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
Hallowed be thy Name;  
Thy kingdom come;  
Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation;  
But deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory.  
For ever and ever. Amen.

### **O come, all ye faithful**

*sung by St Martin's Voices*

- 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;  
        *Refrain*
- 3     Sing, choirs of angels,  
        sing in exultation,  
        sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
        Glory to God  
        in the highest:  
        *Refrain*

4     Yea, Lord, we greet thee,  
      born this happy morning:  
      Jesus, to thee be all glory given;  
      word of the Father,  
      now in flesh appearing;  
      *Refrain*

*Translated from the Latin (18th century) by Frederick Oakely (1802-1880)*  
*CCLI Licence 1178930*

*We wish you a safe and happy Christmas.*

*Please be careful around parked cars and crossing roads as you leave the Carol Service.*