

Crib Service

Christmas Morning 2021

Welcome

Introduction and Greeting

I bring you good news of great joy:
a Saviour has been born to you.

All **Alleluia.**

Unto us a child is born,
unto us a Son is given.

All **Alleluia.**

Hear the words of St Luke:
When the angels had gone from them into heaven,
the shepherds said to one another,
'Let us go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened
which the Lord has made known to us.'
So they hastened, and found Mary and Joseph,
and the baby lying in a manger.

He is Christ the Lord. Alleluia.
We worship and adore him.

All **Alleluia.**

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

All

Gathering Song

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!

O now carry me...

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.

O now carry me...

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

O now carry me...

Michael Perry (1942 - 1996)
© Mrs B Perry/Jubilate Hymns
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Collect

Lord Jesus Christ,
your birth at Bethlehem
draws us to kneel in wonder at heaven touching earth:
accept our heartfelt praise
as we worship you,
our Saviour and our eternal God.

All **Amen.**

The Christmas Story: Mary is visited by an Angel

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven
and nature sing.

Joy to the earth the Saviour reigns!
let all their songs employ;
while fields and floods,
rocks, hills and plains
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

Prayers of Penitence

We turn to God in love and trust as we acknowledge our sin and our need of his mercy...

You were born for our salvation:
Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

You came as Saviour to bring wholeness and peace:
Christ, have mercy.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

You come to bring light into the darkness of our lives:
Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

May God who loved the world so much
that he sent his Son to be our Saviour
forgive us our sins
and make us holy to serve him in the world,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of His righteousness
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.

Isaac Watts
(1674-1748)

Christmas Story: A child is born

He came down that we may have love,
He came down that we may have love,
He came down that we may have love,
Hallelujah for evermore.

He came down that we may have peace...

He came down that we may have joy...

Thanksgiving

We say thank you to God for the great gift of Jesus as we echo the song of the angels:

Glory to Christ, Son of Mary;
born a child,
you are one with us:

All **Glory to God in the highest.**

Glory to Christ, Son of David;
born to rule,
you reign in our hearts:

All **Glory to God in the highest.**

Glory to Christ, Son of Man;
born to save,
you are the light of the world:

All **Glory to God in the highest.**

Christmas Story: Shepherds part 1

Angels, from the realms of glory,
wing your flight o'er all the earth;
ye who sang creation's story,
now proclaim Messiah's birth:

*Come and worship,
Christ the new-born King,
come and worship
worship Christ, the new-born King.*

Shepherds, in the field abiding,
watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing,
yonder shines the infant light:

Though an infant now we view him,
he shall fill his Father's throne,
gather all the nations to him;
every knee shall then bow down:

James Montgomery (1771-1854)

The Christmas Story: Shepherds part 2

*Come and join the celebration,
it's a very special day;
come and share our jubilation,
there's a new king born today!*

See the shepherds hurry down to Bethlehem;
gaze in wonder at the Son of God who lay before them.

Come and join the celebration ...

Wise men journey, led to worship by a star,
kneel in homage, bringing precious gifts from lands afar, so

*Come and join the celebration,
it's a very special day;*

*come and share our jubilation,
there's a new king born today!*

God is with us, 'round the world the message bring;
He is with us, 'Welcome!' all the bells on earth are pealing

*Come and join the celebration,
it's a very special day;
come and share our jubilation,
there's a new king born today!*

Valerie Collison
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Lighting of the Christmas Candle

After the 'Christ Candle' on our Advent wreath is lit this prayer is said

**All Lord Jesus, Light of Light,
you have come among us.
Help us who live by your light
to shine as lights in your world.
Glory to God in the highest!**

Silent night, holy night,
all is calm, all is bright;
round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy infant so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace,
sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night,
Son of God, love's pure light;
radiance beams from thy holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

Prayers concluding with *The Lord's Prayer*

All Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour taught us.
**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who 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.**

Final Carol

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:

*O come, let us adore him,
 O come, let us adore him,
 O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!*

Sing, choirs of angels,
sing in exultation,
sing all ye citizens of heaven above:

“Glory to God
in the highest:”

*O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!*

Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
born this happy morning;
Jesu, to thee be glory given:
Word of the Father,
now in flesh appearing:

*O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!*

Latin, 18th century
Tr. Fredrick Oakeley 1802-1880

The Blessing

May the eagerness of the shepherds,
the joy of the angels,
the perseverance of the wise men,
the obedience of Joseph and Mary,
and the peace of the Christ-child
be yours this Christmas.
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

Go in the peace of Christ

All **Thanks be to God.**