

Reading: The visit of the Magi  
*Matthew 2. 1-12*

Carol: *Gaudete, arr. Luke Fitzgerald*

Reading: The mystery of the incarnation  
*John 1.1-14*

Reflection *The Revd. Sally Lynch, Vicar*

Carol: Hark! the Herald Angels sing *please stand*

*You are invited to join in speaking verse 2 together*

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 man to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel:  
*Hark! the herald angels sing  
glory to the new-born King.*

The Blessing *please remain standing*

Recessional: Chorale Prelude on 'In dulci jubilo' BWV 729 *J.S. Bach*

Although we are unable to offer the usual seasonal refreshments, we do wish you a Happy Christmas and a healthy and peaceful New Year.

[www.stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk](http://www.stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk)

*This is YOUR parish church, and if we can be of any help or support at any time please contact Revd. Sally on:*

*01628 783033 sally514@btinternet.com*



**A service of Lessons and Carols**

**20th December 2020**

*Welcome to our Carol Service, in this, most unusual year.*

*We have adapted and abbreviated the traditional service of Nine Lessons and Carols, but we hope that we have lost none of the beauty and mystery of the unfolding story of God becoming human for us in Jesus.*

*Sadly congregations are currently unable to sing, but our reduced choir will lead us and we will have space to reflect for ourselves on the comfort and joy that Jesus brings to the world. We know that the light of Christ has overcome all darkness for eternity and that His incarnation means that He fully understands the current sufferings of the world.*

*In order to comply with current regulations we ask that you do not leave your seat please, and you wear a face covering at all times. At the end of the service please respect social distancing on leaving; both front and rear door will be open.*

*We cannot take round a collection, but there is a plate at the back of church for cash offerings, or offerings may, ideally, be made online:*

Sort Code: 30-95-36

Account Number: 00332214

Account Name: P C C SAINT LUKES

*Please use reference: CAROL SERVICE*

*The collection from our Carol Services this year  
will be given to The Children's Society.*

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*Music before the service:*

Chorale Prelude on 'Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme' BWV 645 J.S. Bach

Chorale Prelude on 'Es ist ein Ros entsprungen' Johannes Brahms

'The Holy Boy' from Carol of the Nativity John Ireland

Welcome, Bidding and Lord's prayer

Carol: Once in Royal David's city

Reading: The prophecy of the Messiah's kingdom of peace  
*Isaiah 11. 1-4a, 6-9*

Carol: Once as I remember, *G.R. Woodward / Charles Wood*

Reading: The Annunciation to Mary  
*Luke 1. 26-38*

Carol: O Little Town of Bethlehem

Reading: The Birth of Jesus  
*Luke 2. 1-16*

Carol: Away in a Manger

Carol, said together

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

Silent night, holy night,  
shepherds quail at the sight:  
glories stream from heaven afar,  
heavenly hosts sing alleluia:  
Christ the Saviour is born, Christ the Saviour is born!

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