

Lord's Day worship: Sunday 27th December 2020

Before we join together: to help us prepare, sing a hymn and a children's song

"O come, all you unfaithful" - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C-QHbpYjulg>

"O holy night" - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OBi6x4gRKEU>

At 10.45am: Welcome

Scriptural call to worship – Luke 2:10-11

"And the angel said to them, 'Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord.'"

Carol: Hark the herald angels sing

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

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.
*Hark! The herald-angels sing
glory to the new-born King.*

Congregational Bible reading – Psalm 36

Confessing our sins and seeking the assurance of forgiveness

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you and against our fellow men,
in thought and word and deed,
in the evil we have done
and in the good we have not done,
through ignorance, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry, and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us,
forgive us all that is past;
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name.
Amen.

Declaring our faith together using the Heidelberg Catechism

What do you confess when you say:
was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary?
**The eternal Son of God, who is and remains true and eternal God,
took upon himself true human nature from the flesh and blood of the virgin Mary,
through the working of the Holy Spirit. Thus he is also the true seed of David,
and like his brothers in every respect, yet without sin.**

What benefit do you receive from the holy conception and birth of Christ?
**He is our Mediator, and with his innocence and perfect holiness covers,
in the sight of God, my sin, in which I was conceived and born.**

Prayers of intercession

Carol: The First Nowell

The first Nowell the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds
in fields as they lay;
In fields as they lay, keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so deep:
*Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell,
Born is the king of Israel!*

2. And by the light of that same star
Three wise men came from country far;
To seek for a king was their intent,
And to follow the star wherever it went:
*Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell,
Born is the king of Israel!*

3. Then entered in those wise men three
Full reverently upon their knee,
and offered there in his presence
Their gold, and myrrh,
and frankincense:
*Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell,
Born is the king of Israel!*

4. Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord;
That hath made heaven and earth of naught,
And with his blood mankind hath bought:
*Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell,
Born is the king of Israel!*

Bible reading and sermon – Hebrews 12:1-2

Song: Turn your eyes upon Jesus

Turn your eyes upon Jesus

Look full in His wonderful face
And the things of earth
will grow strangely dim
In the light of His glory and grace

Turn your eyes to the hillside
Where justice and mercy embrace
There the Son of God
gave His life for us
And our measureless debt was erased

*Jesus to You we lift our eyes
Jesus our glory and our prize
We adore You behold You
our Saviour ever true
Oh Jesus we turn our eyes to You*

Turn your eyes to the morning
And see Christ the lion awake
What a glorious dawn
fear of death is gone
For we carry His life in our veins

Turn your eyes to the heavens
Our King will return for His own
Every knee will bow
every tongue will shout
All glory to Jesus alone

Final prayer and blessing

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