



JOY TO THE WORLD

*A Service of Music, Readings and Carols
for Christmas*

Sunday 19 December 1999



JOY TO THE WORLD

It is always a great pleasure to welcome you to our Christmas Carol Service. It is especially so as we enter this Millennial year which marks the 2000th anniversary of the birth of Jesus Christ. That is why the theme of our service is '**JOY TO THE WORLD**'.

We live in an age of doubt and scepticism when many have lost a sense of God's reality. If God has become a stranger, we have also become strangers to ourselves as we search to live truly human lives. The message of Christmas is that God has shown us what it is to be a human being and what it is to live an authentic human life.

In Jesus we are offered the key to understanding ourselves and our true potential as human beings. In Jesus, we are also offered a vision of God – the God who is with us, even to the end of the age.

The poetry has been written and will be read by Rev Martin Eggleton. Copies of the poems are available afterwards.

After the service you will be able to make a donation to Christian Aid and to Crisis At Christmas, and enjoy coffee, tea and mince pies with us in the Narthex.

The service will proceed without announcement.

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CHOIR Joy to the World

CAROL 83 Long ago, prophets knew Christ would come
Verse 3 – Choir only

Bidding prayer: Beloved in Christ, at this Christmastide

Lord's Prayer

PART I : The Promise

Reading 1 Genesis 1:1-5: In the beginning....
Read by Jon Simms

CHOIR 'Steal away, steal away, steal away to Jesus'
Sir Michael Tippett: A Child of our Time
Solo: Mark Wakelin

Poem The Promise

Reading 2 Isaiah 9:2,6&7: The people that walked
Read by Edward Bunting

CHOIR 'Come thou long expected Jesus'
Ley: (words by Charles Wesley)

PART II: The Gift

Reading 3 Luke 1:26-38: And in the sixth month
Read by Rachel Wakelin

- CAROL 87** The Angel Gabriel from heaven came
Verse 3 – Choir only
- Reading 4** Matthew 1:18-25: Now the birth of Jesus
Read by Roseby Enchill-Balogun
- Poem** The Gift
- CAROL 114** Once in royal David's city
Verse 4 – Choir only
- Reading 5** Luke 2:1-20 And there were in the same
country
Read by Cathryn Mann
- CAROL 119** The first Nowell
Verses 3 and 5 – Choir only */(All sing refrain)*

PART III: The Celebration

- Poem** The Celebration
- Reading 6** Matthew 2:1-12: Now when Jesus was born
Read by Colin Glew
- CHOIR** Deck the halls with boughs of holly
Welsh trad.: arr David Willcocks
Clarinet solo: Geraldine Allen

PART IV: The Thanks

- Poem** The Thanks
- Reading 7** John 1:1-14: In the beginning was the word
Read by Ros Dharampal-Hornby

CHOIR O taste and see how gracious the Lord is
Vaughan Williams:

CHRISTMAS INTERCESSIONS

Lord , hear us
Lord, graciously hear us

CHOIR O taste and see how gracious the Lord is
Vaughan Williams:

CAROL 121 As with gladness men of old
Verse 3 – Choir only

PART V: The Jubilation

Poem The Jubilation
(A litany at the end of the millennium)

Leader: Shout!
Response: What shall we shout for?
Leader: Shout for joy

Leader: Blow the ram's horn!
Response: Why shall we blow it?
Leader: It is the Lord's jubilee

Leader: Sound the trumpet!
Response: Where shall we find breath?
Leader: The Spirit of life is within you

Leader: Let all the world sing!
Response: What will our song be?
Leader: The song of the Universe
Christ in his heaven
The world spinning at his feet

Leader: The night is dying- a new dawn is breaking!
Response: What are we to do?
Leader: Celebrate what is to be!
Response: For how long?
Leader: Two thousands years is but two days- celebrate!
Response: Amen and Amen
Leader: The Lord is to do mighty things!
Leader: Let it be!
Response: Alleluia!

Leader: Let it be!
Response: Amen

CHOIR Psalm 150, O Praise God in his holiness
Armstrong Gibbs:

Blessing

CAROL 106 Hark! the herald angels sing

Closing Voluntary



Our sincere thanks to Sarah Rodgers, our musical director for this evening's service and to the choir and instrumentalists who have helped us enter the Christmas story.

Instrumentalists:

Organ and piano	Catherine Simms
Violin	Rachael Conner
Oboe	Joe Gamble
Flutes	Sophie Weale-Williets
	Hannah Watson
	Rachel Mullins
	Eleanor Simms
Clarinets	Geraldine Allen
	Edmund Watson
Horn	Katie Thorpe
Trumpets	Catherine Duke
	St John Astley
Recorders	Susannah Simms
Percussion	Jenni Mullins

The Musical Arrangements are by Sarah Rodgers

*We warmly invite you to share
in our coming Christmas celebrations:*

Christmas Eve

4.30pm Crib Service

Especially for younger children

Christmas Day

10am Come and join the Celebration

Christmas worship for all

Boxing Day

10.30am Morning Worship

New Year's Eve

11.30pm Hope for the Future

Millennium Watchnight service

Sunday 2nd January

10.30 A New Start

Covenant Service

Monday to Friday : Midday Prayers at 12 noon



**HAVE A VERY
HAPPY CHRISTMAS**