



 **St. Mary's Church**  
SAWSTON

## **CRIB SERVICE 2.30pm 24 DECEMBER 2021**



## Welcome

Mary and Joseph, looking for a room, waiting for the baby.  
Together we are waiting

**We are waiting for Jesus**

An empty stable, a manger full of hay, everything is ready.  
Together we are waiting

**We are waiting for Jesus**

Angels in the sky, singing glory and peace, Jesus is born.  
Together we are waiting

**We are waiting for Jesus**

All the earth, silent and still, the day has come.  
Together we are waiting

**We are waiting for Jesus**

## Carol

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

Phillips Brooks (1835–1893) Reproduced from *Ancient & Modern* Electronic Words Edition, number 79

**Reading: Jesus is foretold and the angel visits Mary**

## Carol

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.

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.

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.

Author Unknown *Little children's book*, Philadelphia, 1885 Reproduced from *Ancient & Modern Electronic Words Edition*, number 60

## Reading: The shepherds

### Carol

While shepherds watch'd their flocks by night,  
All seated on the ground,  
The angel of the Lord came down,  
And glory shone around.  
"Fear not," said he, for mighty dread  
Had seized their troubled mind;  
"Glad tidings of great joy I bring  
To you and all mankind.

Nahum Tate (1652–1715) based on Luke 2.1-20. Reproduced from *Ancient & Modern Electronic Words Edition*, number 89 .

## Placing of the crib figures

Mary carried Jesus all the way to Bethlehem,  
Thank you God,  
**Thank you for Jesus.**

*Mary is placed in the crib*

Joseph walked beside her, all the way to Bethlehem,  
Thank you God,  
**Thank you for Jesus.**

*Joseph is placed in the crib*

The Angels sang 'glory,' over the skies of Bethlehem,  
Thank you God,  
**Thank you for Jesus.**

*The Angels are placed in the Crib*

The Shepherds ran and searched, through the streets of Bethlehem,  
Thank you God,  
**Thank you for Jesus**

*The shepherds are placed in the crib*

The wise men followed the star, all the way to Bethlehem,  
Thank you God,  
**Thank you for Jesus.**

*The wise men are placed in the crib*

Jesus slept, in the manger in Bethlehem.  
Thank you God,  
**Thank you for Jesus.**

*Jesus is placed in the crib*

## Carol

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.

*Stille Nacht! Heilige Nacht!* Joseph Mohr (1792–1848) *translated by* John Freeman Young (1820–1885)  
Reproduced from *Ancient & Modern* Electronic Words Edition, number 84 .

## Wondering

### Prayers

Bright and Holy God,  
You come among us.  
You fill us with awe and wonder.

Jesus, whose mother was Mary  
we pray for our families this Christmas.  
**Lord Jesus, come and stay with us.**

Jesus, lying in a manger,  
we pray for those who don't have anywhere to live.  
Help them to find shelter and helpful friends.  
**Lord Jesus, come and stay with us.**

Jesus, sharing a stable with the animals,  
we pray for all of your creation.  
Help us to look after the earth you have given us.  
**Lord Jesus, come and stay with us.**

Jesus, worshipped by shepherds and kings,  
we pray for all the different countries of the world, for an end to fighting  
and wars and unfair situations.

**Lord Jesus, come and stay with us.**

Jesus, our Emmanuel,  
Be with us this Christmas  
**Amen**

## 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.*

*Adeste, fideles*, (Latin, 18th century) *translated by* Frederick Oakeley (1802–1880) and others Reproduced from *Ancient & Modern Electronic Words Edition*, number 78

## Blessing

May the Lord Jesus be born in your hearts.  
May the light of Jesus light your way.  
May the love of God Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, surround you and  
keep you safe, this Christmas and always. **Amen**

# At the heart of Christmas



## Christmas Services at St Mary's

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> December 11.30pm Midnight Mass

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> December 10.30am Holy Communion

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