



St Andrew Whissendine

# Service of Lessons & Carols



Sunday 20 December 2015

6:00pm

## Oakham Team Clergy



**Revd Canon Lee Francis-Dehqani**

*Team Rector (Oakham)*

01572 722108 [lee@oakhamteam.org.uk](mailto:lee@oakhamteam.org.uk)



**Revd Janet Tebby**

*Team Vicar (Whissendine, Teigh, Ashwell, Market Overton)*

01664 474096 [janet@oakhamteam.org.uk](mailto:janet@oakhamteam.org.uk)



**Revd Canon Julie Hutchinson**

*Team Vicar (Langham, Braunston, Brooke, Hambleton & Egleton)*

01572 868816 [julie@oakhamteam.org.uk](mailto:julie@oakhamteam.org.uk)



**Revd Hildred Crowther**

*Assistant Priest*

01572 767779 [hildred@oakhamteam.org.uk](mailto:hildred@oakhamteam.org.uk)



**Revd Dr Dominic Coad**

*Curate*

01572 770024 [dominic@oakhamteam.org.uk](mailto:dominic@oakhamteam.org.uk)

## Lay Ministers

**Mr Michael Hinman** *Reader* - 01572 722061 [michael@oakhamteam.org.uk](mailto:michael@oakhamteam.org.uk)

**Mr Phillip Hutchinson** *Reader* - 01572 868816 [phillip@oakhamteam.org.uk](mailto:phillip@oakhamteam.org.uk)

**Mr David Pattinson** *Reader* - 01572 723884 [david@oakhamteam.org.uk](mailto:david@oakhamteam.org.uk)

**Mrs Robin Robson** *Reader* - 01572 757404 [robin@oakhamteam.org.uk](mailto:robin@oakhamteam.org.uk)

**Mr Alan Rudge** *Reader* - 01572 755570 [alan@oakhamteam.org.uk](mailto:alan@oakhamteam.org.uk)

**Mr Vyv Wainwright** *Reader* - 01572 759157 [vyv@oakhamteam.org.uk](mailto:vyv@oakhamteam.org.uk)

**Mrs Jenni Duffy** *Parish Evangelist* - 01572 720064 [jenni@oakhamteam.org.uk](mailto:jenni@oakhamteam.org.uk)

**Mrs Gail Rudge** *Parish Evangelist* - 01572 755570 [gail@oakhamteam.org.uk](mailto:gail@oakhamteam.org.uk)

**Mrs Madeleine Morris** *Pastoral Assistant* - 01572 868418 [madeleine@oakhamteam.org.uk](mailto:madeleine@oakhamteam.org.uk)

## Director of Music

**Mr Kevin Slingsby** - 01572 898242 [kevin@oakhamteam.org.uk](mailto:kevin@oakhamteam.org.uk)

## Oakham Team Office

**Mrs Janine Weaver** *Team Administrator* - 01572 724007 [office@oakhamteam.org.uk](mailto:office@oakhamteam.org.uk)

The Team Office is staffed on Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday 9am- 1pm, Thursdays 11am-3pm and Fridays by email. **Notices for inclusion in the pew sheet should be sent to [notices@oakhamteam.org.uk](mailto:notices@oakhamteam.org.uk) or delivered to the office by Wednesday at 11 am.**



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



[www.facebook.com/oakhamteam](https://www.facebook.com/oakhamteam)



[info@oakhamteam.org.uk](mailto:info@oakhamteam.org.uk)



[@oakhamteam](https://twitter.com/oakhamteam)

*Please stand*

## Processional Hymn

1. *(Choir)* Once in royal David's city  
stood a lowly cattle shed,  
where a mother laid her baby  
in a manger for his bed:  
Mary was that mother mild,  
Jesus Christ her little child.
2. *(All)* He came down to earth from heaven,  
who is God and Lord of all,  
and his shelter was a stable,  
and his cradle was a stall;  
with the poor, and mean, and lowly,  
lived on earth our Saviour holy.
3. And through all his wondrous childhood  
he would honour and obey,  
love, and watch the lowly maiden,  
in whose gentle arms he lay;  
Christian children all must be  
mild, obedient, good as he.
4. For he is our childhood's pattern,  
day by day like us he grew,  
he was little, weak, and helpless,  
tears and smiles like us he knew;  
and he feeleth for our sadness,  
and he shareth in our gladness.
5. And our eyes at last shall see him,  
through his own redeeming love,  
for that child so dear and gentle  
is our Lord in heaven above;  
and he leads his children on  
to the place where he is gone.
6. Not in that poor lowly stable,  
with the oxen standing by,  
we shall see him; but in heaven,  
set at God's right hand on high;  
when like stars his children crowned  
all in white shall wait around.

*Words: C. F. Alexander; Music: H. J. Gauntlett, harmonised, A. H. Mann,  
descant, David Willcocks*

*Please remain standing*

## Bidding Prayer

Beloved in Christ, be it this Christmas-tide our care and delight to prepare ourselves to hear again the message of the angels: in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem and see this thing which is come to pass, and the Babe lying in a manger.

Let us read and mark in Holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God from the first days of our disobedience unto the glorious Redemption brought us by this Holy Child; and let us make this church glad with our carols of praise:

But first let us pray for the needs of his whole world; for peace and goodwill over all the earth; for unity and brotherhood within the Church he came to build.

And let us at this time remember in his name the poor and the helpless, the cold, the hungry and the oppressed; the sick in body and in mind and them that mourn; the lonely and the unloved; the aged and the little children; and all who know not the loving kindness of God.

Lastly let us remember before God all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore and in a greater light, that multitude which no man can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom we for evermore are one.

These prayers and praises let us humbly offer up to the throne of heaven, in the words which Christ himself hath taught us:

**Our Father, which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that 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.**

The Almighty God bless us with his grace: Christ give us the joys of everlasting life: and unto the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all. **Amen.**

*Please sit*

## Carol

The Lord at first did Adam make out of the dust and clay,  
and in his nostrils breathed life e'en as the scriptures say.  
And then in Eden's paradise he placed him to dwell,  
that he within it should remain, to dress and keep it well:

*Now let good Christians wake from sleep, let darkness turn to day,  
and sinners find in mutual love the straight and glorious way.*

And thus within the garden he was set therein to stay;  
and in commandment unto him these words the Lord did say:  
'The fruit which in the garden grows to thee shall be for meat,  
except the tree in the midst thereof, of which thou shalt not eat.'

'For in the day thou shalt it touch or dost to it come nigh,  
if so thou do but eat thereof then thou shalt surely die.'

But Adam he did take no heed unto that only thing,  
but did transgress God's holy law, and so was wrapt in sin:

Now mark the goodness of the Lord, which he for mankind bore;  
his mercy soon he did extend, lost man for to restore;  
and then, for to redeem our souls, from death and hellish thrall,  
he said his own dear Son should be the Saviour of us all:

*Words: Some Ancient Christmas Carols 1822, Davies Gilbert (1767-1839) and others  
Music: traditional, arr David Willcocks (1919-2015) & KLS*

## First Lesson

*Reader: Hammy Armstrong (Gardening Team)*

### **Christ's birth and kingdom are foretold by Isaiah. *Isaiah 9***

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;  
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined.  
You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy;  
they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing  
plunder.

For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders,  
the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.  
For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood  
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

For a child has been born for us, a son given to us;  
authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named  
Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.  
His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace  
for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it  
with justice and with righteousness from this time onwards and for evermore.  
The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

*Please stand*

## Hymn

1. 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 to-night.

2. O morning stars, together  
proclaim the holy birth,  
and praises sing to God the King,  
and peace to men on earth;  
for Christ is born of Mary;  
and, gathered all above,  
while mortals sleep, the angels keep  
their watch of wond'ring love.

3. How silently, how silently,  
the wondrous gift is given!  
So God imparts to human hearts  
the blessings of his heaven.  
No ear may hear his coming;  
but in this world of sin,  
where meek souls will receive him still,  
the dear Christ enters in.

4. O holy Child of Bethlehem,  
descend to us, we pray;  
cast out our sin, and enter in,  
be born in us to-day.  
We hear the Christmas Angels  
the great glad tidings tell:  
O come to us, abide with us,  
our Lord Emmanuel!

*Words, Phillips Brooks; Music, English traditional arr. Vaughan Williams, descant, Thomas Armstrong*

*Please sit*

## Second Lesson

*Reader: Hilda Townsend (Coffee Rota)*

### **The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary Luke 1.26-38**

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.' But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I am a virgin?' The angel said to her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.' Then Mary said, 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.' Then the angel departed from her.

### **Carol**

Born in a stable so bare,  
Born so long ago;  
Born 'neath light of star  
He who loved us so.  
Far away silent he lay,  
Born today, your homage pay,  
For Christ is born for aye,  
Born on Christmas Day.

Cradled by mother so fair,  
Tender her lullaby;  
Over her son so dear  
Angel hosts fill the sky.  
Far away silent he lay,  
Born today, your homage pay;  
Christ is born for aye,  
Born on Christmas Day.

Wise men from distant far land,  
Shepherds from starry hills  
Worship this babe so rare,  
Hearts with his warmth he fills.  
Far away silent he lay,  
Born today, your homage pay,  
For Christ is born for aye,  
Born on Christmas Day.

Love in that stable was born  
Into our hearts to flow;  
Innocent dreaming babe,  
Make me thy love to know.  
Far away silent he lay,  
Born today, your homage pay;  
Christ is born for aye,  
Born on Christmas Day.

*Nativity Carol: Words and Music, John Rutter*

*Please stand*

## Hymn

1. God rest you merry, gentlemen,  
let nothing you dismay,  
for Jesus Christ our Saviour  
was born upon this day,  
to save us all from Satan's power  
when we were gone astray:  
*O tidings of comfort and joy.*

2. From God our heavenly Father  
a blessèd angel came,  
and unto certain shepherds  
brought tidings of the same,  
how that inBethlehem was born:  
the Son of God by name:  
*O tidings of comfort and joy.*

3. The shepherds at those tidings  
rejoicèd much in mind,  
and left their flocks a-feeding  
in tempest, storm, and wind,  
and went to Bethlehem straightway  
this blessèd Babe to find:  
*O tidings of comfort and joy.*

4. But when to Bethlehem they came,  
whereat this infant lay,  
they found him in a manger,  
where oxen feed on hay;  
his mother Mary kneeling  
unto the Lord did pray:  
*O tidings of comfort and joy*

5. Now to the Lord sing praises,  
all you within this place,  
and with true love and brotherhood  
each other now embrace;  
this holy tide of Christmas  
all others doth deface:  
*O tidings of comfort and joy.*

*Words & Music: English Traditional, arranged by David Willcocks*

*Please sit*

## Third Lesson

*Reader: Margaret & David Lloyd (Cleaning Rota)*

### **The birth of Jesus the Messiah *Matthew 1.18-25***

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.' All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: 'Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel', which means, 'God is with us.' When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

*Please stand*

## Hymn

1. Unto us is born a Son,  
king of quires supernal:  
see on earth his life begun,  
of lords the Lord eternal,  
of lords the Lord eternal.
2. Christ, from heav'n descending low,  
comes on earth a stranger;  
ox and ass their owner know,  
becradled in the manger,  
becradled in the manger.
3. *(Men)* This did Herod sore affray,  
and grievously bewilder,  
so he gave the word to slay,  
and slew the little childer,  
and slew the little childer.
4. *(Ladies)* Of his love and mercy mild  
this the Christmas story;  
and O that Mary's gentle Child  
might lead us up to glory,  
might lead us up to glory!
5. *(All)* O and A, and A and O,  
cum cantibus in choro,  
let our merry organ go,  
benedicamus Domino,  
benedicamus Domino.

*Words: tr G R Woodward; Music: from Piaie Cantiones 1582, arranged by David Willcocks*

*Please sit*

## Fourth Lesson

*Reader: Sarah Bysouth (Flowers)*

### **St Luke tells of the birth of Jesus. St Luke 2.1-7**

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.



## Carol

*Lully, lulla, thou little tiny child,  
By by, lully, lullay*

O sisters too, how may we do  
for to preserve this day  
this poor youngling, for whom we do sing  
By by, lully lullay?

Herod, the king, in his raging,  
charged he hath this day  
his men of might, in his own sight,  
all young children to slay.

That woe is me, poor child for thee!  
and ever morn and day,  
for thy parting neither say nor sing  
by by, lully lullay

*Lully, lulla, thou little tiny child,  
By by, lully, lullay*

**Coventry Carol:** *Words, Pageant of the Shearmen and Tailors, 15th century;  
Music, modern version of original 1591 tune, arr Martin Shaw*

*Please stand*

### Carol for Choir and Congregation

1. 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.

2. Silent night, holy night,  
shepherds first saw the sight:  
Glories stream from heav'n afar,  
heav'nly hosts sing Alleluia:  
Christ the Saviour is born,  
Christ the Saviour is born!

3. 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 the birth,  
Jesus, Lord, at the birth.

*Words: Josef Mohr (1792-1848) trans John F Young; Music: Franz Gruber (1787-1863) arr Bob Chilcott (b 1955)*

Please sit

## Fifth Lesson

Reader: Harry Poyner (Bellringer & Organist)

### The shepherds go to the manger. St Luke 2.8-16

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.' And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!' When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

### Carol

A little child there is yborn,  
*eia, eia, susanni,*  
and he sprang out of Jesse's thorn,  
*alleluia, alleluia,*  
to save all us that were forlorn.

Now Jesus is the childes name,  
*eia, eia, susanni,*  
and Mary mild she is the dame,  
*alleluia, alleluia,*  
and so our sorrow is turned to game.

It fell upon the high midnight,  
*eia, eia, susanni,*  
the stars they shone both fair and bright,  
*alleluia, alleluia,*  
the angels sang with all their might.

Three kings there came with their presents,  
*eia, eia, susanni,*  
of myrrh and gold and frankincense,  
*alleluia, alleluia,*  
as clerkes sing in their sequence.

Now sit we down upon our knees,  
*eia, eia, susanni,*  
and pray we to the Trinity,  
*alleluia, alleluia,*  
our help, our succour for to be,  
*alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*

Words: anon 15th century Music: Malcolm Archer (b 1952)

*Please stand*

## Hymn

1. While shepherds watched their flocks by night  
all seated on the ground,  
the angel of the Lord came down,  
and glory shone around.
2. 'Fear not,' said he (for mighty dread  
had seized their troubled mind);  
'Glad tidings of great joy I bring  
to you and all mankind.
3. 'To you in David's town this day  
is born of David's line  
a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord;  
and this shall be the sign:
4. 'The heavenly Babe you there shall find  
to human view displayed,  
all meanly wrapped in swathing bands,  
and in a manger laid.'
5. Thus spake the Seraph; and forthwith  
appeared a shining throng  
of angels praising God, who thus  
addressed their joyful song:
6. 'All glory be to God on high,  
and to the earth be peace;  
goodwill henceforth from heaven to men  
begin and never cease.

*Words: Nahum Tate; Music: Este's Psalter 1592*

*Please sit*

## Sixth Lesson

*Reader: Alex Martin (Fishes Club Leader)*

### **The wise men are led by the star to Jesus. St Matthew 2.1-12**

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, 'Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.' When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.''

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, 'Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.' When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

*Please stand*

## Carol for Choir and Congregation

1. *(All)* We three kings of Orient are;  
bearing gifts we traverse afar,  
field and fountain, moor and mountain,  
following yonder star:  
*O star of wonder, star of night,  
star with royal beauty bright,  
westward leading, still proceeding,  
guide us to thy perfect light.*
2. *(Men)* Born a king on Bethlehem plain,  
gold I bring to crown him again,  
king forever, ceasing never,  
over us all to reign:
3. *(Ladies)* Frankincense to offer have I;  
incense owns a deity nigh:  
Prayer and praising, all men raising,  
worship him, God most high:
4. *(Men)* Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume  
breathes a life of gathering gloom;  
sorr'wing, sighing, bleeding, dying,  
sealed in the stone cold tomb.
5. *(All)* Glorious now,, behold him arise,  
King, and God, and sacrifice!  
Heav'n sings alleluia,  
alleluia the earth replies:

*Words & melody: John Henry Hopkins (1820-1891), arr Paul Leddington Wright (b 1951)*

*Please remain standing*

## Seventh Lesson

*Reader: Revd Janet Tebby (Team Vicar)*

### **St John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation. St John 1.1-14**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

## Carol

In the bleak midwinter,  
frosty wind made moan,  
earth stood hard as iron,  
water like a stone.  
Snow had fallen snow on snow,  
snow on snow,  
in the bleak midwinter  
long ago.

Our God, Heav'n cannot hold him,  
nor earth sustain.  
Heav'n and earth shall flee away,  
when He comes to reign.  
In the bleak midwinter,  
a stable place suffic'd,  
the Lord God Almighty  
Jesus Christ.

Enough for him, whom cherubim,  
worship night and day,  
a breast full of milk,  
and a manger full of hay.  
Enough for him, whom angels,  
fall down before,  
the ox and ass and camel,  
which adore.  
What can I give him,  
poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd,  
I would bring a lamb.  
If I were a wise man,  
I would do my part.  
Yet what I can I give him,  
give my heart.

*Words: Christina Rossetti (1830-1894); Music: Harold Darke (1888-1976)*

## Address

*Revd Janet Tebby*

## Hymn

1. 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.*
2. God of God,  
Light of Light,  
lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;  
very God,  
begotten, not created.

3. See how the shepherds,  
summoned to his cradle,  
leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear;  
we too will thither  
bend our joyful footsteps:

4. Lo! star-led chieftains,  
Magi, Christ adoring,  
offer him incense, gold and myrrh;  
we to the Christ Child  
bring our hearts' oblations:

5. Child, for us sinners  
poor and in the manger,  
fain we embrace thee, with awe and love;  
who would not love thee,  
loving us so dearly?

6. Sing, choirs of angels,  
sing in exultation,  
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;  
'Glory to God  
in the highest'.

*Words: Adeste Fideles, translated, F Oakeley, W T Brooke & others; Music: J F Wade, arr David Willcocks*

## Collect & Blessing

Let us pray:  
Almighty God,  
you make us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of your son Jesus Christ:  
grant that, as we joyfully receive him as our redeemer,  
we may with sure confidence behold him when he shall come to be our judge;  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

Christ the Son of God, born of Mary,  
fill you with his grace to trust his promises and obey his will;  
and the blessing of God Almighty,  
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,  
be upon you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

## Hymn

1. 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!*'

2. 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!*'

3. 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!*'

*Words: C Wesley, G Whitefield & M Madan; Music: J L F Mendelssohn-Bartholdy, arr David Willcocks*

*Please stay for refreshments after the service*

*May the peace of God be with you this Christmas*

**Laudamus**, joint choir of the Oakham Team Ministry

Organist: **Paul Butler**

Director of Music: **Kevin Slingsby**

Team Vicar: **Revd Janet Tebby**

## Today

The Tea Party at Oakham is cancelled.  
Details of future parties available soon.

4:00pm – **CAROL SERVICE**  
*St Mary Ashwell*

6:00pm – **CAROL SERVICE**  
*St Andrew Whissendine*

With joint choir Laudamus.

6:00pm – **CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT**  
*All Saints Braunston*

6:00pm – **CANDLELIT CAROL SERVICE**  
*St Peter Brooke*

Sing your favourite carols, listen to traditional lessons and readings, and afterwards enjoy mulled wine, tasty nibbles and good company.

## This Week

### TUESDAY 22 DECEMBER

from 10:00am – **ADVENT PRAYER LABYRINTH – Stamford Methodist Church, Barn Hill, Stamford**

Come and spend time with God... Pray for the world and for others... A warm welcome awaits you for as long or short a time as you wish. For more information contact Rev Andy Fyall (01780) 762282.

### CHRISTMAS EVE & DAY

#### CRIB SERVICES

3:30pm **Braunston** (Journey to Jesus – through the village); 4:00pm **Oakham & Whissendine**; 5:30pm **Langham**; 6:00pm **Market Overton**.

### MIDNIGHT COMMUNION

9:00pm **Hambleton**; 11:00pm **Langham**; 11:15pm **Whissendine**; 11:30pm **Oakham**.

### CHRISTMAS MORNING COMMUNION

8:00am **Oakham & Brooke**; 9:00am **Teigh & Market Overton**; 9:15am **Egleton**; 10:00am **Oakham**; 11:00am **Braunston**.

### SUNDAY 27 DECEMBER

#### TEAM SERVICES

The only services in the Team today will be 8:00am (Said Communion) and 10:30am (Sung Communion) at **Oakham**.

## Looking Ahead

### FRIDAY 1 JANUARY

10:30am – **TEAM WALKING GROUP**  
*Hambleton Peninsula*

A walk of approx 5 miles. Lunch will be a bring and share at 8 Peterborough Avenue. Initially meet at 8 Peterborough Avenue at 10:15am with your lunch contributions then motor to the fishermen's car park. After the walk we will return to Peterborough Avenue for lunch. Hot soup and drinks will be provided. Please contact Dennis or Sally on 01572 722272 to enable us to monitor numbers and contributions.

11:30am – **BELL SERVICE**  
*St Peter & St Paul Langham*

### SATURDAY 2 JANUARY

2:30pm – **FRIENDS PANTOMIME VISIT**  
*Key Theatre, Peterborough*



## TUESDAY 12 JANUARY

10:00am - 12:00pm – **OPEN HOUSE**

*Home of Jan & Ian Williamson, 10  
Edmonton Way, Oakham*

All are welcome to call in for tea or coffee and a friendly chat.

## THURSDAY 14 JANUARY

1:00pm – **OAKHAM & BRAUNSTON  
MOTHERS' UNION**

*All Saints Oakham Church Hall*

**Fish & Chip Lunch** followed by AGM. To book your lunch please contact either Meg Dyer (771564) or Pamela Woods (755371). Cost £5. Friends and family welcome.

## SUNDAY 31 JANUARY

11:00pm – **TEAM COMMUNION FOR  
CANDLEMAS**

*St Andrew Whissendine*

## Please pray for

- The family and friends of **Norman Thorpe**, whose funeral took place at Whissendine on Tuesday;
- The family and friends of **Ronald Cooper**, whose funeral took place at Oakham on Thursday;
- The family and friends of **Carol Gibson**, whose funeral took place at Whissendine on Friday;
- For those affected by the recent floods;
- For the climate change talks in Paris;
- For the victims of terrorist atrocities, especially those killed in Paris and those killed in the Russian airliner crash;

- For those trapped under extremist regimes and the hostages held by religious extremists and their families and friends;
- For a just solution to the immigration problem and those desperate to start a new life in Europe;
- Victims of religious extremism and persecution especially in Sudan, CAR, Kenya, Syria, Somalia, Eritrea, North Korea, China, India, Northern Nigeria, Iran, Iraq, Egypt, and Pakistan;
- The people whose lives are torn apart by war and violence, especially in Ukraine, Syria and Iraq;
- The Rutland Food Bank;
- The Drop-in Centre;
- Justin and John our Archbishops and Donald and John, our Bishops;
- Lee, Janet, Julie, Hildred & Dominic, our Team Clergy, and all lay members of the Ministry Team;
- Madeleine McCann and her family and all missing children.

## Pewsheets Deadline

A special edition of the Weekly Pewsheets will be produced for Christmas Eve & Christmas Day services, and the deadline for this and the Sunday 27 December (First Sunday after Christmas) edition will be **Monday 21 December 11am**. The deadline for the Sunday 3 January (Epiphany) edition will be **Wednesday 23 December 11am** (i.e. a week earlier than usual).

## Ride and Stride Record Total

September's Ride & Stride raised a record £22,571, and thanks go to all who took part in any way or supported the event. An excellent £11,548 of the total was raised in our own Team churches, of which the 50% refund (£5774) will shortly be received by the individual churches. Amounts received by each church are – Oakham £907.41, Langham £296.84, Braunston £328.93, Brooke £201.91, Hambleton £3041.63, Egleton £299.79, Whissendine £220.97, Teigh £122.76, Ashwell £67.84, Market Overton £286.06. Oakham's proceeds will be added to the fabric fund.

## Children's Society Collection

Last week's Christingle Service at Oakham raised £269.31 for the Children's Society. Thank you to everyone who kindly donated.

## Christmas Card Delivery Service

Oakham All Saints Scout Group are running a Christmas Card Delivery Service again this year – we are raising funds for new tents and a marquee for our summer events. Please support us by dropping your fully addressed (but not stamped) Christmas cards into All Saints Church or the Scout Hut. We will be delivering through to 22nd December. The suggested donation is 20p per card.

## Oakham Christmas Cards

Christmas cards to All Saints Oakham friends can be left in the box at West Door. Donations for the Boiler/Fabric Fund (in a separate envelope marked Christmas) should please be put into the Box on South door. The cards will hang in Church at the Christmas Season.

## New Team Website

The new Team website is now live, but we need your help to make sure that it is kept up-to-date and as fully informative about what is going on as possible. If you already send reports for the magazine please let us have them for the website as well, preferably with some good pictures too (send them to [notiices@oakhamteam.org.uk](mailto:notiices@oakhamteam.org.uk)). We need good pictures as well, so if you have any please let us know, and if you are organising an event please take some pictures, or ask us if you would like someone to come and take some. please talk to Kevin Slingsby or one of the Communications Group if you have any questions.

## Rutland Foodbank Christmas Hampers.

Once again, Rutland Foodbank will be giving Christmas Hampers to those in our county who may struggle to buy those small luxuries that make Christmas a celebration. This year the hampers will include mince pies, Christmas puddings, chocolates and even family games. We are seeking

cash donations. £15 will sponsor one hamper but any amount is welcome. Cheques made payable to 'Rutland Foodbank'. Donations please to the curate's pigeon hole at Oakham, or via team ministers in the villages.

## Donations for the Refugee Crisis

Christian Aid is working with churches and other agencies in supporting humanitarian efforts taking place in Europe and the Middle East.

**Donations to Christian Aid will be gratefully received by the treasurer, or you can donate through their website directly at <http://bit.ly/refugeeappeal>.**

## Christingle and Blessing of the Crib



Come dressed as a character from the Christmas story and play your part. No rehearsals necessary! More information from Revd Janet (474096; [janet@oakhamteam.org.uk](mailto:janet@oakhamteam.org.uk))

**St Andrew's Church Whissendine  
Christmas Eve, 4 p.m.**

All Saints Church Oakham

## Christmas Eve

4:00pm **Crib Service**

*The creation and blessing of our Crib*

11:30pm **Midnight Mass**

*Candlelit choral celebration of the first communion of Christmas*

## Christmas Day

8:00am **Holy Communion**

*Traditional said service with sermon*

10:00am **Holy Communion**

*Sung service with carols and sermon*





**Stamford Methodist Church**  
Barn Hill, Stamford

# Advent Prayer Labyrinth



Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup>  
December  
from 10am

Come and spend time with God  
Pray for the world and for others

*A warm welcome awaits you*

For more information contact Rev Andy Fyall (01780) 762282



# Journey to Jesus

*Follow the STAR*



*Travel with the Wise Men and the Shepherds  
as they journey to Bethlehem to find Jesus*



*The journey begins at  
All Saints Church Braunston  
Christmas Eve 3.30pm*

*Seasonal Refreshments  
in the Village Hall  
afterwards*

*Make sure you are warmly  
dressed as we shall be  
going outside*



# Regular Groups & Activities

## CHILDREN'S GROUPS

**Pram & Toddler Service** (age 0-4)  
Mondays 2:00pm during term-time  
**Oakham Church**

**Tiny Tots** (age 0-4). Thursdays 9:45am  
during term-time. **Oakham Church**

**Little Angels** (age 0-4) Thursdays 10:30  
(term-time) **Market Overton Church**

**Sunday School** (up to age 10)  
Sundays 10:30am (except 3rd)  
**Oakham Church Hall**

**Fishes Club** (up to age 10)  
Sundays 11:00am (except 2nd)  
**Whissendine Church**

**ASH** (All Saints Hub – aged 11-13)  
Sundays 10:30am (10 January)  
**Oakham Church**

**ASK** (All Saints Kids – aged 14-16)  
Sundays 10:30am (as announced)  
**Oakham Church**

## HOME GROUPS

**Leader: Catriona Drye** (770429)  
2nd & 4th Tuesdays 10:00am  
**25 Willow Crescent, Oakham**

**Leader: Stan Bruce** (756656)  
2nd & 4th Wednesdays 7:30pm  
**19 Ashwell Road, Oakham**

**Leader: Patrick Wilson** (723288)  
2nd & 4th Thursdays 2:30pm  
**6 Peterborough Avenue, Oakham**

**Leader: Jenni Duffy** (720064) &  
**Monica Compton** (755734)  
2nd & 4th Mondays 7:30pm **Oakham**

**Leader: Alan & Gail Rudge** (755570)  
Mondays fortnightly 7:30pm  
**34 Church Street, Braunston**

**Leader: Revd Janet Tebby & Lin  
Ryder** (01572 767666)  
Thursdays fortnightly 2:00pm  
**Market Overton**

## CHOIR

**Oakham Choir Practice**  
Thursdays before 2nd & 4th Sundays  
7:00-8:15pm **Oakham Church**

**Whissendine Choir Practice**  
Tuesdays before 2nd & 4th Sundays  
8:00-9:00pm **Whissendine Church**

**Market Overton Choir Practice**  
Tuesdays before 2nd & 4th Sundays  
6:30-7:00pm **Market Overton Church**

**Langham Choir Practice**  
Tuesdays before 1st, 2nd & 4th Sundays  
12:00-1:00pm **Langham Church**

**Laudamus Joint Choir Practice**  
Tuesdays before 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays  
7:00-8:30pm **Whissendine Church**

## BELL RINGING

**Oakham Bells** Tuesdays 7:30-9:00pm

**Langham/Braunston/Brooke Bells**  
Wed 7:30pm 30 Dec/6 Jan/23 Dec

**Whissendine Bells** as announced

## MOTHERS' UNION

**Oakham & Braunston** 2nd Thursday  
2:15pm **Oakham Church Hall**

## OTHER GROUPS

**Drop-In Centre** Tea, coffee, chat &  
lunch Wednesdays 10:00am-4:00pm  
**Oakham Congregational Church**

**Come & Chat Bereavement Group**  
1st Thursday 2:30-4:30pm  
**Oakham Church Hall**

**Oasis** Tea, coffee, biscuits and & chat  
Fridays 10:30-11:30am  
**Oakham Church Mayhew Room**

**Open House** Monthly coffee morning in  
someone's home – see Diary for details..

**Prayer Chain** Requests in strictest  
confidence to **Mary Willows** (01572  
756264) who will then inform the chain.

## Services During The Week

<i>Monday</i> 21 Dec	8:30 <b>Morning Prayer</b> Oakham	4:30 <b>Evening Prayer</b> Oakham
<i>Tuesday</i> 22 Dec	8:30 <b>Morning Prayer</b> Oakham 10:00 <b>Holy Comm</b> Oakham	4:00 <b>Evening Prayer</b> Oakham
<i>Wednesday</i> 23 Dec	8:30 <b>Morning Prayer</b> Oakham 10:00 <b>Carol Service</b> J&A 10:30 <b>Holy Comm</b> Ashwell	4:30 <b>Evening Prayer</b> Oakham 5:30 <b>Meditation</b> J&A
<i>Thursday</i> 24 Dec <b>Christmas Eve</b>	3:30 <b>J'ney to Jesus</b> Braunston 4:00 <b>Crib Service</b> Oakham 4:00 <b>Crib Service</b> Whissendine 5:30 <b>Crib Service</b> Langham 6:00 <b>Crib Service</b> Mkt Overton	9:00 <b>Holy Comm</b> Hambleton 11:00 <b>Midnight Comm</b> Langham 11:15 <b>Midnight Comm</b> Whiss'ne 11:30 <b>Midnight Comm</b> Oakham
<i>Friday</i> 25 Dec <b>Christmas Day</b>	8:00 <b>Holy Comm</b> Oakham 8:00 <b>Holy Comm</b> Brooke 9:00 <b>Holy Comm</b> Teigh 9:00 <b>Holy Comm</b> Mkt Overton 9:15 <b>Holy Comm</b> Egleton	10:00 <b>Holy Comm</b> Oakham 10:30 <b>Holy Comm</b> Ashwell 11:00 <b>Holy Comm</b> Braunston

## Services Next Sunday

### 27 December (Fourth Sunday of Advent)

<i>Oakham</i>	8:00 <b>Holy Communion</b> (CW Trad) 10:30 <b>Team Holy Communion</b>	NO Evensong
No other services in the Team		

## Christmas Readings

*Oakham 10:00am:* Isaiah 9.2-7; Titus 3.4-7; Luke 2.1-14

*Whissendine, Teigh, Ashwell, Market Overton:* Isaiah 9.2-7; Titus 3.4-7; Luke 2.8-20

*All other services:* Isaiah 52.7-10; Hebrews 1.1-4; John 1.1-14

## Next Sunday's Readings

*First Sunday of Christmas:* 1 Samuel 2.18-20,26; Colossians 3.12-17; Luke 2.41-52