

St Andrew Hambleton



Welcome and Opening Prayer

Lord Jesus,

when You came to this earth as a little child and lay in the manager at Bethlehem, the angels sang for joy and proclaimed "Glory to God in the highest."

As we now celebrate your birth two thousand years later, we too sing and are glad.

Accept our worship,
the praises of our lips
and the thanksgiving of our hearts,
and bring us at last to your eternal joy
where you live and reign
in the glory of the Father and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

We sum up our prayers and praises by saying together:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who 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.

Carol

31 - Once in Royal David's City

First Reading

Isaiah 9.2,6-7

3 - Angels From the Realms of Glory

Second Reading

Luke 1.26-35

Carol

10 – God Rest You Merry Gentlemen

Third Reading

Luke 2.1-7

Carol

7 – Away In a Manger

Fourth Reading

Luke 2.8-20

Christingle Carol

- It's rounded like an orange, the earth on which we stand, and praise the God who holds it in the hollow of his hand.
 - So, Father, we would thank you for all that you have done, and for all that you have given us through the coming of your Son.
- A candle, burning brightly, can cheer the darkest night, and these candles tell how Jesus came to bring a dark world light

- 3. The ribbon round the orange reminds us of the cost: how the shepherds, strong and gentle gave his life to save the lost
- Four Seasons with their harvest supply the food we need, and the Spirit gives a harvest that can make us rich indeed.
- 5. We come with our Christingles to tell of Jesus' birth and we praise the God who blessed us by his coming to this earth.

Fifth Reading

Matthew 2.1-11

42 - The First Nowell

Sixth Reading

John 1.1-14

Prayers

Lord, we have sung these carols and heard this story so many times before. We confess that we have allowed the most important event in history to become dulled by familiarity. Help us to recapture a sense of wonder. Let us discover with surprise the stupendous fact that the Creator of the universe has shown himself in a new born baby. Enable us to accept what we shall never fully understand. So may our worship be acceptable to You, and filled with joy through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Carol

28 - O Come All Ye Faithful

The Blessing

May the humility of the shepherds, the perseverance of the wise men, the joy of the angels and the peace of Christ Child be God's gift to you this Christmas and evermore; and the blessing of God almighty, The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

Mulled wine and mince pies to follow, all welcome.

We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year