

TALK

PRAYERS

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

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 Heav'n adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time, behold Him come,
Offspring of a Virgin's womb.
Veil'd in flesh the Godhead seel
Hail, the Incarnate Deity!
Pleased as Man with man to dwell,
Jesus our Immanuel.
*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 between 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.*

BLESSING

Many thanks to our two soloists: Karine Lennon & Thibaut Descoeudres

English-Speaking Church, Verbier - Christmas Services

24 December 23.30 Christmas Midnight Communion

25 December 18.00 Christmas Family Service

30 December 18.00 Preparing for the New Year Service

All at The Little Church, Chemin du Temple (just up the hill from the Co-op)

All welcome

www.escverbier.org

ROYAL ARMOURED CORPS AND ARMY AIR CORPS ALPINE SKI CLUB



VERBIER CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE SUNDAY 23rd DECEMBER 2012

INTRODUCTION

As we celebrate Christmas, we give thanks to the Father for the gift of his Son to be our Saviour; for the love of Christ in taking our human nature; for the humble birth in Bethlehem; and for the great rescue he has made possible for us and for all mankind.

OPENING PRAYER

Heavenly Father, as we celebrate again the birth of Jesus, we pray that, like the angels we may sing his praise; like the shepherds, we may know his glory; and like the wise men, we may offer him our worship, and give him the love and loyalty of our hearts; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CAROL

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.
Solo O come, let us adore him,
Solo O come, let us adore him,
All 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;
O come, let us adore him, etc.

3. Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above:
'Glory to God
In the highest!'
O come, let us adore him, etc.

FIRST READING Isaiah 9: 2, 6 & 7

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned. For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and for ever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.

CAROL

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 street shineth
The everlasting Light;
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee tonight.

2. O morning stars, together
Proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the King,
And peace to all on earth.
For Christ is born of Mary;
And, gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep
Their watch of wondering love.

SECOND READING Luke 2:1-15

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) And everyone went to his own town to register. So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child.

While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn. And there were shepherds living out in the fields near by, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.

But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favour rests." When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

SOLO O Holy Night

CAROL

1. While shepherds watched their flocks by night,
All seated on the ground,
The angel of the Lord came down,
And Glory shone around.

3. *Solo* 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 today.
We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell:
O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Emmanuel.

2. "Fear not", said he (for mighty dread
Had seized their troubled minds),
"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 display'd,
All meanly wrapped in swathing bands,
And in a manger laid."

5. "All glory be to God on high,
And to the earth be peace:
Good will henceforth from heav'n to man
Begin and never cease."

THIRD READING Matthew 2:1-12

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him."

When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Christ was to be born. "In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "for this is what the prophet has written:

"But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will be the shepherd of my people Israel."
Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and make a careful search for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him."

After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen in the east went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

CAROL

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. *Solo* Born a king on Bethlehem's plain,
Gold I bring to crown Him again,
King forever, ceasing never
Over us all to reign.
All O star of wonder, star of night...

3. *Solo* Frankincense to offer have I,
Incense owns a Deity nigh.
Prayer and praising all men raising,
Worship Him, God on high.
All O star of wonder, star of night ...

4. *Solo* Myrrh is mine: it's bitter perfume
Breaths a life of gathering gloom.
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding dying,
Sealed in the stone-cold tomb.
All O star of wonder, star of night ...

5. *All* Glorious now behold Him arise,
Alleluia, alleluia!
King and God and Sacrifice,
Sounds through the earth and skies.
O star of wonder, star of night ...