

Morning Service

How to become a Christian
John 1:9-13

Rev Nathan Owens

**God rest you merry, gentlemen
let nothing you dismay.
Remember Christ our Saviour
was born on Christmas Day,
to save poor souls from Satan's power
when we had gone astray,
And it's tidings of comfort and joy,
comfort and joy!
And it's tidings of comfort and joy!**

Women

**From God that is our Father,
the blessed Angels came
unto some certain shepherds
with tidings of the same;
that there was born in Bethlehem,
the Son of God by name.**

All

And it's tidings of comfort and joy.

Men

**Go, fear not, said God's Angels,
let nothing you affright,
for there is born in Bethlehem,
of a pure Virgin bright,
one able to advance you,
and throw down Satan quite.**

All

And it's tidings of comfort and joy.

All

**The shepherds at those tidings,
rejoiced much in mind,
and left their flocks a-feeding
in tempest storms of wind,
and strait they came to Bethlehem,
the Son of God to find.
And it's tidings of comfort and joy.**

Women

**Now when they came to Bethlehem,
where our sweet Saviour lay,
they found Him in a manger,
where oxen feed on hay,
the blessed Virgin kneeling down,
unto the Lord did pray.**

All

And it's tidings of comfort and joy.

Men

**With sudden joy and gladness,
the shepherds were beguil'd,
to see the Babe of Israel,
before His mother mild,
on them with joy and cheerfulness,
rejoice each mother's child.**

All

And it's tidings of comfort and joy.

All

**Now to the Lord sing praises,
all you within this place,
like we true loving brethren,
each other to embrace,
for the merry time of Christmas,
is drawing on a-pace.
And it's tidings of comfort and joy.**

Traditional

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Prayer

John 1:9-13

⁹ The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹ He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him.

John 1:9-13

¹² But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

Children's Talk

**For mistakes we can't forget
and the sins that still beset
we have a Lamb,
we have a Lamb.**

**For our fraught and anxious realm,
for the fears that overwhelm
we have a throne,
we have a throne.**

**We sing worthy, worthy is the Lamb
who was slain for the world,
royal arms unfurled,
we sing glory, glory to the Christ,
Your cross our Fountain of Life.**

**For our lost and lonely hearts,
for our gnarled and tangled paths
we have a Shepherd,
we have a Shepherd.**

**For our dry and listless souls
and our thirst for being whole,
we have a stream,
we have a stream.**

**We sing worthy, worthy is the Lamb
who was slain for the world,
royal arms unfurled,
we sing glory, glory to the Christ,
Your cross our Fountain of Life.**

**For regret and ravaged years,
for all sweet and bitter tears
we have a Father,
we have a Father.**

**For our treks through burning sands
to our home in promised lands,
this hope till all is done,
our God the Three in One.**

**We sing worthy, worthy is the Lamb
who was slain for the world,
royal arms unfurled,
we sing glory, glory to the Christ,
Your cross our Fountain of Life.**

Glen Scrivener | Phil Moore

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Prayer

**Child in the manger, infant of Mary;
outcast and stranger, Lord of all!
Child who inherits all our transgressions,
all our demerits on Him fall.**

**Once the most holy child of salvation
gently and lowly lived below;
Now, as our glorious mighty Redeemer,
see Him victorious o'er each foe.**

**Prophets foretold Him, infant of wonder;
angels behold Him on His throne;
worthy our Saviour of all their praises;
happy for ever are His own.**

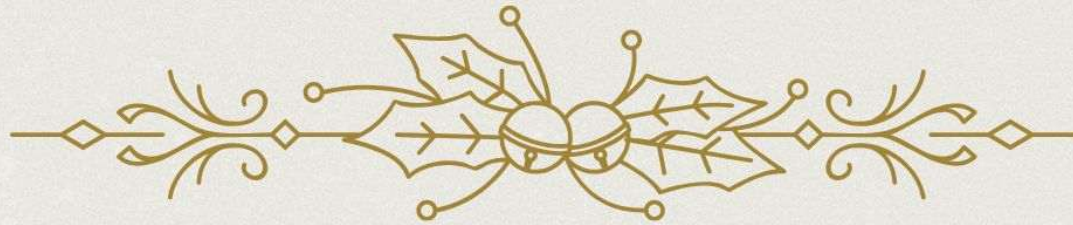
Mary Macdonald, 1817-c. 1890

Tr. Lachlan Macbean, 1853-1931

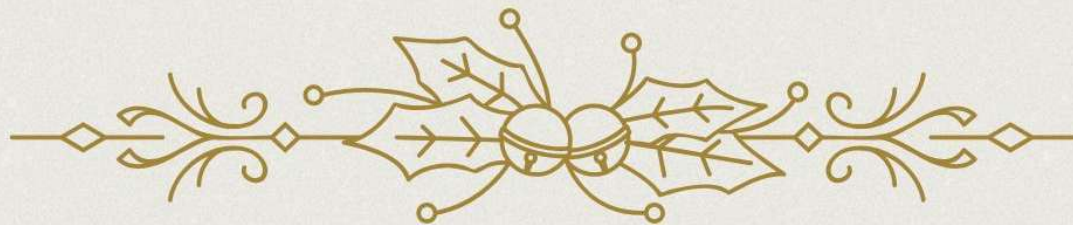
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Christmas Series

Gilcomston Church



God of God
Light of Light



Advent 2025

Sundays @ Gile

**See in yonder manger low,
born for us on earth below,
see! The tender Lamb appears
promised from eternal years.
Hail, thou ever-blessed morn!
Hail, redemption's happy dawn!
Sing through all Jerusalem,
'Christ is born in Bethlehem!'**

**Lo! Within a manger lies
He who built the starry skies,
He who, throned in height sublime,
sits amid the cherubim:
Hail, thou ever-blessed morn!
Hail, redemption's happy dawn!
Sing through all Jerusalem,
'Christ is born in Bethlehem!'**

**Say, ye holy shepherds say,
what your joyful news today;
wherefore have ye left your sheep
on that lonely mountain steep.**

**Hail, thou ever-blessed morn!
Hail, redemption's happy dawn!
Sing through all Jerusalem,
'Christ is born in Bethlehem!'**

**'As we watched at dead of night,
lo! We saw a wondrous light:
angels, singing peace on earth,
told us of the Saviour's birth.'
Hail, thou ever-blessed morn!
Hail, redemption's happy dawn!
Sing through all Jerusalem,
'Christ is born in Bethlehem!'**

**Sacred Infant, all Divine,
what a tender love was Thine,
thus to come from highest bliss
down to such a world as this!
Hail, thou ever-blessed morn!
Hail, redemption's happy dawn!
Sing through all Jerusalem,
'Christ is born in Bethlehem!'**

**Teach, O teach us, Holy Child,
by Thy face so meek and mild,
teach us to resemble Thee
in Thy sweet humility.**

**Hail, thou ever-blessed morn!
Hail, redemption's happy dawn!
Sing through all Jerusalem,
'Christ is born in Bethlehem!'**

Edward Caswall, 1814-78

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**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with us all.
Amen.**

Evening Service

Why peace isn't a pipe dream

Colossians 1:15-20

Rev Jerry Middleton

**As with gladness men of old
did the guiding star behold,
as with joy they hailed its light,
leading onward, beaming bright,
so, most gracious Lord, may we
evermore be led to Thee.**

**As with joyful steps they sped,
Saviour, to Thy lowly bed,
there to bend the knee before
Thee, whom heaven and earth adore,
so may we with willing feet
ever seek Thy mercy-seat.**

**As they offered gifts most rare
at Thy cradle rude and bare,
so may we with holy joy,
pure, and free from sin's alloy,
all our costliest treasures bring,
Christ, to Thee, our heavenly King.**

**Holy Jesus, every day
keep us in the narrow way;
and, when earthly things are past,
bring our ransomed souls at last
where they need no star to guide,
where no clouds Thy glory hide.**

**In the heavenly country bright
need they no created light;
Thou its light, its joy, its crown,
Thou its sun which goes not down;
there for ever may we sing
hallelujahs to our King.**

**William Chatterton Dix, 1837-98 All words are reproduced under Christian Copyright
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Prayer

**Love came down at Christmas,
Love all lovely, Love Divine;
Love was born at Christmas,
star and angels gave the sign.**

**Worship we the Godhead,
Love Incarnate, Love Divine;
worship we our Jesus;
but wherewith for sacred sign?**

**Love shall be our token,
love be yours and love be mine,
love to God and all men,
love for plea and gift and sign.**

Christina Rossetti, 1830-94

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Colossians 1:15-23

¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. ¹⁶ For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him.

Colossians 1:15-23

17 And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

18 And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be pre-eminent.

Colossians 1:15-23

¹⁹ For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰ and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

Colossians 1:15-23

**²¹ And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds,
²² he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him,**

Colossians 1:15-23

23 if indeed you continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, became a minister.

**On Christmas night all Christians sing,
to hear the news the angels bring,
on Christmas night all Christians sing,
to hear the news the angels bring -
news of great joy, news of great mirth,
news of our merciful King's birth.**

**Then why should men on earth be so sad,
since our Redeemer made us glad,
then why should men on earth be so sad,
since our Redeemer made us glad,
when from our sin He set us free,
all for to gain our liberty?**

**When sin departs before His grace,
then life and health come in its place;
when sin departs before His grace,
then life and health come in its place;
angels and men with joy may sing,
all for to see the new-born King.**

**All out of darkness we have light,
which made the angels sing this night;
all out of darkness we have light,
which made the angels sing this night;
'Glory to God and peace to men,
now and for evermore. Amen.'**

Traditional

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ADVENT

HOPE | PEACE | LOVE | JOY

Prayer

**Good Christians all, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
give ye heed to what we say,
News! News!**

**Jesus Christ is born today.
Ox and ass before Him bow,
and He is in the manger now.
Christ is born today!
Christ is born today!**

**Good Christians all, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
now ye hear of endless bliss,
Joy! Joy!**

**Jesus Christ was born for this.
He hath oped the heavenly door,
and all are blest for evermore.**

Christ was born for this!

Christ was born for this!

**Good Christians all, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
now ye need not fear the grave,
Peace! Peace!
Jesus Christ was born to save.
Calls you one, and calls you all,
to gain His everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save!
Christ was born to save!**

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with us all.
Amen.**