

BRENTOR CHURCH

27th December 2020

1st Sunday of Christmas

Family Service

Led by

Christopher and Sally Pancheri



We warmly welcome everyone
joining our service

Welcome

We say together...

Jesus of Nazareth, small child of Bethlehem,
you were laid in a manger, a manger filled with warm hay,
We have all woken in our homes today – some busy, some quiet,
Help us see that our homes are the places where you come to live
in all your glory.

And gather us here, your people held in the quiet of your birth among us.
Ordinary, and extraordinary, all at once.

Amen

Let's listen to our first song together...

Once in Royal David's City

- 1 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 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 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;
 where like stars his children crowned
 all in white shall wait around.

Minister

As we kneel with the shepherds before the newborn Christ child, we open our hearts in penitence and faith.

Let us say sorry...

Lord of grace and truth, we confess our unworthiness to stand in your presence as your children.

We have sinned:

forgive and heal us.

The Virgin Mary accepted your call to be the mother of Jesus.

Forgive our disobedience to your will.

We have sinned:

forgive and heal us.

Your Son our Saviour was born in poverty in a manger.

Forgive our greed and rejection of your ways.

We have sinned:

forgive and heal us.

The shepherds left their flocks to go to Bethlehem.

Forgive our self-interest and lack of vision.

We have sinned:

forgive and heal us.

The wise men followed the star to find Jesus the King.

Forgive our reluctance to seek you.

We have sinned:

forgive and heal us.

Amen.

Minister

May the God of all healing and forgiveness draw *us* to himself and cleanse *us* from all *our* sins, that *we* may behold the glory of his Son, the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Psalm 148 (New Living Translation).

⁵ Let every created thing give praise to the LORD, for he issued his command, and they came into being.

⁶ He set them in place forever and ever.

His decree will never be revoked.

⁷ Praise the LORD from the earth, you creatures of the ocean depths,

⁸ fire and hail, snow and clouds, wind and weather that obey him,

⁹ mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars,

¹⁰ wild animals and all livestock, small scurrying animals and birds,

¹¹ kings of the earth and all people, rulers and judges of the earth,

¹² young men and young women, old men and children.

¹³ Let them all praise the name of the LORD.

For his name is very great;

his glory towers over the earth and heaven!

¹⁴ He has made his people strong, honouring his faithful ones—

the people of Israel who are close to him.

Praise the LORD!

Luke 2.v15-21 NRSV

¹⁵ 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." ¹⁶ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

²¹ After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

Let's listen to our songs together...

Once upon a Moonlit night

Once upon a moonlit night, Bethlehem was bathed in light
And a single star shone near and far, declaring Christ is born.

Shepherds watching o'er their sheep, full of fear, suddenly

At the sight of angels high above, proclaiming "Glory be!"

*And the angels sang on high their song "Goodwill to all on earth" –
For a child is born upon this morn – Come praise a Saviour's birth.*

Shepherds leave their sheep and dare to journey to a stable bare
Where a baby lay amidst the hay: In Him was God made man.
Ox and ass they bend the knee in deference and praise to He
In a manger stall, born to save us all, Mary's son so small.
*Hear the angels sing on high their song "Goodwill to all on earth" –
For a child is born upon this morn – Come praise a Saviour's birth.*

Mary's Song.

How may I serve thee, O my child,
when the night is long and the wind so wild?
For I have little in the way of comfort, yet I would love thee still.
Lullay, lullay, sleep precious child. Lullay, lullay, sleep precious child.

How may I seek to honour thee
In stable bare and manger bed?
For I have little in the way of wealth, yet I would love thee still.
Lullay, lullay, sleep precious child. Lullay, lullay, sleep precious child.

How may I strive to keep thee safe,
In this strange land where we're alone?
For I have little in the way of strength, yet I would love thee still.
Lullay, lullay, sleep precious child. Lullay, lullay, sleep precious child.

We think about the reading....

Talk

We say what we believe.....

**We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and on earth is named.
We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith,
and fills us with his love.
We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us
with power from on high.
We believe in one God;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen**

Let's listen to a song as we prepare to pray together...

A light has come into the world

A light has come into the world,
A light by whom all may be saved.
Shine on me Lord, grant me grace.

Prayers

Collect

Almighty God,
who wonderfully created us in your own image
and yet more wonderfully restored us
through your Son Jesus Christ:
grant that, as he came to share in our humanity,
so we may share the life of his divinity;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

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.**

We listen to a song to send us out in the light of Christ...

Joy to the world

1 Joy to the world! The Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

- 2 Joy to the earth! The Saviour reigns!
Let all your songs employ
while fields and floods and hills and plains
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.
- 3 He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders, of his love.

A prayer for the week ahead...

God our Father,
your Word has come among us
in the Holy Child of Bethlehem:
may the light of faith illumine our hearts
and shine in our words and deeds;
through him who is Christ the Lord.

Amen.

Blessing

When the Word became flesh
earth was joined to heaven in the womb of Mary:
may the love and obedience of Mary be your example.

Amen.

May the peace of Christ
rule in your hearts and homes.

Amen.

May you be filled with the joy of the Spirit
and the gifts of your eternal home.

Amen.

And the blessing of God the Father,
God the son and God the Holy Spirit,
be with us all, evermore. **Amen.**



Please pray for all who are ill or anxious at home or in hospital, and those who have asked for our prayers: Mick, Chris Vigers, Nick & Julie, Dave & Wendy, Edward Walter, Lydia, Margaret, Bill Tucker, Lin Bristow, Tom, Helen Hardy and family and Margaret.

Please pray and give thanks for the safe arrival of Lola.

Please pray for the souls of the recently departed, especially their families and friends.

Your prayers this week are asked for:

Mon- All those who celebrated a different Christmas, changing plans at the last minute.

Tues- The many people around the country clearing up: following flooding.

Wed- All those who are still having to deal with the challenges of a restricted way of life.

Thurs- People continuing to safeguard others.

Fri- All the kindness shown by those with stresses of their own to contend with.

Sat- Thanks for the continuing work carried out by our Church family over the Christmas celebrations.

Next week at Christ Church

9:45- Holy Communion with the Reverend Tony Vigers

Donations to support the upkeep of the building and the work of the church are welcome. If you would like to make a regular donation, please contact either David or Helen Harris about the Parish Giving Scheme.

Online donations can be made at <https://www.give.net/20188530>