

Welcome to Carols on The Green 2025



Welcome

Opening Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, child in a manger,
Thank you for your gifts of peace, hope, love and joy.
We pray for the world
into which you were born.
We lift to you those living in poverty,
those who are oppressed,
those forced to flee their homes.
Recognizing their stories
in the tale of your nativity.

**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.*

God of God, Light of Light;
lo, he abhors not the virgin's womb;
very God,
begotten not created;

Sing, choirs of angels,
sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God
in the highest:



Reading - Luke 2

read by Phil Whatmough

**See him lying on a bed of straw:
a draughty stable with an open door;
Mary cradling the babe she bore
the prince of glory is his name.**

***O now carry me to Bethlehem
to see the Lord of love again:
just as poor as was the stable then,
the prince of glory when he came.***

**Star of silver, sweep across the skies,
show where Jesus in the manger lies;
shepherds, swiftly from your stupor rise
to see the saviour of the world!**

**Angels, sing again the song you sang,
bring God's glory to the heart of man;
Sing that Bethl'em's little baby can
be the saviour of us all.**

**Mine are riches, from your poverty,
from your innocence, eternity;
mine, forgiveness by your death for me,
child of sorrow for my joy.**

Reading—The Christmas Poem—by Sam Hargreaves

read by Jayne Insley

**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 tonight.**

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 wondering love.

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.

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

Reading—John 1: 1-14
read by Roger Bennett

Long time ago in Bethlehem
so the Holy Bible say
Mary's Boy Child, Jesus Christ
was born on Christmas Day!

While shepherds watched their flocks by
night
they see a shining star
they hear the angels sing the song
the music seems so far



***Hark! Now hear the angels sing:
“a King was born today
and man will live for evermore
because of Christmas Day!”***

**Now Joseph and his wife Mary
came to Bethlehem that night.
they found no place to bear her Child,
not a single room in sight.**



**By and by they found a little nook
in a stable all forlorn.
and in a manger cold and dark
Mary's little Boy was born**

***Hark! Now hear the angels sing:
“a King was born today
and man will live for evermore
because of Christmas Day!”***

**Mary's Boy Child, Jesus Christ
was born on Christmas Day!**

**Reading— Christmas Music by Jean Kay
read by—Anona van Lawick**

**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**

**Silent night, holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight
glories stream from heaven afar
heavenly hosts sing Alleluia!
Christ, the Saviour is born
Christ, the Saviour is born**

**Silent night, holy night
Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from Thy holy face
with the dawn of redeeming grace
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth "**

Prayers—led by Dominique Hardiman

Lord in your mercy
Hear our prayer

Concluding with the Lord's Prayer
**Our Father, who 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.**



Christmas Hallelujah

**I've heard about this baby boy
Who's come to earth to bring us joy
And I just want to sing this song to you
It goes like this, the fourth, the fifth
The minor fall, the major lift
With every breath I'm singing Hallelujah, Hallelujah**

**A couple came to Bethlehem
Expecting child, they searched the inn
To find a place
for You were coming soon
There was no room for them to stay
So in a manger filled with hay
God's only Son was born, oh Hallelujah, Hallelujah**

**The shepherds left
their flocks by night
To see this baby wrapped in light
A host of angels led them all to You
It was just as the angels said
You'll find Him in a manger bed
Immanuel and Saviour,
Hallelujah, Hallelujah**



**A star shown bright up in the east
To Bethlehem, the wisemen three
Came many miles
and journeyed long for You
And to the place at which You were
Their frankincense
and gold and myrrh
They gave to You and cried out Hallelujah, Hallelujah**

**I know You came to rescue me
This baby boy would grow to be
A man and one day die for me and you
My sins would drive the nails in You
That rugged cross was my cross, too
Still every breath You drew was Hallelujah, Hallelujah**

Santa's Prayer

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**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.**

**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.**



**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.**

Final Blessing

We wish you a Merry Christmas,
We wish you a Merry Christmas,
We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. X 2

*Good tidings we bring to you and your kin.
We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.*

Now, bring us some figgy pudding,
Now, bring us some figgy pudding,
Now, bring us some figgy pudding,
and bring it out here!

For we all like figgy pudding,
For we all like figgy pudding,
For we all like figgy pudding,
so bring it out here!

And we won't go until we got some,
and we won't go until we got some,
and we won't go until we got some,
so bring some out here!

If you wish to donate to our
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