

OXTED TEAM MINISTRY

Service Sheet for Christmas Day, 25th December 2020

Welcome to the Oxted Team Together, online! You will need to think how you will follow the words and watch the film, either having both on the screen at the same time or printing this out. Please join in with the words in bold and with the hymns. You may wish to have a candle nearby. The film for this service can be found here: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCYSjetWivcHiT2iaOQgrbJA>

GREETING

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All and also with you

BLESSING OF THE CRIB

God our Father, your son Jesus Christ was born of the Virgin Mary for us and for our salvation; bless this crib which we have prepared to celebrate that holy birth; may all who see it be strengthened in faith, and receive the fullness of life he came to bring; who is alive and reigns for ever. **Amen**

OPENING WORDS

I bring you good news of great joy:

All a Saviour has been born to you. Alleluia

Unto us a child is born,

All Unto us a Son is given. Alleluia

He is Christ the Lord. Alleluia

All We worship and adore him. Alleluia

COLLECT PRAYER

God our Father,
whose 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**

CONFESSION

The final candle on the wreath is lit

Christ the light of the world has come
to dispel the darkness of our hearts.
In his light let us examine ourselves and confess our sins.

We call to mind the things we want to say sorry to God for.

You were born for our salvation.
Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

You came as Saviour to bring us wholeness and peace.
Christ, have mercy.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

You come to bring light into the darkness of our lives.
Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

We hear God's words of absolution and forgiveness

May God who loved the world so much
that he sent his Son to be our Saviour
forgive us our sins and make us holy to serve him in the world,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

CAROL

(solo voice)

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.

(choir only)

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.

(choir only)

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 should be
Mild, obedient, good as He.

(everyone)

For He is our childhood's pattern,
Day by day like us He grew,
He was little, weak, and helpless,
Tears and smiles like us He knew:
And He feeleth for our sadness,
And He shareth in our gladness.

And our eyes at last shall see Him,
Through His own redeeming love;
For that child so dear and gentle
Is our Lord in heaven above;
And He leads His children on
To the place where He is gone.

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.

Words: Mrs C F Alexander

Music: H J Gauntlett

Descant: Sir David Willcocks CCLI 197156

READING

John 1.1-14

A CHRISTMAS CONVERSATION

CREED

Let us declare our faith in God

**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**

INTERCESSIONS

This or another response is used

Lord in your mercy

All Hear our prayer

The Lord's Prayer

All Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.

THE PEACE

Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given,
and his name shall be called the Prince of Peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you

All and also with you.

If we are with a family member, we share the peace with them and name others known to us who need God's peace. If we are on our own, let us close our eyes briefly and hold before God those who we bless with God's peace.

CAROL

Hark! The herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild
God and sinners reconciled:
Joyful all ye nations rise,
Join the triumph of the skies
With th'angelic host proclaim:
Christ is born in Bethlehem.
Hark! The herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King.

Christ, by highest heav'n adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold Him come
Offspring of a Virgin's womb:
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,

Hail th'incarnate Deity!
Pleased as man with man to dwell
Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! The herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King.

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Son of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings
Ris'n 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 newborn King.

*Words: Charles Wesley & others
Music: Felix Mendelssohn arr W Cummings
Descant: Sir David Willcocks CCLI 27738*

BLESSING and DISMISSAL

May the babe of Bethlehem be yours to tend;
May the boy of Nazareth be yours to friend;
May the man of Galilee his healing send;
May the Christ of Calvary his courage lend;
May the risen Lord his presence send;
And his holy angels defend you, to the end **Amen.**

And the blessing...

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All In the name of Christ. Amen.

WELCARE

Welcare is a family support charity based on Christian values that strives to empower families, offering practical & emotional support. Usually Welcare receives toys donated at Christmas Services in churches to help families. This year this is not possible. In light of COVID and the challenges which even more families now face, they have set up a new fund called "Families in Crisis". The fund provides struggling families with immediate access to essential items that will improve their situation.

You can donate by visiting this giving page

<https://bit.ly/StJWelcare2020>

Below are links to donate online to the Oxted Team churches.

Thank you very much if you are able to do so!

St George's: cafdonate.cafonline.org/12992

St Peter's: give.net/20124776

St John's: cafdonate.cafonline.org/10660

St Mary's: www.give.net/20124669