

SONG

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus lays down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky look down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky,
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask thee to stay
Close by me forever, and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
And fit us for heaven to live with thee there.

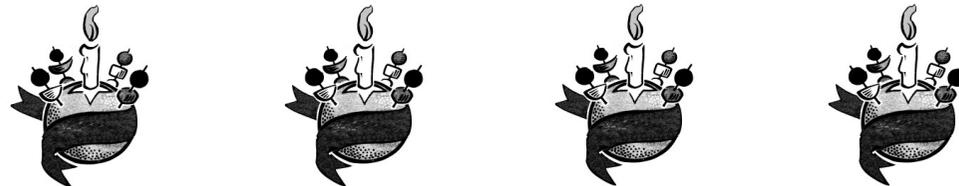
Priest: May the joy of the angels,
the eagerness of the shepherds,
the humility of the animals,
the obedience of Joseph and Mary,
and the peace of the Christ Child
be yours this Christmas;
and the blessing of God Almighty,
✠ the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and those you love
this day and forever. **Amen**

Priest: Go in the peace and light of Christ.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

The Parish Church of Forton, Saint John the Evangelist

Christingle



OPENING SONG

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, 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.

O come, let us adore him ...

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 ...

THE GATHERING

Priest: We meet together in the name of God,
✠ Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Priest: Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,
we have come together in the presence of God
to rejoice in the gift of Jesus to us
as the Light of the world.
In this service, we hear the story of his birth,
and say thank you to God in prayer and song.
Let us say together the prayer
that Jesus himself has taught us:

All: 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,
forever and ever. Amen

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.

Silent night, holy night,
All is clear, all is bright.
Round yon Virgin, Mother and Child,
Holy Infant, so tender and mild:
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Priest: Dear God,
Thank you for loving us so much
that you sent your Son Jesus Christ
to be born in Bethlehem and live as one of us.
Bless these Christingles.
May they help us to remember your love
this Advent, this Christmas and forever. Amen

*Once all the Christingles are lit,
the Church lights are turned off.*

*The Christingles are given out and lit.
Please stay in your seats as we sing the next songs.*

**The Christingle begins with an orange,
Which is round like the world God made.
For he showed us his love in creation;
In the world we see his power displayed.**

*Sing Christingle! Sing Christingle!
Sing Christingle, it's the light of Christ.
Sing Christingle! Sing Christingle!
Sing Christingle, light of Christ.*

**Every year we give thanks for the seasons,
And the fruits of the earth God gives.
The Christingle is here to remind us
Of the love of God for all that lives.**

Sing Christingle...

**Then to show us his love God sent Jesus.
We remember his birth again,
But the red ribbon round the Christingle
Shows that our sins cost him blood and pain.**

Sing Christingle...

**To complete the Christingle, a candle,
Shining out with a bright new flame,
Telling us of the true light of Jesus,
Shining in on those who love his Name.**

6 *Sing Christingle...*

READING

The angel Gabriel came to a young woman called Mary,
and told her:

"You will have a son and name him Jesus.
He will be the Son of God,
and he will rule over the world forever."

SONG

**The angel Gabriel from heaven came,
His wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame.
'All hail,' said he, 'Thou lowly maiden Mary,
Most highly favoured lady.' Gloria!**

**Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ, was born
In Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn;
And Christian folk throughout the world will ever say:
'Most highly favoured lady!' Gloria!**

READING

Mary and Joseph had to travel to Bethlehem.
When they were there, Mary gave birth to her baby.
She wrapped him in bands of cloth
and laid him in a manger,
because there was no room for them in the inn.

CHOIR SONG : Lullaby

READING

There were shepherds in the fields,
watching over their sheep.
Suddenly an angel came to them and said:
"Good news for everyone!
Today in Bethlehem, a Saviour has been born."
And all the angels sang:
"Glory to God, and peace on earth!"

SONG

Ding Dong, merrily on high,
In heav'n the bells are ringing.
Ding Dong, verily the sky
Is riv'n with angels singing:
Glo...ria, Hosanna in excelsis!
Glo...ria, Hosanna in excelsis!

E'en so here below, below,
Let steeple bells be swungen,
And io, io, io,
By priest and people sungen:
Glo...ria, Hosanna in excelsis!
Glo...ria, Hosanna in excelsis!

READING

Jesus is the Light of the world.
Mary and Joseph, the shepherds and the angels
and all the animals
went to Bethlehem to see him,
but we can meet him wherever we are.

SONG

Little donkey, little donkey,
On the dusty road,
Got to keep on plodding onwards
With your precious load.

Been a long time, little donkey,
Through the winter's night.
Don't give up now, little donkey,
Bethlehem's in sight.

Ring out those bells tonight:
Bethlehem, Bethlehem!
Follow that star tonight:
Bethlehem, Bethlehem!

Little donkey, little donkey,
Had a heavy day.
Little donkey, carry Mary
Safely on her way.