

Oundle Churches

welcome you to

Carols in the Market Place



Welcome! It's so good to be back in the Market Place singing carols on Christmas Eve! For many people these past months have been hard. Yet the true message of Christmas is as relevant as it ever was. At the heart of Christmas is a child born to temporarily homeless parents soon to be refugees in a divided land occupied by foreign soldiers. "He will be called Emmanuel," we are told, "which means, 'God with us.'" In Bethlehem God came to live among us not with great power and glory, but as a vulnerable baby. However messy our 2021 Christmas Jesus comes truly to be God with you. In Jesus we can experience true peace, joy and hope. He offers true meaning and purpose for our lives. We pray that you will encounter Jesus in new ways this Christmas time and whatever Christmas 2021 looks like for you may it also be a very happy one.

Happy Christmas!



Let's Keep Each Other Safe:
Please wear a mask including while we sing
And keep a distance from others



Welcome

Rev Martin Hills, Oundle Baptist Church

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 the angelic host proclaim:
"Christ is born in Bethlehem"

*Hark! The herald angels sing
"Glory to the newborn 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

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Son of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings
Risen with healing in His wings
Mild He lays His glory by
Born that they no more may die
Born to raise the sons of earth
Born to give them second birth

First Reading - Luke 2:1-7

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

Second Reading - Luke 2:8-16

Pause for Thought

Rev Canon Stephen Webster, Vicar of Oundle

IT CAME UPON THE MIDNIGHT CLEAR,
That glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth
To touch their harps of gold;
"Peace on the earth, good will to men
From heaven's all-gracious King"
The world in solemn stillness lay
To hear the angels sing.

For lo! the days are hastening on
By prophet bards foretold,
When, with the ever circling years
Shall come the age of gold;
When Peace shall over all the earth,
Its ancient splendours fling,
And the whole world give back the song,
Which now the angels sing.

Yet with the woes of sin and strife
The world has suffered long;
Beneath the angel-strain have rolled
Two thousand years of wrong;
And man, at war with man, hears not
The love song which they bring;
O hush the noise, ye men of strife,
And hear the angels sing!

Prayers

Led by Rev Martin Hills, Oundle Baptist Church



O COME ALL YE FAITHFUL God of God light of light
Joyful and triumphant, Lo He abhors not the virgin's womb;
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem. Very God begotten not created:
Come and behold Him,
Born the King of Angels;
O come, let us adore Him, Sing choirs of angels sing in exultation
O come, let us adore Him, Sing all ye citizens of heaven above;
O come, let us adore Him, Glory to God in the highest:
Christ the Lord.

Christmas Blessing

Revd Canon Stephen Webster, Vicar of Oundle

Christmas Church Services

Christmas Eve

16:30

Crib Service (with real Pony and baby!), St Peter's)

This service is now fully booked; places are limited to enable distancing

Christmas Day

08:30

Holy Communion, St Peter's

09:00

Christmas Day Mass, Holy Name of Jesus Church

10:30

Christmas Family Communion, St Peter's - Together
with Oundle Baptist Church and Oundle Methodist Church

You will need to book on St Peter's website for the 10:30 service to enable distancing

Sunday 29th December

09:00

Mass of the Holy Family, Holy Name of Jesus Church

10:30

All Age Service with Communion, St Peter's

10:30

Morning Worship, Oundle Baptist Church

10:30

Morning Worship, Oundle Methodist Church

**Wishing you a happy, peaceful
and joyful Christmas**