



**Diocese of Lincoln  
Church Schools' Carol Service  
Lincoln Cathedral**



Welcome: **1 John 4:9**

God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him.

Carol **Once in Royal David's city**

(Everyone stands to sing)

Words: C.F. Alexander

Music: Irby

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.

3 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 cares when we are sad,  
And he shares when we are glad.

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.

4 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.

*Please sit for the readings*

Reading

**The Promise**

Isaiah 9:6-7

Read by children from Swinderby All Saints Church of England Primary School

**Mary learns the news**

Luke 1:26-38

Read by children from Horbling Brown's CofE Primary Academy, Morton CofE Primary Academy and Chestnut Street CofE Primary Academy

Carol

**Gabriel's Message**

(Group A children come to the front at the end of the final reading)

Words: Sabine Baring-Gould

Music: Angelus Ad Virginem

1 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!

3 Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head  
"To me be as it pleaseth God," she said,  
"My soul shall laud and magnify his holy name."  
Most highly favoured lady. Gloria!

2 "For know a blessed mother  
thou shalt be,  
All generations laud and honour thee,  
Thy Son shall be Emmanuel,  
by seers foretold,  
Most highly favoured lady," Gloria!

4 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!

*Please sit for the reading*

Reading

**The Birth of Jesus** Luke 2:1-7

Read by children from Welton St Mary's Church of England Primary Academy

**The Shepherds and the Angels**

Luke 2:8-15

Read by children from Branston Church of England Infant Academy and Canon Peter Hall Church of England Primary Academy

Carol

**(Everyone stands to sing)**

**O Little town of Bethlehem**

*Words: Phillips Brooks*

*Music: Forest Green*

1 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.

3 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.

2 For Christ is born of Mary;  
And, gathered all above,  
While mortals sleep, the angels keep  
Their watch of wondering love.  
O morning stars, together  
Proclaim the holy birth  
And praises sing to God the King,  
And Peace to all on earth.

4 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.

Carol

**(Group B children come to the front during final verse of previous carol)**

**Mary's Boy Child**

*Words & Music: Jester Hairston*

Long time ago in Bethlehem  
So the Holy Bible say  
Mary's Boy Child, Jesus Christ  
Was born on Christmas day

While shepherds watch their flock by night  
Them see a bright new shining star  
Them hear a choir from heaven sing.  
The music come from afar  
Seemed to come from afar.

Hark! Now hear the Angels sing:  
"A new King born today  
And man will live forevermore because  
of Christmas day!"  
Trumpets sound and Angels sing,  
listen to what they say  
That Man will live forevermore  
Because of Christmas day

Now, Joseph and his wife Mary  
Come to Bethlehem that night.  
Them find no place to bear her Child,  
Not a single room was in sight

By and by, they find a little nook  
In a stable all forlorn  
And in a manger cold and dark.  
Mary's little Boy was born.

*Please sit for the reading*

Reading

**The Shepherds Visit Jesus**

Luke 2:15-20

Read by children from Kirkby la Thorpe Church of England Primary School

Carol

**Hark the herald angels sing**

**(Everyone stands to sing)**

*Words: C. Wesley*

*Music: Mendelssohn*

1 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!"*

3 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 we no more may die,  
Born to raise us from the earth,  
Born to give us second birth.  
*Hark! The herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King!"*

2 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, the incarnate Deity,  
Pleased as one with us to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel.  
*Hark! The herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King!"*

Carol

**Calypso Carol**

**(Group C children come to the front during final verse of previous carol)**

*Words & Music: Michael Perry*

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.

*Oh, now carry me to Bethlehem to see the  
Lord appear to men; 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

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

Angels, sing again the song you sang,  
Bring God's glory to the heart of man;  
Sing the Bethlem's little baby can  
Be salvation to the soul.

Reading **Wise Men Visit Jerusalem**  
Matthew 2:1-2  
Read by children from Willoughby St Helena's Church of England Primary School

**Wise Men Visit Jesus**  
Matthew 2:9-11  
Read by children from Dunholme St Chad's Church of England Primary School

Homily *a short message given by a member of the clergy*

Carol **Away in a Manger**

(Everyone stands to sing)

*Words & Music: William J. Kirkpatrick*

Away in a manger,  
No crib for His bed  
The little Lord Jesus  
Laid down His sweet head  
The stars in the bright sky  
Looked down where He lay  
The little Lord Jesus  
Asleep on the hay

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 take us to heaven  
To live with you there.

The cattle are lowing  
The Baby wakes  
But little Lord Jesus  
No crying He makes  
I love Thee, Lord Jesus  
Look down from the sky  
And stay by my side,  
'Til morning is nigh.

Reading **God with us**  
John 1: 1-5, 14  
Read by children from St Andrew's Church of England Primary School, Woodhall Spa

Carol **Love Shone Down**

(Children only stand to sing)

*Words: Chaz de Whalley & Andy Piercy*

I had a dream that I was standing on a hillside,  
On a Christmas night so very long ago,  
When up in the air, beautiful voices  
Sing a new song, let ev'ryone know.

*Oh, and love shone down,  
over the hills and over the valleys,  
Oh and love shone down, over the world*

Somebody spoke to me,  
I knew it was an angel  
He said "There's something  
that I think you ought to know."  
Then he just smiled, said "Don't be afraid now,  
Sing a new song, let ev'ryone know."

And then he told me all about the baby Jesus,  
How to find him, where exactly I should go.  
Then he was joined by millions of others,  
Sing a new song, let ev'ryone know

Well did I dream or was I really on that hillside,  
On that Christmas night so very long ago,  
When he was born, Jesus our Saviour?  
Sing a new song, let ev'ryone know.

Prayers

**Read by children from**

Digby Church of England Primary School and  
Dunston St Peter's Church of England Primary School

Carol

**O Come, All Ye Faithful**

**(Everyone stands to sing)**

*Words: John Francis Wade*

*Music: Adeste Fideles*

1 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.*

3 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,*  
*O come, let us adore Him,*  
*O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.*

2 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,*  
*O come, let us adore Him,*  
*O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.*

Blessing

*Please remain standing for the Blessing*

The Lord bless *you* and watch over *you*,  
the Lord make his face shine upon *you*  
and be gracious to *you*,  
the Lord look kindly on *you*  
and give *you* peace;  
and the blessing of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you for evermore

*Thank you for taking part in the service. You are now free to leave and we wish you a safe journey.*



'Believing we are **called** into fellowship with God who seeks the flourishing of all, we **aspire** to strengthen our school communities with wisdom, knowledge and understanding.

Through partnerships firmly **rooted** in Christian hope and in the love of God, we **empower** all in our Church school family to love one another with humility, justice and kindness.'

**Called**

**Aspirational**

**Rooted**

**Empowering**

C A R E



The Diocesan  
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