

st giles' CRIPPLEGATE



## Carols by Candlelight

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2024  
at 6.30 pm

Welcome.

Whoever you are, wherever you have come from,  
whatever your story: you are welcome here.

Please join in saying the words in bold, and singing the carols.

St Giles' has always been a Church for 'outsiders': on the edge of The City (literally), free thinkers, wonderers and creatives, pilgrims and the curious.  
We still are.

Advent is a season of expectation and hope. We make a pilgrimage through these four weeks, from darkness to light.

We anticipate the birth of Christ, 2000 years ago. We hear again all the prophecies and expectations of the Jewish people, awaiting the Messiah.  
We also look forward to the close of this world, and the consummation of God's Kingdom of Justice, Peace and Love, here on earth. Christ will come again!

Before the service music may be playing, people may be praying - take a moment. Tune out any chatter, and prepare your heart.

The next hour is a pilgrimage of ancient and modern readings and music, to journey into the heart of the mystery, that is at the heart of everything: God.

This is your church. Please feel at home here. We offer worship several times a day, most days. Midweek it is quiet, short and simple. Sundays at 10am are the heart of this church.

The Eucharist (Mass, Holy Communion, Lord's Supper) has always been at the heart of Christian worship, since the first days after the death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus. It still is.

Every Sunday, 10.00-11.10am in the words of Scripture, music and song and Holy Communion we gather every Sunday with each other and God - at the end of one week and the beginning of the next.

The rhythm, week by week, is the everyday pattern of our living - ordinary and unremarkable. It is also a Divine dance, a great mystery and a life-changing encounter. Welcome.

If you have any questions, or aren't sure about anything, please ask someone near you in church. Don't worry about how everything works initially - you'll soon be at home in our worship. It is both ancient and always fresh. Church is just people and God - everyone belongs here.

Organ preludes:

*J.S. Bach* Sinfonia from 'Christmas Oratorio'

*G.F. Handel* Pastoral Symphony from 'Messiah'

*Please stand*

*Choir*

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.

*Congregation*

**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.**

**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.**

*H.J. Gauntlett arr. Willcocks*

The Bidding

*After the Bidding, please sit*

**1st Reading**

**Isaiah 9: 2, 6 – 7 Christ's Kingdom is foretold**

City YMCA

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness – on them light has shined. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onwards and for evermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Please stand

**O come, o come Emmanuel,  
And ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear:  
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.***

**O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer  
Our spirits by thine advent here;  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
And death's dark shadows put to flight: *Rejoice ...***

***O come, O come, thou Lord of Might,  
Who to thy tribes, on Sinai's height,  
In ancient times didst give the law,  
In cloud and majesty and awe; Rejoice ...***

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading The prophet Isaiah foretells the peace that Christ will bring**

**Isaiah 11: 1-9**

Church Warden of the Parish of St Giles-without-Cripplegate with St Bartholomew, Moor Lane, St Alphage, London Wall and St Luke, Old Street with St Mary Charterhouse and St Paul, Clerkenwell

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow<sup>[a]</sup> out of his roots. The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see or decide by what his ears hear, but with righteousness he shall judge for the poor and decide with equity for the oppressed of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb; the leopard shall lie down with the kid; the calf and the lion will feed together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.

**Choir**

**Night of silence**

**by Daniel Kantor arr. Ferguson**

*Cold are the people, winter of life*

*We tremble in shadows this cold, endless night*

*Frozen in the snow lie roses sleeping*

*Flowers that will echo the sunrise*

*Fire of hope is our only warmth*

*Weary, its flame will be dying soon.*

*Voice in the distance, call in the night*

*On wind you enfold us you speak of the light*

*Gentle on the ear you whisper softly*

*Rumours of a dawn so embracing.*

*Breathless love awaits darkened souls,*

*Soon will we know of the morning*

*Spirit among us, shine like the star  
Your light that guides shepherds and kings from afar  
Shimmer in the sky so empty, lonely  
Rising in the warmth of your Son's love  
Star unknowing of night and day  
Spirit we wait for your loving Son.*

*Towards the end of this carol the conductor will invite the congregation quietly to sing, seated:*

**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.**

*Text of 'Night of Silence' by Daniel Kantor, Copyright © 1984 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Text licensed for reprint use by Anne Marsden Thomas and St. Giles Cripplegate Church, London EC2Y 8BD.*

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Reading**

**Micah 5: 2-5 The prophet Micah foretells the glory of little Bethlehem**

Dame Kathryn McDowell, London Symphony Orchestra

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labour has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace

*Please stand*

**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 to-night.**

**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.**

**O holy Child of Bethlehem,  
Descend to us, we pray!  
Cast out our sin and enter in,  
Be born in us to-day.  
We hear the Christmas angels,**

**The great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us,  
Our Lord Emmanuel!**

*Please sit*

**Luke 1: 26 – 38 The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary**  
Master of Cripplegate Ward Club

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.' But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I am a virgin?' The angel said to her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.' Then Mary said, 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.' Then the angel departed from her.

**Choir**

**The Angel Gabriel from heaven came**

**Basque traditional (Bordes 1895 arr. Marsden Thomas)**

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.*
2. For known a blessed Mother thou shalt be, All generations laud and honour thee.  
Thy son shall be Emmanuel by seers foretold. *Most .....*
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 ...*
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 ...*

*Please stand*

**Angels from the realms of glory,  
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
ye who sang creation's story  
Now proclaim Messiah's birth:  
*Gloria in excelsis Deo, gloria in excelsis Deo.***

**Saints before the altar bending,  
Watching long in hope and fear,  
Suddenly the Lord, descending,  
In his temple shall appear:  
*Gloria in excelsis Deo, gloria in excelsis Deo.***

**Though an infant now we view him,  
He shall fill his Father's throne,**

**Gather all the nations to him;  
Every knee shall then bow down:  
*Gloria in excelsis Deo, gloria in excelsis Deo.***

*Please sit*

### **5<sup>th</sup> Reading**

#### **Luke 2: 1 – 7 St Luke recounts the birth of Jesus**

Alderwoman of Cripplegate

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her first-born son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

### **Choir**

#### **Lute Book Lullaby by Amanda Dean**

*Sweet was the song the Virgin sang, when she to Bethlem Juda came and was delivered of a son,  
That blessed Jesus hath to name: Lulla, lulla, lullaby. 'Sweet babe', sang she, 'my son',  
And eke a Saviour born, Who hast vouchsafed from on high to visit us that were forlorn.'  
Lulla, lulla, 'Sweet babe,' sang she, And rocked him sweetly, rocked him sweetly on her knee.  
Lulla, lulla, lullaby.*

### **6<sup>th</sup> Reading**

#### **Luke 2: 8 – 16 The shepherds go to the manger**

Wesley's Chapel and Leysian Mission

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.' And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!' When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

*Please stand*

### **Choir**

#### **Gaudete!**

#### **Piae Cantiones 1582; Jistebnice Cantional 1420**

*Translation: Rejoice! Rejoice! Christ is born of the Virgin Mary, rejoice! 1. The time of grace has come for which we have prayed; let us devoutly sing songs of joy. Rejoice ... 2. God is made man, while nature wonders; the world is renewed by Christ the King. Rejoice ... 3. Therefore let our assembly sing praises now at this time of purification; let it bless the Lord; greetings to our King. Rejoice ...*

*Please stand for the 7<sup>th</sup> Reading*

**John 14: 1 – 14 St John unfolds the mystery of the Incarnation**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

**Of the Father's heart begotten,  
Ere the world from chaos rose,  
He is Alpha: from the Fountain  
All that is and hath been flows;  
He is Omega, of all things  
Yet to come the mystic Close,  
*Evermore and evermore.***

**He assumed this mortal body,  
Frail and feeble, doomed to die,  
That the race from dust created  
Might not perish utterly,  
Which the dreadful Law had sentenced  
In the depths of hell to lie,  
*Evermore and evermore.***

**This is he, whom seer and sybil  
Sang in ages long gone by;  
This is he of old revealed  
In the page of prophecy;  
Lo! he comes, the promised Saviour;  
Let the world his praises cry!  
*Evermore and evermore.***

**Sing, ye heights of heav'n, his praises;  
Angels and archangels, sing!  
Wheresoe'er ye be, ye faithful,  
Let your joyous anthems ring,  
Ev'ry tongue his name confessing,  
Countless voices answering,  
*Evermore and evermore.***

*Piae Cantiones, arr. Willcocks*

*Please sit*



Address - The Rector

**Choir**

**Nazareth Carol**

**Words and music by Brian Solomons**

*An angel came to Nazareth from the most Holy One, And there he told Mary she'd give birth to a son. "I am a virgin," she said, "how can this be?". "The spirit will come on you," He said, "Mary, trust me." Ring out you merry bells, Let the world rejoice To the song you sing. Ring out for Jesus Christ who was born to be King. 2. Mary was promised to Joseph to wed, But the Lord spoke to Joseph and he sayered from her bed. Then they went to Bethlehem from Galilee Where, in a stable, she bore her baby. Ring out ... 3. Shepherds came unto them and to Mary did tell That her son would be the Saviour of the land, Israel. Glory to God in the Heavens above, And may the whole world be filled with His love. Ring out ...*

*A collection will be taken during this carol*

*Please stand*

**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 Christ the Lord!**

**God of God, Light of Light,  
Lo! how he humbly chose the Virgin's womb.  
Very God,  
Begotten, not created;  
O come ...**

*Choir alone*

See how the shepherds, Summoned to his cradle,  
Leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear:

*Congregation*

**We too will thither  
Bend our joyful footsteps.  
O come ...**

**Child, for us sinners, Poor and in the manger,  
Fain we embrace thee, with awe and love;  
Who would not love thee,  
Loving us so dearly?  
O come ...**

**Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation,  
Sing all ye citizens of heaven above.  
Word of the Father,  
Now in flesh appearing.;  
O come ...**

*Words and music by J.F. Wade, arr. Willcocks*

*Please kneel or sit*

Prayers

*Please stand*

**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 th'angelic host proclaim,  
Christ is born in Bethlehem.  
*Hark the herald angels sing  
Glory to the new-born King.***

**Christ, by highest heav'n adored,  
Christ, the ever-lasting 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 ...***

**Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!  
Hail the Sun 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 ...***

*Mendelssohn arr. Willcocks*

The Blessing

*Please sit to listen to the organ postlude*

*Paul Ayres Exite Fideles*

*After the service please enjoy mulled wine, soft drinks and mince pies in the church.*

### **Clergy**

The Rev'd Canon Jack Noble  
The Rev'd Lucy Newman Cleeve  
The Rev'd Edwin Wilton-Morgan

### **Musicians**

*St. Giles' Choir, plus friends from the congregation, local residents and organ students*  
*Organist Elizabeth Day*  
*Organ scholar Inga de Vegvar*  
*Director Anne Marsden Thomas MBE*

*Take this home and put it on the fridge!*

## **Christmas Eve**

4pm Crib Service

A relaxed children-focussed First Eucharist and Christmas

9pm 'Midnight' Mass

## **Christmas Day**

10am Festal Eucharist

## **The Octave of Christmas**

26, 27, 28, 30 and 31 December

11am, short 20 minute Contemplative Eucharist  
on each of these Holy days

## **Epiphany**

5th January

10am Parish Eucharist

4pm Choral Evensong

## **Candlemas**

(the end of Christmastide)

2nd February

10am Parish Eucharist

4pm Choral Evensong

## **2025**

Every Sunday at 10am

& midweek services

before work, lunchtime and after work

[www.stgileschurch.com](http://www.stgileschurch.com)

## Sunday

8.30 - 8.50	Morning Prayer
<b>10.00 - 11.10</b>	<b>Parish Eucharist</b> with Children's Sunday Club
4.00 - 4.45	Choral Evensong (1st Sunday of the month)
4.00 - 4.20	Evening Prayer (2nd, 3rd, 4th & 5th Sundays)

## Monday

8.00 - 8.20	Holy Eucharist
8.30 - 8.50	Morning Prayer
5.30 - 5.50	Evening Prayer

## Tuesday

8.30 - 8.50	Morning Prayer
5.30 - 5.50	Evening Prayer
6.00 - 6.20	Holy Eucharist

## Wednesday

8.30 - 8.50	Morning Prayer
10.00 - 10.20	Holy Eucharist followed by coffee
12.30 - 1.00	Bible Study, in the Rectory next to St Giles' Church
5.30 - 5.50	Evening Prayer

## Thursday

	Always open for private prayer
1.00-1.30	Silent Prayer (1st Thursday of the month)

## Friday

8.30 - 8.50	Morning Prayer
12.30 - 12.55	Holy Communion BCP 1662
5.30 - 5.50	Evening Prayer

## Saturday

	Usually open for private prayer
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