

NOTICES

APPOINTMENT ANNOUNCEMENT: The Bishop of Ely is pleased to announce that the Revd Rachel Blanchflower, formerly curate of The Good Shepherd, Chesterton, is to take up the post of half time Priest-in-Charge of the Benefice of Great Gransden and Abbotsley and Little Gransden and Waresley.

The licensing service will be held at 7pm on Thursday 31st January 2019 at Great Gransden Church. All welcome.

CONTACTS DURING INTERREGNUM—all enquiries re Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals or any other church matters should be made to the Churchwardens (*full details in Roundabout*).

PRAYER LIST - If you would like anyone to be included by name in our prayers each Sunday (sick, departed etc.) please contact Tony Bevens LLM.

STAMPS FOR MOGGERHANGER—The boxes for used postage stamps for Moggerhanger will be in all four churches from now until the end of January.

NEW SAFETY ARRANGEMENTS - At normal services there are now 2 emergency exits showing a green/white sign. In the event of an emergency you will be directed to leave the church by these exits and proceed to the Assembly Point in the churchyard. A 'Safety Buddy' system is in place for those with reduced mobility. More information available from the Sidesmen, Nick Walton or Stephen Sullivan.

CHURCH SERVICES AT CHRISTMAS IN THE GRANSSENS

Christmas Eve **CRIB SERVICE with NATIVITY** 4.00pm GG
Christmas Eve **MIDNIGHT COMMUNION** 11.15pm GG
Christmas Day **FAMILY COMMUNION** 10.30am GG

ADVANCE NOTICE—Bedford Gallery Quire will be giving a concert in GG Church on Saturday 16th March 2019. Not to be missed, make a note in diaries now!

CONTACTS

Priest in Charge: In Interregnum

LLM: Tony Bevens 677643
ALM Music: Sheila George 677553 ALM Youthwork: Angela Steele 07711 285165
Churchwardens: Great Gransden Rob Chignell 677322 Iain Strath 679911
Little Gransden Nick Wareham 677555 Betty Bates 677257

Church Web page : thegransdens.btck.co.uk

 Find us on Facebook Great and Little Gransden Churches

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THE PARISHES OF GT & LT GRANSDEN

SERVICE OF LESSONS & CAROLS 23rd DECEMBER 2018



BIDDING PRAYER AND BLESSING OF THE CRIB

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT RING

This year we are following an Advent Resource from the Royal School of Church Music.

Advent 4—Mary

Jesus said, 'Anyone who does what my Father in heaven wants is my brother or sister or mother.'

I am the servant of the Lord.

Let it be to me according to his word.

The fourth candle is lit and this response is used

Jesus is the light of the world.

A light no darkness can ever put out.

We sing:

Mary's gift, beyond all telling,
was to give Christ room.
She gave God a human dwelling
In a mother's womb.
Who could guess the final story? -
Cross and glory; empty tomb!

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CAROL FIRST VERSE SOLO

- 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.
- 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.
- 3 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.
- 4 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;
When like stars his children crowned
All in white shall wait around.

Words: C.F.Alexander

Music: H.J.Gauntlett arr.David Wilcocks

LESSON 1 'God promises a ruler from David's family'

Isaiah 11.1-5 read by Iain Strath

CHOIR Sussex Carol

English Traditional Carol

Arr. David Wilcocks

LESSON 6 'The word becomes flesh'

John. 1-14 read by the Nick Wareham

CAROL The collection will be taken during this carol

- 1 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.*
- 2 Christ, by highest heav'n adored,
Christ the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold him come
Off-spring of a virgin's womb;
Veiled in flesh the God-head see,
Hail th'incarnate Deity!
Pleased as man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel. *Refrain*
- 3 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. *Refrain*

Words: Charles Wesley Music Mendelssohn

COLLECT & BLESSING

Members of the Gransden Ladies Singers have joined our
Church Choir on this occasion.
Please join us for seasonal refreshments after the service.

LESSON 5 The wise men are led by the star to Jesus'
Matthew 2.1-12 read by Mick Ward

CAROL

- 1 As with gladness men of old
did that guiding star behold,
as with joy they hailed its light,
leading onward, beaming bright,
so, most gracious God, may we
evermore be led to thee.
- 2 As with joyful steps they sped
to that lowly manger-bed,
there to bend the knee before
Him whom heaven and earth adore,
so may we with willing feet
ever seek thy mercy-seat.
- 3 As they offered gifts most rare
at that manger rude and bare,
so may we with holy joy,
pure, and free from sin's alloy,
all our costliest treasures bring,
Christ, to thee our heavenly King.
- 4 Holy Jesu, every day
keep us in the narrow way;
and, when earthly things are past,
bring our ransomed souls at last
where they need no star to guide,
where no clouds thy glory hide.
- 5 In the heav'nly country bright
need they no created light;
thou its light, its joy, its crown,
thou its sun which goes not down;
there for ever may we sing
alleluyas to your King.

*Words: W.Chatterton Dix
Music C.Kocher arr. David Wilcocks*

CHOIR The Cherry Tree Carol *English Traditional Carol
Arr. David Wilcocks*

LESSON 2 'God's purpose is revealed to Mary'
Luke 1.26-38 read by Karen Whinney

CAROL

- 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 favour'd lady," Gloria!
- 2 "For know a blessed mother thou shalt be,
All generations laud and honour thee,
Thy Son shall be Emanuel, by seers foretold
Most highly favour'd 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 favour'd lady. Gloria!
- 4 Of her, Emanuel, the Christ was born
In Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn
And Christian folk throughout the world will ever say:
Most highly favour'd lady. Gloria!

*Words: S.Baring-Gould
Music: Basque Carol arr.David Wilcocks*

CHOIR Still, still, still *Austrian traditional melody
Arr. John Barnard*

LESSON 3 'Jesus is born'
Luke 2.1-7 read by Nick Collett

CAROL

1 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.

Refrain

*O now carry me to Bethlehem to see the Lord of love again:
Just as poor as was the stable then,
the Prince of Glory when he came!*

2 **Ladies** Star of silver, sweep across the skies,
Show where Jesus in the manger lies;
Men Shepherds, swiftly from your stupor rise
To see the Saviour of the world! *Refrain ALL*

3 **Ladies** Angels, sing again the song you sang,
Sing the glory of God's gracious plan;
Men Sing that Bethlehem's little baby can
Be the Saviour of us all. *Refrain ALL*

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

Calypso Carol: Michael Perry

LESSON 4 'The shepherds go to the manger'
Luke 2.8-16 read by Jenny Capps

CHOIR Cradle Song

*Flemish Traditional Carol
Arr. John Rutter*

CAROL

1 God rest you merry, gentlemen,
Let nothing you dismay,
For Jesus Christ our saviour
Was born upon this day,
To save us all from Satan's power
When we were gone astray;
*O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy.*

2 From God our heav'nly Father
A blessed angel came,
And unto certain shepherds
Brought tidings of the same,
How that in Bethlehem was born
The Son of God by name; *Refrain*

3 The shepherds at those tidings
Rejoiced much in mind
And left their flocks a-feeding
In tempest, storm and wind,
And went to Bethlehem straight way
This blessed babe to find; *Refrain*

4 But when to Bethlehem they came,
Whereat this infant lay,
They found him in a manger,
Where oxen feed on hay;
His mother Mary kneeling,
Unto the Lord did pray; *Refrain*

5 Now to the Lord sing praises,
All you within this place,
And with true love and brother-hood
Each other now embrace;
This holy tide of Christmas
All others doth deface; *Refrain*

*English Tradition Carol
Arr. David Wilcocks*