

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

Please remain seated for our **PRAYERS** led by Sheila George

Please stand for the **CAROL** during which the collection will be taken.

God rest ye merry, gentlemen, let nothing you dismay,
for Jesus Christ our Saviour was born on Christmas 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.*

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*

The shepherds at those tidings rejoiced much in mind,
and left their flocks a-feeding, in tempest, storm and wind,
and went to Bethlehem straightway the blessed babe to find. *Refrain*

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*

Now to the Lord sing praises all you within this place,
and with true love and fellowship each other now embrace;
this holy tide of Christmas all others doth deface. *Refrain*

Remain standing for **THE BLESSING**

May the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds,
the perseverance of the wise men, the obedience of Joseph and Mary,
and the peace of the Christ-child be with us all this Christmas;
and may the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son,
and the Holy Spirit, be among us and remain with us always. **Amen**

Please remain standing while the Choir returns to the vestry.

The Parishes of Gt & Lt Gransden

CRIB SERVICE with NATIVITY

4.00 pm

Christmas Eve 2018



ORDER OF SERVICE

Please stand as the Choir enters.

WELCOME

A Churchwarden gives guidance on the order of service.

Please remain seated for all the carols during the performance.

THE TELLING OF THE CHRISTMAS STORY

We sing the **CAROL**

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 holy Child of Bethlehem,
Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in,
Be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell:
O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Emmanuel.

THE TELLING OF THE CHRISTMAS STORY

CHOIR CAROL Mary, Mary

THE TELLING OF THE CHRISTMAS STORY

We sing the **CAROL**

See amid the winter's snow,
Born for us on earth below,
See, the tender Lamb appears
Promised for eternal years.

*Hail, thou ever blessed morn,
Hail, redemptions happy dawn!
Sing through all Jerusalem,
Christ is born in Bethlehem.*

Virgin mother, Mary, blest,
By the joys that fill thy breast,
Pray for us, that we may prove
Worthy of the Saviour's love. *Refrain*

THE TELLING OF THE CHRISTMAS STORY

CHOIR CAROL Still, still, still

THE TELLING OF THE CHRISTMAS STORY

We sing the **CAROL**

While shepherds watched their flocks by night,
All seated on the ground,
The angel of the Lord came down,
And glory shone around.

'To you in David's town this day
Is born of David's line
A Saviour, who is Christ the Lord;
And this shall be the sign:

'The heav'nly Babe you there shall find
To human view displayed,
All meanly wrapped in swathing bands,
And in a manger laid.'

Thus spake the seraph; and forthwith
Appeared a shining throng
Of angels praising God, who thus
Addressed their joyful song;

All glory be to God on high,
And to the earth be peace;
Goodwill henceforth from heav'n to men
Begin and never cease.

THE TELLING OF THE CHRISTMAS STORY

We sing the **CAROL**

ALL We three kings of Orient are;
Bearing gifts we traverse afar
Field and fountain, moor and mountain,
Following yonder star:

Refrain O star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect light.

MEN Born a king on Bethlehem plain,
Gold I bring, to crown him again -
King for ever, ceasing never,
Over us all to reign; *Refrain ALL*

MEN Frankincense to offer have I;
Incense owns a deity nigh:
Prayer and praising, all men raising,
Worship him, God most high; *Refrain ALL*

MEN Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume
Breathes a life of gathering gloom;
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,
Sealed in the stone-cold tomb; *Refrain ALL*

ALL Glorious now, behold him arise,
King, and God, and sacrifice!
Heav'n sings alleluia,
Alleluia the earth replies. *Refrain*

THE NATIVITY TABLEAU

CHOIR CAROL *During which the candles will be lit*

The lights are dimmed and we sing the **CAROL**

Away in a manger, no crib for a 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.

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.