



All Saints' Church, Hertford

Crib Service

24th December 2020 16.30

Welcome

Leader: The Lord be with you

All: And also with you.

Leader: Advent has been a time of waiting. We remember how God's people waited in hope for the coming of the Saviour, the Messiah, the promised one, who would set them free. We remember that we are waiting for Jesus to come again. And we are waiting for a time when the world is safe from coronavirus, and we are free to live our lives – to hug, and play, and do so many things we haven't been able to do as normal. We may be sad, or scared, or angry, or worried. But we remember God's promise that "the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness does not overcome it." At the darkest time of the year, in the darkest night, hope is born in Jesus – Emmanuel, God with us.

Carol: O little Town of Bethlehem

STORY The Beginning, The Angel's Message. Annunciation

Video: A Special Visitor

Carol: Once in Royal David's City

Bible Reading Luke 2:1-8 The Birth of Jesus read by Martin Bird

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 firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

STORY The Birth of Jesus, The Nativity

Video: Bethlehem

Carol: Away in a manger

STORY: The Shepherds and the Wisemen, Jesus is revealed

Video: Star, Shepherds, Wise Men

Dim your lights if you have Christmas lights to show

Leader: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light! Those who dwelt in the land of deep darkness, upon them has light shined! For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counsellor, Almighty God, the Prince of Peace!

Turn the lights back on and sing

Carol: Hark, the Herald Angels Sing

Prayers led by Soraia and Isabel

Soraia Jesus whose mother was Mary,
And who was cared for by Joseph,
Bless our families.

Isabel Christ, born in a stable,
We pray for the homeless, the refugees and the poor.

Soraia Christ, worshipped by Shepherds and Angels,
Give Peace and Love on Earth.

Isabel: Christ whose Light filled the World,
Send us all the light of your Hope and Life.
And be with all those who are lonely or ill at this time.

Soraia Jesus Saviour, child of Mary,
You know and love us,
You share our lives and hear our prayer,
Glory to you for ever. **Amen**

Carol: O come, all ye faithful

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 yours this Christmas time and the
Blessing



*May you be blessed with
The spirit of the season, which is peace,
The gladness of the season, which is hope,
And the heart of the season, which is love.*

Rev Canon Jo Loveridge,
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