CHRIST’S COLLEGE
CHAPEL

CHRISTMAS
CAROL SERVICE 2020
The Prologue

The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined.

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end.

Beloved in Christ, be it now our care and delight to hear again the message of the angels, and in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, and the Babe lying in a manger.

Let us contemplate therein the glorious mystery of Emmanuel, God with us; and let us give thanks for the wondrous grace and goodness of our heavenly Father, in sending his Son to redeem us from our sins.

Let us pray:

Heavenly Father, as we remember your Son’s birth for us, fill our hearts with gladness at this great redemption, that we may join in the heavenly song of glory to God in the highest, on earth peace, and goodwill towards all people, through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.
First Carol: Once in Royal David’s City

Choir Only:

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 joins in:

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 heav’n 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.
First Reading: Luke 2:1-7


And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed. (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city.

And Joseph went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David): To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

Thanks be to God.

Second Carol: O little town of Bethlehem

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 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 today.
We hear the Christmas angels
the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
our Lord Emmanuel!

**Anthem: Sing Lullaby**

*Sing lullaby!*
*Lullaby baby, now reclining,*
*Sing lullaby!*
*Hush, do not wake the Infant King.*
*Angels are watching, stars are shining*
*Over the place where he is lying:*
*Sing lullaby!*

*Sing lullaby!*
*Lullaby baby, now a-dozing,*
*Sing lullaby!*
*Hush, do not wake the Infant King.*
*Soon comes the cross, the nails, the piercing,*
*Then in the grave at last reposing:*
*Sing lullaby!*
Sing lullaby!
Lullaby is the babe awaking?
Sing lullaby!
Hush, do not stir the Infant King.
Dreaming of Easter, gladsome, morning,
Conquering death, its bondage breaking:
Sing lullaby!

(Opera: David Willcocks)

Second Reading: Luke 2:8-15

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them,

‘Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, 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, and on earth peace, good will toward men’.

Thanks be to God.
Third Carol: Hark! The Herald angels sing

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 th’angelic host proclaim,
Christ is born in Bethlehem!

_Hark! The herald angels sing,
Glory to the newborn King!_

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 th’incarnate Deity,
Pleased as man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel:

_Hark! The herald angels sing,
Glory to the newborn King!_

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:
**Third Reading: Luke 2.16-20**

And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, ‘Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us’.

And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds.

Thanks be to God.

**Prayers**

O God our heavenly Father,
who hast manifested thy love towards humankind
in sending thine only Son into the world,
that all might live through him;
Speed forth, we pray,
these glad tidings of great joy unto every nation,
that those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death
may see the great light, and may come to worship him
whose name is called Wonderful,
even our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

All:  Amen.
O Almighty God,
who by the incarnation of thine only begotten Son
hast banished the darkness of this world,
and by his glorious birth did enlighten that most holy night;
Drive away from us, we pray, the darkness of sin,
and illuminate our hearts with the glory of thy grace;
through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

All:  Amen.

Fourth Carol: O Come, all ye faithful

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!

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!

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!