

CHRISTMAS CRIB SERVICE



THE PARISH CHURCH OF
ST. WILFRID, MOBBERLEY

Crib Service

Welcome Introduction

Carol - Ding, dong! merrily on high

Ding dong! merrily on high,
in Heav'n the bells are ringing,
Ding dong! verily the sky
is riv'n with angel singing.
Gloria, hosannah in excelsis!

E'en so here below, below,
let steeple bells be swungen,
And io, io, io,
by priest and people sungen.
Gloria, hosannah in excelsis!

Pray ye dutifully, prime your matin chime, ye ringers;
May ye beautifully rime your evetime song, ye singers.
Gloria, hosannah in excelsis!



Introduction

- **Mary Receives an Unexpected Guest**

Carol - Gabriel's Message

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!

"For known as blessed Mother thou shalt be,
all generations laud and honour thee,
thy son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold:
Most highly favour'd lady," Gloria!

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!



Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ, was born
in Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn,
& Christian folk throughout the world will ever say:
Most highly favour'd lady," Gloria!

- **Mary & Joseph Travel to Bethlehem**

Carol - Little Donkey

Little donkey, little donkey
on the dusty road
Got to keep on plodding onwards
with your precious load
Been a long time, little donkey,
through the winters night
Don't give up now, little donkey,
Bethlehem's in sight
*Ring out those bells tonight
Bethlehem, Bethlehem
Follow that star tonight
Bethlehem, Bethlehem
Little donkey, little donkey,
had a heavy day
Little donkey, carry Mary
safely on her way.*

Little donkey, little donkey,
journey's end is near
There are wise men waiting for a
sign to bring them here
Do not falter little donkey,
there's a star ahead
It will guide you, little donkey,
to a cattle shed
*Ring out those bells tonight
Bethlehem, Bethlehem
Follow that star tonight
Bethlehem, Bethlehem
Little donkey, little donkey,
had a heavy day
'Little donkey, carry Mary,
safely on her way' x2*



- **Jesus is Born**

Carol - Once in Royal David's City

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.

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, the scorned, the lowly,
lived on earth our Saviour holy.

And our eyes at last shall see him,
through his own redeeming love;
for that Child who seemed so helpless
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 round,
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.

- **Shepherds Receive Some Wonderful News**

Carol - While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks by Night

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



'Fear not', said he (for mighty dread
had seized their troubled mind);
'Glad tidings of great joy I bring
to you and all mankind.



'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 heavenly 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;
good will henceforth from heaven to men
begin and never cease.'



- **Strangers Arrive From the East**

Carol - We Three Kings

We three kings of Orient are,
bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain,
following yonder star:

*O star of wonder, star of night,
star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding,
guide us to thy perfect light.*

Born a king on Bethlehem plain,
gold I bring to crown him again:
King for ever, ceasing never,
over us all to reign.

Chorus.

Frankincense to offer have I
Incense owns a Deity nigh
Pray'r and praising, all men raising
Worship Him, God most high.

Chorus.

Myrrh is mine, its bitter perfume
Breathes of life of gathering gloom
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying
Sealed in the stone-cold tomb

Chorus.

Glorious now, behold him arise,
King, and God, and sacrifice!
Heaven sings out "Alleluia",
"Alleluia" the earth replies.

Chorus

Our Prayers

Carol - Away in a Manger

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 in the hay.

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.

The Blessing

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 eternal,
lo, he abhors not the virgin's womb;
Son of the Father, 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!