

# **Welcome** to Penicuik: St Mungo's Parish Church online



— CHRISTMAS EVE —  
Thursday 24 December 2020  
This act of worship has been prepared to allow us to spend some time with God, knowing that others are sharing in it.

We thank all the team involved in creating and distributing this service, and praise God for his unchanging character and unfailing love.

This order of service is for you to use as you are able: some of you may wish simply to read it, whether silently or aloud. Others may wish to listen, and even join in with the singing: just click on the links.

If you want to join in the whole service, follow the link which you'll find on our website: [www.stmungos.freeuk.com](http://www.stmungos.freeuk.com) . Video <https://youtu.be/bdkzmqVzXA>  
If you would like to listen to just the sermon and a prayer, dial **01968 700121**. There will be about 20 seconds' silence, after which the recording should start.

## **INTROIT: In the bleak midwinter**

Watch video at: <https://youtu.be/Gxdw0nXC6LI>

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan,  
earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone:  
snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,  
in the bleak midwinter, long ago.

Our God, heaven cannot hold him, nor earth sustain;  
heaven and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign:  
in the bleak midwinter a stable-place sufficed  
the Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ.

Enough for him whom cherubim worship night and day,  
a breastful of milk and a mangerful of hay:  
enough for him whom angels fall down before,  
the ox and ass and camel which adore.

What can I give him, poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb,  
if I were a wise man, I would do my part,  
yet what I can I give him, give my heart...  
give my heart.

*Christina Georgina Rossetti (1830-1894); tune by Harold Darke (1888-1976)  
Sung by Craig Downes, accompanied on piano by Roger Tucker. Used by permission.*

**WELCOME** to St Mungo's. We're glad you can join us, this Christmas Eve.  
Let us worship God.

### **HYMN: O little town of Bethlehem**

Watch video at <https://youtu.be/6D6-lHd3pUc>

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 all the earth.  
For Christ is born of Mary; and, gathered all above,  
while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.

How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is given!  
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heaven:  
no ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin,  
where meek souls will receive him—still the dear Christ enters in.

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.

*Phillips Brooks (1835-1893); tune arranged by Ralph Vaughan Williams*

*This recording © Sam and Sara Hargreaves for engageworship. Brass and bass by Dan Warwick.*

*Used by permission*

### **PRAYER**

Gracious God,  
your angels broke into the darkness of a sleeping world  
to tell out the news that Christ was born in Bethlehem.  
Break into the darkness of our world and stir our hearts  
to hear again the message of your love and saving power.  
On this night, we remember again the coming of the child  
whose birth was foretold by prophets,  
acclaimed by angels and greeted by shepherds.  
Open our eyes to see in Jesus your loving purposes,  
and arouse within us the spirit of adoring praise. **Amen**

## HYMN: Silent Night

Watch video at [https://youtu.be/p\\_IVgJ5txrw](https://youtu.be/p_IVgJ5txrw)

Silent night, holy night.

Sleeps the world, hid from sight,  
Mary and Joseph in stable bare,  
Watch o'er the child, beloved and fair,  
Sleep in heavenly rest,  
Sleep in heavenly rest.

All is calm, all is bright  
Shepherds first saw the light,  
Heard resounding clear and strong,  
Far and near, the angel-song,  
Christ the Redeemer is here,  
Christ the Redeemer is here.

Silent night, holy night  
Son of God, O how bright  
Love is smiling from Your face,  
Strikes for us now the hour of grace,  
Saviour since You are born,  
Saviour since You are born.

*Sung by Craig Downes, with pianist Roger Tucker*

## BIBLE READINGS (Reader: Fiona Hutcheson)

### MICAH 5: 2-5

Bethlehem Ephrath,  
you are one of the smallest towns  
in the nation of Judah.

But the Lord will choose  
one of your people  
to rule the nation—  
someone whose family  
goes back to ancient times.

The Lord will abandon Israel  
only until this ruler is born,  
and the rest of his family  
returns to Israel.

Like a shepherd  
taking care of his sheep,  
this ruler will lead  
and care for his people

### Contemporary English Version

by the power and glorious name  
of the Lord his God.

His people will live securely,  
and the whole earth will know  
his true greatness,  
because he will bring peace.

*Contemporary English Version (CEV) © 1995 by American Bible Society*

## **LUKE 2: 8-20**

## **New English Translation**

Now there were shepherds nearby living out in the field, keeping guard over their flock at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were absolutely terrified.

But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid! Listen carefully, for I proclaim to you good news that brings great joy to all the people: Today your Saviour is born in the city of David. He is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign for you: You will find a baby wrapped in strips of cloth and lying in a manger."

Suddenly a vast, heavenly army appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace among people with whom he is pleased!"

When the angels left them and went back to heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, that the Lord has made known to us."

So they hurried off and located Mary and Joseph, and found the baby lying in a manger. When they saw him, they related what they had been told about this child, and all who heard it were astonished at what the shepherds said. But Mary treasured up all these words, pondering in her heart what they might mean.

So the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen; everything was just as they had been told.

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## **LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE**

Lord Jesus, Eternal Word of the Father,  
you left the glory of heaven  
to take upon yourself our fragile humanity.  
You came to us in love and we denied you room  
and so you were placed in a manger.  
May we welcome you in our hearts this Christmas. **Amen**

## **SHORT ADDRESS**

## **HYMN: The Candle Song (Like a candle flame)**

Watch video at [https://youtu.be/XmwdZyTGa\\_A](https://youtu.be/XmwdZyTGa_A)

Like a candle flame,  
flickering small in our darkness,  
uncreated light  
shines through infant eyes.

*God is with us, alleluia!*  
*God is with us, alleluia!*  
*Come to save us, alleluia!*  
*Alleluia!*

Stars and angels sing,  
yet the earth sleeps in shadows.  
Can this tiny spark  
set a world on fire?

*God is with us, alleluia!*  
*God is with us, alleluia!*  
*Come to save us, alleluia!*  
*Alleluia!*

Yet his light shall shine  
from our lives, Spirit blazing,  
as we touch the flame  
of his holy fire.

*God is with us, alleluia!*  
*Come to save us, alleluia!*  
*God is with us, alleluia!*  
*Alleluia!*

*Graham Kendrick © 1988 Make Way Music, [www.grahamkendrick.co.uk](http://www.grahamkendrick.co.uk)  
Sung in Derby Cathedral*

## **PRAYERS FOR OTHER PEOPLE AND OURSELVES**

Father God,  
as a shepherd takes care of his sheep,  
Christ will lead and care for his people,  
bringing glory to your name.

Send your Holy Spirit to us, as we pray,  
and prompt our hearts to join in with our own prayers.

We pray for those who will use the foodbank on Christmas Day,  
that you will cause them to feel welcomed and included.

Satisfy their hunger with good things  
not just materially but spiritually as well.  
Bless the work of those who seek to help them.

We pray for any who are feeling lonely this Christmas,  
aware of the absence of family or friends.

We remember all whose lives  
are overshadowed by illness or pain,  
or darkened by sorrow or bereavement.  
Comfort and strengthen them.

Renew your hope in them.

We bring before you  
those for whom we have a special care....

We ask for the love and courage of your Spirit,  
for those reaching out to comfort the distressed,  
or taking the Good News of Christ to others.

We thank you that your mercy is on those who fear you,  
through all generations.

We make all our prayers to you, spoken or unspoken,  
through Jesus Christ,  
our Shepherd and our Saviour. **Amen**

### **HYMN: O come, all ye faithful**

Watch video at: <https://youtu.be/Q8dgl4-bVPU>

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!*

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to thee be glory given;  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing;

*O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!*

*John Francis Wade (1711 or 1712-1786), translated by Frederick Oakeley (1802-1880)  
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## **THE BLESSING**

May the blessing of God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
be with you, this Christmas and always. **Amen.**

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**Tomorrow: Welcome the Newborn King, 11am**