



TRINITY CHURCH

(Methodist & United Reformed)
Conduit Road, Abingdon OX14 1DB
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'Serving God, serving each other, serving community'

Minister: **Revd Ian Griffiths**

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Conduit Centre Office Manager: Eluned Hallas

17 December 2017

10.30am Morning Worship
with Holy Communion and JaM Nativity
led by The Revd John Rowland

(Organist: Kathy Westmacott)

Church Stewards on duty: Malcolm Newton, Alastair Fear & Ian Brawn

Welcome to Trinity Church: If you are new amongst us, or visiting, please sign our Visitors Book.

There is a '**Prayer Support Book**' in the Welcome Area, for you to enter the name of any situation or person you wish to remember during the service.

The JaM and Jamlets Groups will be meeting in their groups after the Nativity today, and any new or visiting children are very welcome to join them.

There is a **crèche facility** in the Welcome Area for very young children, and activities, toys and books for other young visitors who may need a break during the service.

Welcome

Time of Quiet

Lighting the Advent Candle

Today we light a candle for all God's messengers preparing the way for change and pointing to a new age to come.

God, as we wait for your promise, give light, give hope.

Advent hymn

*Christmas is coming! The Church is glad to sing.
And let the advent candles brightly burn in a ring*

The first is for God's promise
To put the wrong things right,
And bring to earth's darkness
The hope of love and light

Christmas is coming!...

The second's for the prophets,
who said that Christ would come
with good news for many
and angry words for some.

Christmas is coming!...

The third is for the Baptist,
Who cried, 'Prepare the way.
Be ready for Jesus,
Today and every day.

Christmas is coming!...

John L Bell

Prayer

 H&P 82

Hark the glad sound

The Commandments of the Lord

Prayer

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in
heaven. Give us today our daily bread
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those
who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation; but
deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power
and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen**

🎵🎵🎵 **JaM Nativity** 🎵🎵🎵 **by Emma Major**

Please join in with the parts on the blue slides:

"We are the nativity crowd. We tell the story VERY LOUD!"

"Mary you will have a baby. Do not fear, all will be well"

"We are the nativity crowd. We tell the story VERY LOUD!"



Startled by a holy humming

Startled by a holy humming
Drumming in her heart and ear
Mary heard an angel coming,
Gabriel was drawing near.
From the loud though soundless beating
Of the flashing, unseen wings,
Pulsed the words of sacred greeting;
She would bear the king of kings.

Startled, troubled, then believing
Mary's vision opened wide.
She by faith began perceiving
Life and truth from heaven's side.
Lord may we at last like Mary,
Catch the slant of heaven's light
Piercing through the doubts that bury
Hope and grace from human sight.

"We are going to have a baby. He will fill the world with joy"

"We are the nativity crowd. We tell the story VERY LOUD!"



As Joseph was awaking

As Joseph was awaking
he heard an angel sing,
'There shall be born to Mary
on earth our heavenly King.

And neither was he born
in house nor yet in hall;
nor in the place of paradise,
but in an ox's stall.

"Jesus born amongst animals. A baby bringing peace on earth."

"We are the nativity crowd. We tell the story VERY LOUD!"



As Joseph was awaking

As Joseph was awaking
he heard an angel sing,
'There shall be born to Mary
on earth our heavenly King.

And neither was he covered
in finery so fair,
but in such humble clothing
as all the babies wear.

As Joseph was awaking
he heard an angel sing,
'There shall be born to Mary
on earth our heavenly King.

And neither was he cradled
in silver nor in gold,
but in a wooden manger
to keep him from the cold.

"We saw a baby born for all. This is a story we must tell"

"We are the nativity crowd. We tell the story VERY LOUD!"

"This king is born for everyone. We found out from the skies"

"We are the nativity crowd. We tell the story VERY LOUD!"



We see the star the wise men saw

We see the star the wise men saw

And hope again is stirred.

We track the footprints left in time

By your incarnate Word.

We see them climb a lonely hill

Where Love is left to die —

The Love that formed the farthest star

And hears the faintest cry.

O Christ, the bright and morning Star

Whose radiance does not fade,

Whose glory filled the universe

Before the planets played:

Come, heal our hearts of blinding doubt

Till faith shall end in sight.

Shine down upon our darkened earth

And conquer sin's long night.

"Jesus brought great light to the world.

From a stable there in Bethlehem "

"We are the nativity crowd. We tell the story VERY LOUD!"



Reading

Isaiah 61 vv 1 - 4 & 8 - 11

Reader: Paul Newton

(REB OT page 621)

Reader: This is our faith's story

Thanks be to God



H&P 241

Lo, he comes with clouds descending

Reading

St. John 1 vv 6 - 8 and 19 - 28

Reader: Rosemary Richards

(REB NT page 78)

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Collect

God for whom we wait and watch, you sent your servant John the Baptist to prepare your people for the coming of the Messiah.

Inspire the ministers and stewards of your truth to turn our disobedient hearts to you; that, when Christ shall come again in glory to be our judge, we may stand with confidence before him, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God world without end. Amen

Prayers

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all, now and evermore. Amen.

Offertory

 H&P 239

Jesus shall reign

Sermon



Among us and before us

Among us and before us, Lord, you stand
With arms outstretched and bread and wine at hand.
Confronting those unworthy of a crumb,
You ask that to your table we should come.

Who dare say No, when such is your resolve
Our worst to witness, suffer and absolve,
Our best to raise in lives by God forgiven,
Our souls to fill on earth with food from heaven?

**Who dare say No, when such is your intent
To love the selves, we famish and resent,
To cradle our uncertainties and fear,
To kindle hope as you in faith draw near?**

**Who dare say No, when such is your request
That each around your table should be guest,
That here the ancient word should live as new,
'Take, eat and drink – all this is meant for you.'**?

**No more we hesitate and wonder why;
No more we stand indifferent, scared or shy.
Your invitation leads us to say Yes,
to meet you where you nourish, heal and bless.**

John L Bell (b 1949) & Graham Maule (b 1958), Iona Community CL 215980

Prayers of thanksgiving

Thank you, God
Thank you, God

Prayer of Consecration



Affirmation made by all:

**He whom the universe could not contain is present to us
in this bread;
He who redeems us and calls us by name now meets us
in this cup;
So we take this bread and this wine
trusting that in them God comes to us so that we may
come to God.**



The sharing of bread and wine



Prayer:

Lord Jesus you have put your life into our hands;
now we put our lives into yours.

Take us, renew and remake us.

What we have been is past,
what we shall be, through you, still awaits us.

Lead us on.

Take us with you.

Amen.



H&P 236

Hark what a sound

Closing Prayer and Blessing

After the Service, everyone is invited to stay whilst drinks
are brought round.

Thanks to today's Coffee Rota volunteers:
Neil Oastler, Doreen & Brian Keaney