

## Morning Prayer 27.12.2020

"I wait for the Lord, my whole being waits, and in his word I put my hope." *Psalms 130:5*

### Opening Sentences

O Lord open our lips **and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us; let us pray with one heart and mind.

*Pause for reflection as you offer the day to God.*

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day, so may the light of your presence, O God, set our hearts on fire with love for you; now and for ever. **Amen.**

### Song – Joy to the World

Joy to the world! the Lord is come;  
Let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare him room,  
And heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.

He rules the world with truth and grace,  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of His righteousness,  
And wonders of His love,  
And wonders of His love,  
And wonders, wonders, of His love.

Joy to the world! the Saviour reigns;  
Let men their songs employ;  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and  
plains  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

### Bible Readings

#### Psalm 148

- 1 Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights!
- 2 Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host!
- 3 Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars!
- 4 Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!
- 5 Let them praise the name of the Lord, for he commanded and they were created.
- 6 He established them for ever and ever; he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.
- 7 Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps,
- 8 fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling his command!
- 9 Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars!
- 10 Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds!
- 11 Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!
- 12 Young men and women alike, old and young together!
- 13 Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted; his glory is above earth and heaven.

14 He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his faithful, for the people of Israel who are close to him. Praise the Lord!

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning is now  
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

### **New Testament reading – Luke 2: 15-21**

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them. After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

This is the word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God**

### **Reflection**

### **Prayers**

*In our prayers we will pray for the world, the church, our local community, and for those who are in need.*

*At the end of each section we say:*

Lord in Your mercy  
**hear our prayer.**  
*And at the end:*

Merciful Father,  
**accept these prayers  
for the sake of your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ.  
Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins**

as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever.

## Notices

### Song – Angels from the Realms of Glory

1. Angels from the realms of glory,  
wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
ye who sang creation's story  
now proclaim Messiah's birth:

3. Sages, leave your contemplations,  
brighter visions beam afar;  
seek the great Desire of nations;  
ye have seen his natal star:  
[Refrain]

#### *Refrain:*

Come and worship, come and worship,  
worship Christ, the newborn king..

2. Shepherds, in the field abiding,  
watching o'er your flocks by night,  
God with us is now residing;  
yonder shines the infant light:  
[Refrain]

## Conclusion

The Lord bless us, and preserve us from all evil, and keep us in eternal life.  
**Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## Online Giving

Everything we do in mission and ministry is made possible by the generous support of our church family. We encourage everyone who is a regular member of St Marys to join our planned giving scheme (standing order) as this helps us to plan and budget.

You can now make donations online as a one off or regular gifts, and every penny goes back into enabling our mission and ministry.

Details of how to give online or join the planned giving scheme can be found online @ [www.stmaryshanwell.org.uk/giving](http://www.stmaryshanwell.org.uk/giving)