

## Midnight Reflection 24.12.2020



### Carol: Once in Royal David's City

1. 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.

2. 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 meek and lowly  
Lived on earth our Saviour holy.

3. And our eyes at last shall see Him  
Through His own redeeming love;  
For that child, so dear and gentle,  
Is our Lord in heaven above;  
And He leads His children on  
To the place where He is gone

4. 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;  
When like stars His children crowned,  
All in white shall wait around.

### Welcome – Rev'd Helen Cosstick

#### Advent candle prayer and lighting of Christmas candle

Tonight we light our final candle, the Christmas candle, to remind us that Jesus has brought light and hope into our world. No matter how dark the world may seem, that light still shines through.

We light this candle to celebrate that new life and light bring joy and hope to our world. In our relationship with Jesus everything is possible and that is why we have hope in Him.

Everything that was created received its life from Jesus, and his life gave light to everyone.

The light keeps shining in the dark, **and darkness has never put it out.**

**Reading: *Isaiah 52:7-10***

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, 'Your God reigns.' Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the Lord to Zion.

Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem.

The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

**Gospel reading: *John 1: 1-14***

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

**Reflection**

**Choir: Wonderful Counsellor**

Wonderful Counsellor  
Mighty God, Prince of Peace

Awesome and wonderful,  
Jesus our Counsellor,  
you are Almighty God, Prince of Peace

Jesus Christ, God with us,  
Immanuel, Prince of Peace.

**Prayers:**

The response to "Holy God" is "**Hear our Prayer**"

**Carol: O Come all ye faithful**

1. 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,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
Christ the Lord.

2. 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,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
Christ the Lord.

3. 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.

4. Ye Lord, we greet Thee,  
Born that happy morning,  
Jesu, 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.

**Final blessing** – Rev'd Helen Cosstick