



St Margaret's Church

The parish of Oxford Ss Philip & James with St Margaret

Wednesday 25th December 2024
Christmas Day

Welcome to St Margaret's, especially if you are visiting or worshipping with us for the first time.

Notices

New Electoral Roll Forms available at the 10.30am service or online at

stmargaretsoxford.org/electoral-roll

Help needed at St Margaret's – if you can help with readings, intercessions and refreshments speak to Frances.

SMI Tea & Talks – Chaucer's Wife of Bath talk Wed 8 Jan 1.30pm

Services on Sunday 29 December

8:00am – **Holy Communion** at St Giles'

10:30am – **Holy Communion** at St Giles'

For contact details and full notices, please visit our website:

www.StGilesStMargarets.org

10:30am **Parish Eucharist** **at Phil & Jim School**

(Common Worship, sung)

The choral items today are movements taken from A Ceremony of Carols, Op.28, by Benjamin Britten (1913-1976).

President and Preacher:

Revd Daniel Walters

Introit

Wolcome Yole! ("Welcome, Yule")

Wolcum be thou hevenè king, Wolcum Yole!

Wolcum, born in one morning,
Wolcum for whom we sall sing!
Wolcum be ye, Stevene and Jon,
Wolcum, Innocentes every one,
Wolcum, Thomas marter one,
Wolcum be ye, good Newe Yere,
Wolcum, Twelfthe Day both in fere,
Wolcum, seintes lefe and dere,
Wolcum Yole, Wolcum Yole, Wolcum!
Candelmesse, Quene of bliss,
Wolcum bothe to more and lesse.
Wolcum, Wolcum,
Wolcum be ye that are here, Wolcum Yole,
Wolcum alle and make good cheer,
Wolcum alle another yere,
Wolcum Yole, Wolcum!

Opening hymn:

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:
See how the shepherds,
Summoned to his cradle,
Leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear:
We too will thither
Bend our joyful footsteps:
Child, for us sinners
Poor and in the manger,
Fain we embrace Thee, with awe and love:
Who would not love Thee,
Loving us so dearly?
Sing, choirs of angels,
sing in exultation
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God
All glory in the highest
Yea, Lord, we greet Thee,
born this happy morning
Jesus, to Thee be glory given:
Word of the Father,
Now in flesh appearing:

Collect

Almighty God,
you have given us your only-begotten Son
to take our nature upon him
and as at this time to be born of a pure virgin:
grant that we, who have been born again
and made your children by adoption and grace,
may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Isaiah 9.2-7

² The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.
³ You have multiplied the nation,
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.
⁴ For the yoke of their burden,
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.
⁵ For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.
⁶ For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders;
and he is named
Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
⁷ His authority shall grow continually,
and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.
He will establish and uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time onwards and for evermore.
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Hymn (*instead of psalm*)

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 men on 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.

Titus 2.11-14

11 For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all,¹² training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, ¹³while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ. ¹⁴He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

Choir anthem

There is no rose of such vertu
as is the rose that bare Jesu.
Alleluia.

For in this rose containèd was
heaven and earth in litel space,
Res miranda.

By that rose we may well see
there be one God in persons three,
Pares forma, pares forma,

The angels sung to the shepherds to:
Gloria in excelsis, Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Gaudeamus, gaudeamus.

Leave we all this worldly mirth,
and follow we this joyful birth.
Transeamus.

Alleluia, res miranda,
pares forma, gaudeamus,
Transeamus.

Luke 2.1-20

²In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.' ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

¹⁴ 'Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favours!'

¹⁵ 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.' ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Offertory hymn:

God rest ye merry, gentlemen,
let nothing you dismay,
For Jesus Christ our Saviour
Was born on Christmas Day,
To save us all from Satan's power
When we were gone astray:
O tidings of comfort and joy,
Comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy.

From God our Heavenly Father
A blessed Angel came,
And unto certain shepherds
Brought tidings of the same,
How that in Bethlehem was born
The Son of God by Name:

The shepherds at those tidings
Rejoiced much in mind,
And left their flocks a-feeding,
In tempest, storm and wind.
And went to Bethlehem straightway
The Son of God to find:

But when to Bethlehem they came,
Whereat this infant lay,
They found Him in a manger,
Where oxen feed on hay;
His Mother Mary kneeling,
Unto the Lord did pray:

Now to the Lord sing praises,
All you within this place,
And with true love and brotherhood
Each other now embrace;
This holy tide of Christmas
All other doth efface:

Communion Anthems:

Balulalow

Omy deare hert, young Jesu sweit,
Prepare thy creddil in my spreit,
And I sall rock thee to my hert,
And never mair from thee depart.
But I sall praise thee evermoir
With sanges sweit unto thy gloir;
The knees of my hert sall I bow,
And sing that richt Balulalow.

As Dew in Aprille

I sing of a maiden that is makèles:
King of all kings to her son she ches.
He came also stille there his moder
was
As dew in Aprille that falleth on the
grass.
He came also stille to his moder's
bour
As dew in Aprille that falleth on the
flour.
He came also stille there his moder lay
As dew in Aprille that falleth on the
spray.
Moder and maiden was never none
but she:
Well may such a lady Goddes moder
be.

This little Babe

This little Babe so few days old,
is come to rifle Satan's fold;
All hell doth at his presence quake,
though he himself for cold do shake;
For in this weak unarmed wise
the gates of hell he will surprise.
With tears he fights and wins the
field,
His naked breast stands for a shield;

His battering shot are babish cries,
His arrows looks of weeping eyes,
His martial ensigns Cold and Need,
and feeble Flesh his warrior's steed.

His camp is pitched in a stall,
His bulwark but a broken wall;
The crib his trench, haystacks his
stakes;
of shepherds he his muster makes;
And thus, as sure his foe to wound,
the angels' trumps alarum sound.

My soul, with Christ join thou in fight;
stick to the tents that he hath pight.
Within his crib is surest ward;
this little Babe will be thy guard.
If thou wilt foil thy foes with joy,
then flit not from this heavenly Boy.

Deo gracias!

Deo gracias! Deo gracias!
Adam lay ibounden, bounden in a
bond;
Four thousand winter thought he not
to long.

Deo gracias! Deo gracias!
And all was for an appil, an appil that
he tok,
As clerkes finden written in their
book.

Deo gracias! Deo gracias!
Ne had the appil take ben, the appil
take ben,
Ne hadde never our lady a ben
hevene quene.

Blessed be the time that appil take
was.

Therefore we moun singen.

Deo gracias!

Post Communion

God our Father,
whose Word has come among us
in the Holy Child of Bethlehem:
may the light of faith illumine our hearts
and shine in our words and deeds;
through him who is Christ the Lord.

Final hymn:

**Hark! The herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!”
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
Join the triumph of the skies,
With angelic hosts proclaim,
“Christ is born in Bethlehem!”**

*Hark! the herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King!”*

**Christ, by highest Heav’n adored;
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold Him come
Offspring of a virgin’s womb:
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,
Hail th’incarnate Deity!
Pleased as man with man to dwell,
Jesus our Emmanuel.**

**Hail the heav’n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings,
Ris’n with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by,
Born that man no more may die;
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.**

Prayer Requests

Sick: Julia, Caroline, Christina, Edward, Ian, Rosemary

Year’s Mind:

22nd – Philip Perry (2007); Colin Cooke (2023); Louisa Bullows (2012)

27th – Margaret Ruth (Peggy) Bainbridge (2004)