



Where all find a welcome and are nurtured in their journey with Christ.



'The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light'

*Isaiah 9.2*

## **Family Service for Christmas Eve**

Saturday 24 December 2022  
5.00 pm

# **Welcome to St Mary's**

Welcome to our service this evening, where we hear the story of the birth of Jesus.

## **Stand to sing**

If you can, please stand up to sing the carols.

## **Careful with candles**

Please be careful with the candles you have been given. Only light them and put them out again when we ask you to.

## **Donate to help what we do**

We are a charity, which means we need people to donate so that we can keep putting on services like this one, look after our buildings, and help people who need it.

You can place donations in the plate by the door as you leave, tap a contactless card or device, or scan this QR code with your phone's camera.



## **Hearing loop available**

Our church has a hearing loop system which can be picked up by setting hearing aids to the "T" position.

# Mary and Joseph

## Carol: Little donkey

Little donkey, little donkey on the dusty road,  
Got to keep on plodding onwards with your precious load.  
Been a long time, little donkey, through the winter's night,  
Don't give up now, little donkey, Bethlehem's in sight.

Ring out those bells tonight, Bethlehem, Bethlehem.  
Follow that star tonight, Bethlehem, Bethlehem.  
Little donkey, little donkey, had a heavy day,  
Little donkey, carry Marry safely on her way.

Little donkey, little donkey on the dusty road,  
Got to keep on plodding onwards with your precious load.  
Been a long time, little donkey, through the winter's night,  
Don't give up now, little donkey, Bethlehem's in sight.

Ring out those bells tonight, Bethlehem, Bethlehem.  
Follow that star tonight, Bethlehem, Bethlehem.  
Little donkey, little donkey, had a heavy day,  
Little donkey, carry Marry safely on her way.

# Can they find a place to stay?

## Carol: Away in a manger

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,  
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.  
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,  
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,  
But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes,  
I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,  
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.

# Shepherds hear good news

## Carol: While shepherds watched

While shepherds watched their flocks by night,  
All seated on the ground,  
The angel of the Lord came down,  
And glory shone around,

To you in David's town this day  
Is born of David's line  
A Saviour, who is Christ the Lord;  
And this shall be the sign:

# Shining as lights in the world

*Before the next song candles will be lit. Please wait to receive the light from another and take care to keep the candles upright so that the wax does not spill.*

## Song: Christ be our light

Longing for light, we wait in darkness.  
Longing for truth, we turn to you.  
Make us your own, your holy people,  
Light for the world to see.

*Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts  
Shine through the darkness  
Christ, be our light!  
Shine in your church gathered today.*

Longing for peace, our world is troubled.  
Longing for hope, many despair.  
Your word alone has power to save us.  
Make us your living voice.

*Christ, be our light...*

Longing for food, many are hungry.  
Longing for water, many still thirst.  
Make us your bread, broken for others,  
Shared until all are fed.

*Christ, be our light...*

Longing for shelter, many are homeless.  
Longing for warmth, many are cold.  
Make us your building, sheltering others,  
Walls made of living stone.

*Christ, be our light...*

*Please extinguish candles.*

## **Carol: O come all ye faithful**

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!*

Sing, choirs of angels,  
Sing in exultation,  
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n 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!*

**Blessing**

**Unexpected Guests**

*We wish you all a very Happy Christmas!*



# Christmas Services

## Midnight Eucharist with Carols

Tonight at 11.30 pm

## Christmas Day Eucharist with Carols

Tomorrow at 10.00 am

## Support our work

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## Come sing with us

If you enjoy singing, why not join our Church choir? Just email us at [choir@whitkirkchurch.org.uk](mailto:choir@whitkirkchurch.org.uk) to say hello – we're looking forward to hearing from you!





## Our regular services

Sung Eucharist: Every Sunday at 10.00 am  
Said Eucharist: Every Wednesday at 10.00 am  
Choral Evensong: Next on Sunday 8 January at 6.00 pm



If you have enjoyed this evening why not join us for Messy Church? It takes place once a month on the second Sunday at 4.00 pm (the next one is on January 8<sup>th</sup>). It begins with food, friendly chat and time for the children to play, followed by activities and then a short service in Church. We'd love to see you.

### Contact us

If you'd like to talk to us you can call us on **0113 264 5790**, send an email to **hello@whitkirkchurch.org.uk**, or find more details on our website at **whitkirkchurch.org.uk/contact**.

### Recycle me!

Please either leave this booklet with us to recycle, or take it home with you and recycle it in your green bin.

St Mary's Church, Whitkirk 390 Selby Road Leeds LS15 0AA

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