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**SAUGHALL METHODIST CHURCH**

**CHRISTMAS EVE CAROL SHEET**

**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!*

True God of true God,  
 Light of Light eternal,  
 lo, he abhors not the Virgin's womb;  
 Son of the Father,  
 begotten, not created:

See how the shepherds,  
 summoned to his cradle,  
 leaving their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;  
 we too will thither  
 bend our joyful footsteps:

Sing, choirs of angels,  
 sing in exultation,  
 sing, all ye citizens of heaven above:  
 ‘Glory to God  
 in the highest:’

*Latin, 18th century, possibly by  
John Francis Wade (c.1711–1786)  
and others*

**While shepherds watched their**

**flocks by night,**  
 all seated on the ground,  
 the angel of the Lord came down,  
 and glory shone around.

‘Fear not,' said he (for mighty dread  
 had seized their troubled mind),  
 ‘glad tidings of great joy I bring  
 to you and humankind.

‘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:

‘The heavenly babe you there shall find  
 to human view displayed,  
 all meanly wrapped in swaddling bands,  
 and in a manger laid.’

Thus spake the seraph; and forthwith  
 appeared a shining throng  
 of angels praising God, and thus  
 addressed their joyful song:

‘All glory be to God on high,  
 and to the world be peace;  
 goodwill henceforth from heaven to earth  
 begin and never cease.’

*Nahum Tate (1652–1715)*

**Silent night, holy night**:  
 sleeps the world; hid from sight,  
 Mary and Joseph in stable bare  
 watch o'er the child belovèd and fair  
 sleeping in heavenly rest.

Silent night, holy night:  
 shepherds first saw the light,  
 heard resounding clear and long,  
 far and near, the angel-song:  
 ‘Christ the Redeemer is here!'

Silent night, holy night:  
 Son of God, O how bright  
 love is smiling from your face!  
 Strikes for us now the hour of grace,  
 Jesus, Lord at your birth.

*Joseph Mohr (1792–1848)  
trans by Stopford Augustus Brooke (1832–1916)*

**Good King Wenceslas** looked out

On the Feast of Stephen

When the snow lay round about,

Deep, and crisp and even,

Brightly shone the moon that night,

Though the frost was cruel,

When a poor man came in sight

Gathering winter fuel.

“Hither page, and stand by me,

If thou know-st it telling

Yonder peasant, who is he?

Where and what his dwelling?

“Sire, he lives a good league hence, Underneath the mountain,

Right against the forest fence,

By St. Agnes’ fountain.”

In his master’s steps he trod,

Where the snow lay dinted,

Heat was in the very sod

Which the saint had printed.

Therefore Christian men, be sure

Wealth or rank possessing,

Ye who now will bless the poor

Shall yourselves find blessing.

*John Mason Neale (1818–1866)*

**Hark! The herald-angels sing**  
glory to the new-born King,  
peace on earth, and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled.  
 Joyful, all ye nations, rise,  
 join the triumph of the skies;  
 with the angelic host proclaim:  
 ‘Christ is born in Bethlehem.’

*Hark! The herald-angels sing  
 glory to the new-born King.*

Christ, by highest heaven adored,  
 Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
 late in time behold him come,  
 offspring of a virgin's womb.  
 Veiled in flesh the Godhead see!  
 Hail, the incarnate Deity!  
 Pleased as man with men to dwell,  
 Jesus, our Immanuel:

Hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!  
 Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!  
 Light and life to all he brings,  
 risen 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:

*Charles Wesley (1707–1788)*

**We wish you a merry Christmas,**

We wish you a merry Christmas,

We wish you a merry Christmas

And a Happy New Year!

Good tidings we bring, to you and your kin,

We wish you a merry Christmas

And a Happy New Year.

*Arthur Warrell (1883-1939)*

**COVID-SAFE CAROLS**

We ask you to remember that we are still in a pandemic and therefore we still need to observe social-distancing rules and Hands –Face –Space. Please make sure that you keep at least 2 metres apart. Singing is a higher-risk activity so we need to try and keep as big a distance as possible to reduce the risk of transmission. Please do not gather outside of your household / bubble. Carol sheets should be handed out with sanitised hands.

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