

## Morning service, 27<sup>th</sup> December 2020

1. **While shepherds watched their flocks  
by night,**  
all seated on the ground,  
the angel of the Lord came down,  
and glory shone around.
2. ‘Fear not!’ said he, for mighty dread  
had seized their troubled mind;  
‘Glad tidings of great joy I bring  
to you and all mankind.’
3. ‘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:
4. ‘The heavenly babe you there shall find  
to human view displayed,  
all meanly wrapped in swaddling bands,  
and in a manger laid.’
5. Thus spake the seraph, and forthwith  
appeared a shining throng  
of angels praising God, and thus  
addressed their joyful song:
6. ‘All glory be to God on high,  
and to the earth be peace:  
goodwill henceforth from heaven to  
men  
begin and never cease.’

*Nahum Tate*

1. **Child in the manger,**  
infant of Mary;  
outcast and stranger,  
Lord of all!  
Child who inherits  
all our transgressions,  
all our demerits  
on Him fall.
2. Once the most holy  
child of salvation,  
gently and lowly  
lived below;  
now as our glorious  
mighty Redeemer,  
see Him victorious  
over each foe.
3. Prophets foretold Him,  
infant of wonder;  
angels behold Him  
on His throne;  
worthy our Saviour  
of all their praises;  
happy for ever  
are His own

*Mary Macdonald  
tr. by Lachlan Macbean*

1. **You’re the Word of God the Father,**  
from before the world began;  
every star and every planet  
has been fashioned by Your hand.  
All creation holds together  
by the power of Your voice:  
let the skies declare Your glory,  
let the land and seas rejoice!  
  
*You’re the Author of creation,  
You’re the Lord of every man;  
and Your cry of love rings out  
across the lands.*
2. Yet You left the gaze of angels,  
came to seek and save the lost,  
and exchanged the joy of heaven  
for the anguish of a cross.  
With a prayer You fed the hungry  
with a word You stilled the sea;  
yet how silently You suffered  
that the guilty may go free.
3. With a shout You rose victorious,  
wrestling victory from the grave,  
and ascended into heaven  
leading captives in Your wake.  
Now You stand before the Father  
interceding for Your own.  
From each tribe and tongue and nation  
You are leading sinners home.

*Stuart Townend and Keith Getty  
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**1. Joy to the world! the Lord is come!**

let earth receive her King;  
let every heart prepare Him room,  
and heaven and nature sing.

**2. Joy to the earth! the Saviour reigns!**

let men their songs employ;  
while fields and floods, rocks, hills and  
plains,  
repeat the sounding joy.

**3. No more let sins and sorrows grow,**

nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make His blessings flow  
far as the curse is found.

**4. He rules the world with truth and grace,**

and makes the nations prove  
the glories of His righteousness,  
the wonders of His love.

*Isaac Watts*