

WISE MEN

Lesson: Matthew 2: 1 – 11
The visit of the Wise Men

Reading – *The magi*

CAROL 185 Wise men seeking Jesus
[seated]

CHRIST FOR THE WORLD

Lesson: John 1: 1 – 5, 14

Four kinds of Christmas (again!)

Offering

Prayers of concern

CAROL O come let me tell you a story of old
[On sheet. Tune: R&S 289 To God be the glory]

Blessing:

Let us remember Mary this Christmas
And may God bless all mothers.

Let us remember Joseph this Christmas
And may God bless all fathers.

Let us remember Elizabeth and Zechariah
and John this Christmas
And may God bless all our relatives and friends.

Let us remember the shepherds this Christmas
and may God bless all those who are working.

Let us remember the wise men this Christmas
and may God bless all those who are travelling.

Let us remember Jesus this Christmas
and may God bless us all and make us his children.

Summertown United Reformed Church Festival Service 17th December 2017 3rd Sunday in Advent 10.30am

Call to worship:

We meet to worship God,
and to give thanks for the birth of Jesus,
who lived, and died, and rose from death
to show that God loves us,
that God calls us,
and that God is with us.

CAROL 135 Joy to the world
[Tune: Antioch]

Prayer and the Lord's Prayer



Lighting the Advent Candles

Third Sunday in Advent – Peace and the voice of the prophets

ADVENT SONG

Tune: *Glenfinlas – Rejoice and Sing 185, repeated*

Come and light the candles on the Advent ring,
scattering the darkness till the world shall sing.

Prophet voices speaking clear, like a burning flame,
making sure our world will never be the same.

The candle is lit ...

Reader: We light this candle
As a symbol of peace
Even in the midst of uncertainty.

All: **Come, Jesus, Light of the world.
Illumine the shadows that surround us.**

After the candle is lit...

Reader: As watch these flames burn brightly
We remember the voices of the prophets;
Crying out for justice and peace
And proclaiming the advent of God.
Let us lift up our voices with theirs:

All: **Come, Jesus, Light of the world.
Give us courage to speak up
for the voiceless.
Kindle peace in our hearts.**

Sharing the peace

THE ANGEL VISITS MARY

CAROL on CD *Gabriel's message*

Reading – *Joseph's thoughts*

JESUS IS BORN

CAROL 188 **Born in the night, Mary's child**
[seated]

Lesson: **Luke 2: 1 - 7** **Jesus is born**

Readings – *The animals' view*

CAROL 503 **O little town of Bethlehem**
[Tune ii: Forest Green]

SHEPHERDS

Lesson: **Luke 2: 8 – 16**
Shepherds hear the good news

Reading – *The shepherd's dog*

CAROL 764 **While shepherds watched their flocks**
[Tune: Winchester Old]

INTERLUDE!

My Christmas: mum's Christmas

Reindeer report

Christmas thank you's

Activity – our thank you's