



WELCOME

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CHRISTMAS DAY

25th December 2021

ST MICHAEL'S HYMNS

Entrance

497 O little town of Bethlehem

Before the Gospel

231 Go, tell it on the mountain

Offertory

318 In the bleak midwinter

Communion

71 Born in the night, Mary's child

580 Silent night

Final

468 O come, all ye faithful



COLLECT

Lord Jesus Christ,
your birth at Bethlehem
draws us to kneel in wonder at heaven
touching earth:
accept our heartfelt praise
as we worship you,
our Saviour and our eternal God.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

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.

OT: Isaiah 9:2-7 (NLT)

² The people who walk in darkness
will see a great light.

For those who live in a land of deep darkness,
a light will shine.

³ You will enlarge the nation of Israel,
and its people will rejoice.

They will rejoice before you
as people rejoice at the harvest
and like warriors dividing the plunder.

⁴ For you will break the yoke of their slavery
and lift the heavy burden from their
shoulders.

You will break the oppressor's rod,
just as you did when you destroyed the
army of Midian.

⁵ The boots of the warrior
and the uniforms bloodstained by war
will all be burned.

They will be fuel for the fire.

⁶ For a child is born to us,
a son is given to us.

The government will rest on his shoulders.

And he will be called:

Wonderful Counselor,^[c] Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

⁷ His government and its peace
will never end.

He will rule with fairness and justice from the
throne of his ancestor David

for all eternity.

The passionate commitment of the LORD of
Heaven's Armies

will make this happen!



GOSPEL: Luke 2.1-14

At that time the Roman emperor, Augustus,
decreed that a census should be taken
throughout the Roman Empire. ² (This was
the first census taken when Quirinius was
governor of Syria.) ³ All returned to their own
ancestral towns to register for this
census. ⁴ And because Joseph was a
descendant of King David, he had to go to
Bethlehem in Judea, David's ancient home. He
traveled there from the village of Nazareth in
Galilee. ⁵ He took with him Mary, to whom he
was engaged, who was now expecting a child.
⁶ And while they were there, the time came
for her baby to be born. ⁷ She gave birth to
her firstborn son. She wrapped him snugly in
strips of cloth and laid him in a manger,
because there was no lodging available for
them.

The Shepherds and Angels

⁸ That night there were shepherds staying in
the fields nearby, guarding their flocks of
sheep. ⁹ Suddenly, an angel of the Lord
appeared among them, and the radiance of
the Lord's glory surrounded them. They were
terrified, ¹⁰ but the angel reassured them.
"Don't be afraid!" he said. "I bring you good
news that will bring great joy to all
people. ¹¹ The Savior—yes, the Messiah, the
Lord—has been born today in Bethlehem, the
city of David! ¹² And you will recognize him by
this sign: You will find a baby wrapped snugly
in strips of cloth, lying in a manger."

¹³ Suddenly, the angel was joined by a vast
host of others—the armies of heaven—
praising God and saying, ¹⁴ "Glory to God in
highest heaven,

and peace on earth to those with whom
God is pleased."