

## **Order of service**

**READ John 3:16** <sup>16</sup> For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

**O come all ye faithful**

**Pray**

**Notices:**

**covid** : Future about Services watch this space maybe further restrictions from the Government. Be safe, any symptoms please don't come to church and get a test.

**Alpha**

Need Alpha helpers: if interested talk to Darren.  
Need meals, and leaders/helpers to facilitate group discussion. (however not sure this will happen due to covid) properly will be postponed for a later date

**Reading: Luke 2:1-7**

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**Joy To the word**

**Share about presents:** Ask what people got.

2 Corinthians 9:15 “Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!”

**Pray**

**Calypso carol**

**Talk**

**READ Luke 2:8 -20**

This is a very familiar story but we read it because we need to remember this event in its simplicity. So I want to draw a few thoughts for you to chew on over Christmas Dinner.

**First, the angel appeared.** Can you imagine the shock for the shepherds. Round a campfire, in the night, when suddenly there is a complete stranger in their midst. The word translated ‘appeared’ is more like ‘stand beside’. He had arrived to tell them the good news and just turned up but inevitably the angel was so

excited, he shone! No wonder the shepherds were in shock. But they hear the good news and did something about it.

**They went to Bethlehem to see for themselves.**

We can get excited about Christmas but we need to see it for ourselves. And by that I mean receive Jesus, not as a baby in a manger but as the one who lived among us, died for our sins and rose again and is now seated in heaven.

The solitary angel is joined by **a whole choir of angels** all standing round the fire singing with joy. Just for a few shepherds to enjoy! God does not do things by half, the shepherds heard the Good News and then had a worship band lead them in responding. And , as we have said, they went to see for themselves.

So they arrive at a crowded house, early morning, all excited about a Saviour who is born!

**And they shared the Good News.** Not just with Mary and Joseph but with anyone who would listen. Then they went back to their sheep but

full of joy and hope because Jesus was born. You have come this morning to enjoy celebrating the birth of Jesus, so go on your way rejoicing in the fact that he came , bringing salvation and live in the hope that he is here, by his Holy Spirit, to save us to bless us and to give eternal life. Go and share it with the family and friends you meet.

**Once in Royal David city**

**Pray**