

The Third Sunday of Advent

17th December 2017



The Collect

O Lord Jesus Christ,
who at your first coming sent your messenger
to prepare your way before you:
grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries
may likewise so prepare and make ready your way
by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just,
that at your second coming to judge the world
we may be found an acceptable people in your sight;
for you are alive and reign with the Father
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

For the Liturgy of the Word today, our young people and adults will offer a Christmas Presentation, interspersed with the following songs (overleaf).

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Song

**Midnight – there’s the strangest feeling in the air tonight,
There’s something going on but I can’t make it out,
I wonder what it’s all about?**

**Starlight – breaking through the darkness in the dead of night,
Illuminates the path that takes you out of sight,
And all the way to Bethlehem.**

*Tonight’s events were planned in heaven,
The greatest story ever penned.
Heaven and earth have come together,
And life has come to Bethlehem.*

**Angels – taking care of things that only they can do,
Are waiting in the wings to bring the joyful news,
It’s going to turn the world around.**

**Strangers – having made arrangements for a night or two,
Have found accommodation in the crowded rooms.
The house is packed in Bethlehem.**

*Tonight’s events were planned in heaven,
The greatest story ever penned.
Heaven and earth have come together,
And life has come to Bethlehem.*

**Shepherds – minding their own business looking after things,
Are startled by an unexpected happening,
As angel choirs appear to them.**

**Wise men – taking charts and telescopes and compasses,
Investigate the star that takes them travelling,
Until they come to Bethlehem.**

*Tonight’s events were planned in heaven,
The greatest story ever penned.
Heaven and earth have come together,
And life has come to Bethlehem.*

Song

**On the way to Bethlehem, donkey riding, donkey riding,
On the way to Bethlehem, riding on a donkey.**

*Heigh ho, away we go, donkey riding, donkey riding,
Heigh ho, away we go, riding on a donkey.*

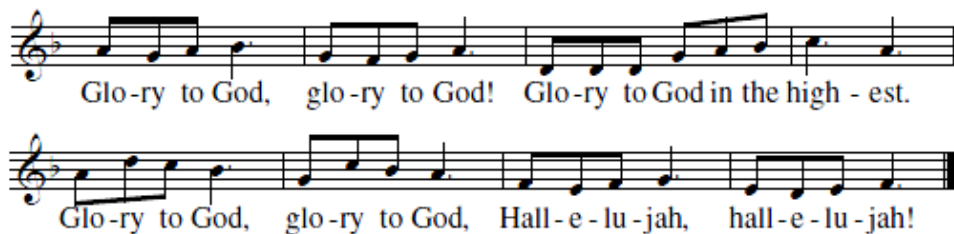
**On a donkey, up and down, donkey riding, donkey riding,
On a donkey, up and down, riding on a donkey.**

Heigh ho...

**Nearly there, we're nearly there, donkey riding, donkey riding,
Nearly there, we're nearly there, riding on a donkey.**

Heigh ho...

Song



Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God! Glo-ry to God in the high - est.
Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, Hall - e - lu - jah, hall - e - lu - jah!

*Words and music: Jacques Berthier and the Community of Taizé, 1979. ©
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Song



King of kings and Lord of Lords glo-ry Hal - le - lu - jah!
Je - sus, Prince of Peace glo - ry Ha - le - lu - jah!

Words and music: Nomi Yah & Sophie Conty. © 1980, Maranatha! Music

Post Communion Prayer

We give you thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts;
kindle in us the fire of your Spirit
that when your Christ comes again
we may shine as lights before his face;
who is alive and reigns now and for ever. **Amen.**

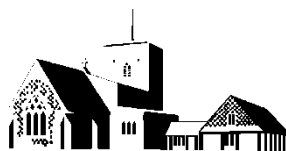
Next Sunday's Readings

2 Samuel 7. 1-11, 16

Romans 16. 25-27

Luke 1. 26-38

**THE PARISH CHURCH of
ST. MARY, REDBOURN**



CHRISTMAS 2017 FOR FAMILIES AND CHILDREN

Sunday 24 December

CHRISTMAS EVE

3.30 pm &
4.30 pm

CHILDREN'S CRIB SERVICE

[Identical services – come at whichever time suits you best]
A magical start to the Christmas services for children and families. Children are invited to come dressed as one of the characters to help us tell the Christmas story

Monday 25 December

CHRISTMAS DAY

10.00 am

CHRISTMAS MORNING EUCHARIST

with Candlelit Procession and Address suitable for all ages!

Join us for Christmas Drinks with the Vicar after the service