



CHRISTMAS 2025

If a survey was carried out asking "what comes to mind first when you think of Christmas?" no doubt there would be a multitude of responses, including many of the following: - presents, particularly children opening theirs, meeting with family and friends, Christmas dinner, entertainment, time off from work, cold weather and snow, Christmas lights and decorations. Some might say Carol singing, others might say the coming into this world of Jesus Christ.

If you gave the last response, you know what Christmas is really about. Why are we celebrating the birth of a child over 2000 years ago? With prominent historical figures we don't celebrate their births but the great things they accomplished. At Christmas we are celebrating God's greatest gift to mankind when He sent His one and only Son to be born in a stable and laid in a manger. After a long journey of about 75 miles from Nazareth, over rough terrain, it is difficult to imagine how Mary (who was 9 months pregnant) and Joseph must have felt arriving at Bethlehem to find that the only accommodation available was in a stable. There Jesus was born and laid in a manger.

Jesus came into the world not just so that we could celebrate His birth and have a happy time at Christmas, but to live that holy life then suffer, bleed and die at Calvary for the sins of His people. "For the wages of sin is death but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord" Romans 6 v 23.

We trust that you all have a very happy & peaceful Christmas and look forward to welcoming you at the Chapel on any Sunday at 11am & 2:30pm and at our Carol Service on 21st, details on back of leaflet.

Elwyn Sweetman (Secretary)

See, amid the winter's snow,
born for us on earth below,
see, the Lamb of God appears,
promised from eternal years.

Refrain:

*Hail, thou ever-blesséd morn!
Hail, redemption's happy dawn!
Sing through all Jerusalem:
Christ is born in Bethlehem.*

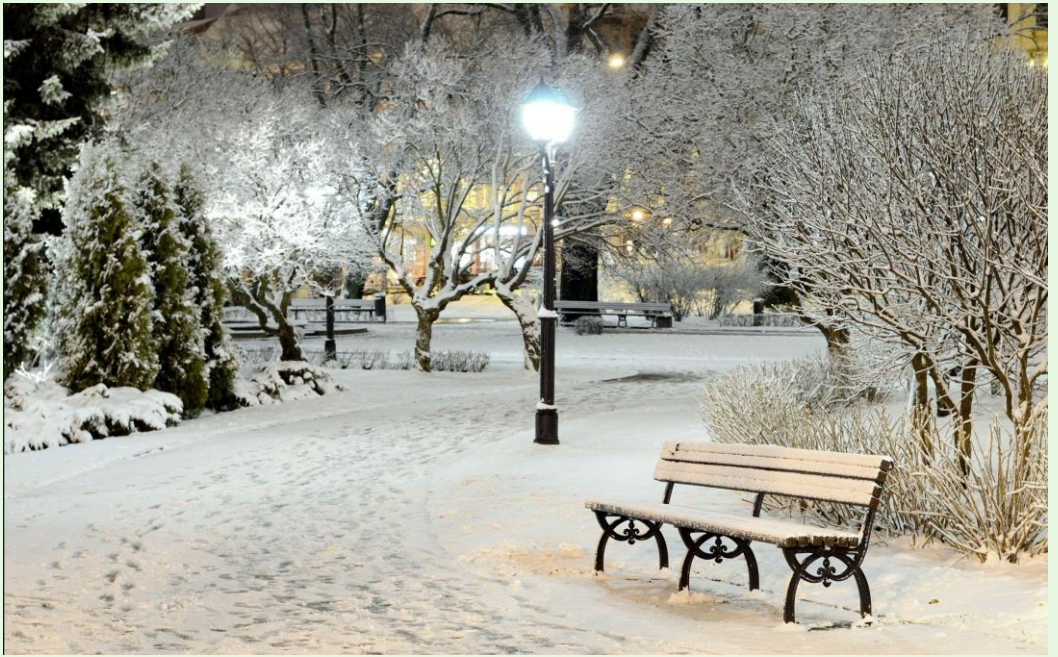
Lo, within a manger lies
He who built the starry skies,
He who, throned in height sublime,
sits amid the cherubim. *[Refrain]*

Say, ye holy shepherds, say,
what your joyful news today;
wherefore have ye left your sheep
on the lonely mountain steep? *[Refrain]*

As we watched at dead of night,
lo, we saw a wondrous light:
angels, singing 'Peace on earth'
told us of the Saviour's birth. *[Refrain]*

Sacred Infant, all divine,
what a tender love was Thine,
thus to come from highest bliss
down to such a world as this! *[Refrain]*

Teach, O teach us, Holy Child,
by Thy face so meek and mild,
teach us to resemble Thee,
in Thy sweet humility. *[Refrain]*



**You are invited to join us for our Carol Service
at Five Ash Down Chapel
on Sunday 21st December at 3.00 p.m.
Led by Bush Hogg
Refreshments will follow**

Five Ash Down Chapel Services

Sunday Services

are at 11.00 a.m. and 2.30 p.m.

Prayer Meeting

Thursdays 7.00 p.m. Telephone for venue

Contacts

Elwyn Sweetman (Secretary)

Tel: 01825 733391

www.fiveashdownchapel.org.uk