You're invited to

CHRISTMAS

at Oxford Presbyterian Church

Sunday 30 Nov
Advent Carol Service, 5:00pm

Friday 12 Dec
Women's Christmas Wreath Crafting, 7:00pm

Thursday 18 Dec
Christmas Carol Singalong, 7:00pm

Sunday 21 Dec
Carol Services, 10:30am & 5:00pm

Thursday 25 Dec
Christmas Day Service, 10am

North Gate Hall
18 St. Michael's Street, OX1 2DU

OXFORD
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Advent Carol Service

Sunday, 30 November 2025, 5pm

Welcome & Notices

Call to Worship

Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.' Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favour rests.'

Luke 2:11-14

Opening Prayer

Choir

Once in royal David's city

stood a lowly cattle-shed,
where a mother laid her baby
in a manger for His bed:
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little child.

Congregation

2. He came down to earth from heaven
who is God and Lord of all,
and His shelter was a stable
and His cradle was a stall.
With the poor, and meek, and lowly
lived on earth our Saviour holy.

3. And through all His wondrous childhood
He would honour and obey,
love, and watch the lowly mother
in whose gentle arms He lay.
Christian children all must be
mild, obedient, good as He.

4. For He is our childhood's pattern:
day by day like us He grew;
He was little, weak, and helpless;
tears and smiles like us He knew;
and He feeleth for our sadness,
and He shareth in our gladness.

5. And our eyes at last shall see Him,
through His own redeeming love;
for that child so dear and gentle,
is our Lord in heaven above:
and He leads His children on
to the place where He is gone.

6. Not in that poor lowly stable,
with the oxen standing by,
we shall see Him, but in heaven,
set at God's right hand on high;
when like stars His children crowned
all in white shall wait around.

Cecil Frances Alexander 1818-95

Bible Reading: Genesis 3:1-15

O come, all ye faithful,
joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
come and behold Him,
born the King of angels:

O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord!

2. God of God,
Light of light,
lo, He abhors not the virgin's womb;
very God,
begotten, not created:

3. Sing, choirs of angels,
sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
'Glory to God
in the highest!'

4. Yea, Lord, we greet Thee,
born that happy morning,
Jesus, to Thee be glory given;
Word of the Father,
now in flesh appearing:

Latin, 17th cent.; tr. by Frederick Oakeley, 1802-80

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Choir: Sans Day Carol

Bible Reading: Isaiah 9:2-7

Come, Thou long-expected Jesus,
born to set Thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us,
let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth Thou art;
dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart..

2. Born Thy people to deliver,
born a child, and yet a king;
born to reign in us for ever,
now Thy gracious kingdom bring.
By Thine own eternal Spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by Thine all-sufficient merit
raise us to Thy glorious throne.

Charles Wesley, 1707-88 | Tune: Hyfrodol

Bible Reading: Matthew 1:18-25

Sermon: The Ordinary & Extraordinary of Christmas

Hark! the herald angels sing,
glory to the new-born King,
peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled.
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic host proclaim,
'Christ is born in Bethlehem.'

Hark! the herald angels sing,
glory to the new-born King.

2. Christ, by highest heaven adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come,
offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see!
Hail, the incarnate Deity!
Pleased as Man with men to dwell,
Jesus, our Immanuel.

Hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Hail, the Sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings,
risen with healing in His wings.
Mild, He lays his glory by,
born that man no more may die;
born to raise the sons of earth,
born to give them second birth.

4. Come, Desire of nations, come!
fix in us Thy humble home:
rise, the woman's conquering seed,
bruise in us the serpent's head;
now display Thy saving power
ruined nature to restore;
now in mystic union join
Thine to ours, and ours to Thine!

Charles Wesley 1707-88

Benediction

Please stay for mince pies and mulled wine after the service