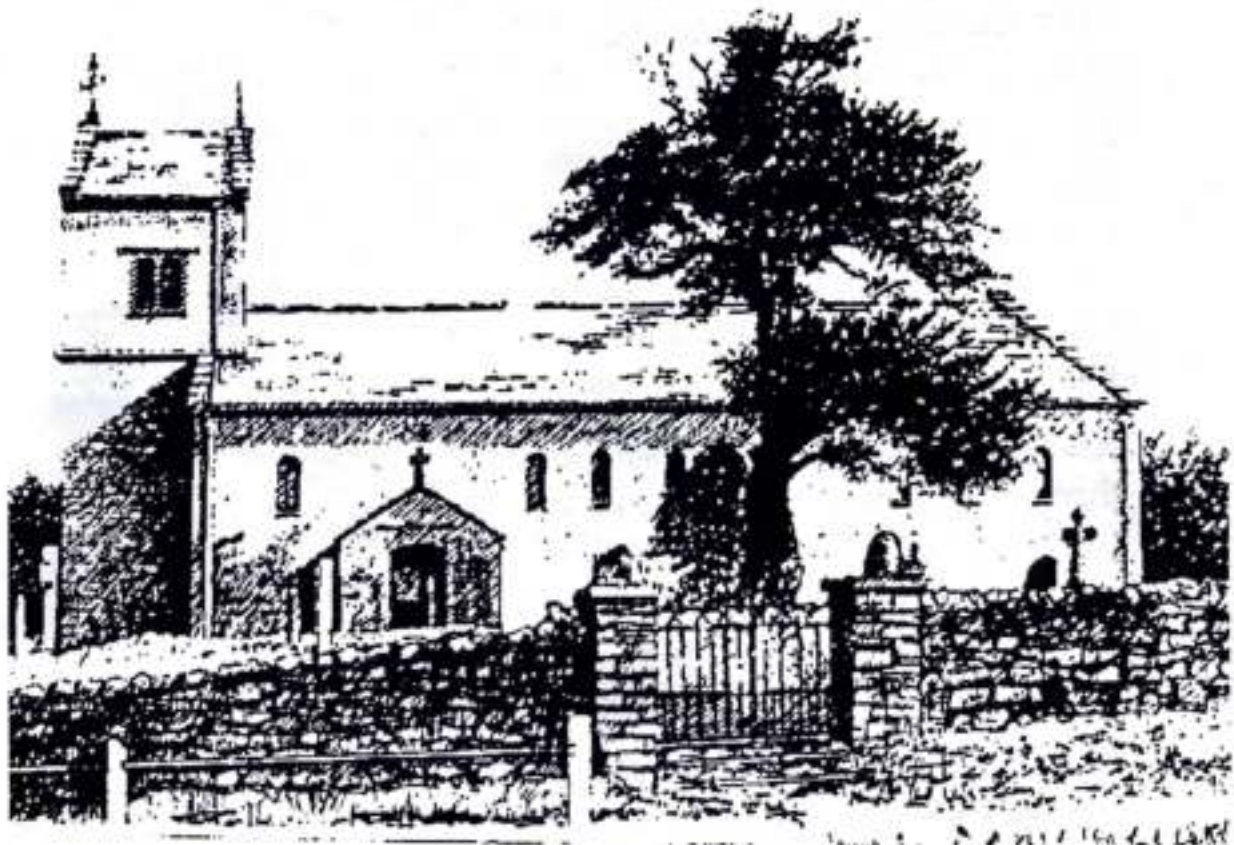


The Parish Church of
St Cuthbert, Kentmere

CAROLS FOR CHRISTMAS



Sunday 17th December 2006
at 4.30 pm

ORDER OF SERVICE

(Bk 1, p 100)

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.

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 mean and lowly
lived on earth our Saviour holy.

And through all his wondrous childhood
he would honour and obey,
love and watch the lowly maiden,
in whose gentle arms he lay:
Christian children all must be
mild, obedient, good as he.

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.

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.

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;
where like stars his children crowned
all in white shall wait around.



Bidding Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

CHOIR: Love came down at Christmas

(Clive Walkley)

FIRST LESSON

The Angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary

All: Silent night, holy night,
All is dark, save the light
Shining where the mother mild
Watches over the Holy child.
Sleep in heavenly peace
Sleep in heavenly peace.

(Sheet)

Silent night, holy night,
Shepherds first saw the sight,
Heard the angel song alleluia
Loud proclaiming near and far:
Christ our Saviour is here,
Christ our Saviour is here.



Silent night, holy night,
God's own Son, oh how bright
Shines the love in thy Holy face,
Shines the light of redemption and grace,
Christ th'incarnate God,
Christ th'incarnate God.



SECOND LESSON

St. Luke tells of the birth of Jesus



CHOIR: Jesu, Jesu rest your head

(K J Dinham)

ALL: Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

(Bk 1, p 2)

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus: I ask thee to stay
Close by me for ever, and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
And fit us for heaven, to live with thee there.

THIRD LESSON

The shepherds go to the manger

CHOIR: Midwinter (Bob Chilcott)

All: O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie!
above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting light;
the hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee to-night.

(Bk 1, p.92)



O morning stars, together
proclaim the holy birth
and praises sing to God the King,
and peace to men on earth;
for Christ is born of Mary;
and, gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wondering love.

How silently, how silently,
the wondrous gift is given!
so God imparts to human hearts
the blessings of his heaven.
No ear may hear his coming;
but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him, still
the dear Christ enters in.



O holy child of Bethlehem,
descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin, and enter in,
be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
the great glad tidings tell:
O come to us, abide with us,
our Lord Emmanuel.



FOURTH LESSON

The wise men are led by the star to Jesus

CHOIR: *Coventry Carol*

(arr. Martin Shaw)

ALL: The holly and the ivy
When they are both full grown;
Of all the trees that are in the wood
The holly bears the crown.

(Bk 1, p 130)

*O the rising of the sun
And the running of the deer,
The playing of the merry organ,
Sweet singing in the choir.*

The holly bears a blossom
As white as any flower;
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ
To be our sweet Saviour

Chorus

The holly bears a berry
As red as any blood;
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ
To do poor sinners good.

Chorus

The holly bears a prickle
As sharp as any thorn;
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ
On Christmas Day in the morn.

*O the rising of the sun
And the running of the deer,
The playing of the merry organ,
Sweet singing in the choir.*

The holly bears a bark
As bitt'r as any gall;
Any Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ
For to redeem us all

Chorus



FIFTH LESSON *(Please stand)*
St. John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation

Final Prayer and Blessing

ALL: O come all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant, *(Bk 1, p 88)*
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.

God of God, Light of Light,
Lo, he abhors not the Virgin's womb.
Very God, begotten not created.
O come let us adore him, O come let us adore him,
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

See how the shepherds, summoned to his cradle,
Leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear:
We too will thither bend our joyful footsteps
O come let us adore him, O come let us adore him,
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Sing choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing all ye citizens of heaven above,
Glory to God, in the highest.
O come let us adore him, O come let us adore him,
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.