



North Epping
AT HOME Carols



northeppingcarols.com

GOD HIMSELF *came near*

In 2020 we've all had to learn a few things. Kids had to learn how to wash their hands about five times more thoroughly than before. Parents had to learn how to be teachers (often whilst working another job at the same time). Everyone, it seems, had to learn Zoom - including the etiquette of muting yourself when the dog barks.

One thing we've all learned is the impact of isolation and disconnection. We've learned what it's like to be disconnected from workmates we no longer bump into in the lunch room. What it's like to be disconnected from loved ones who are interstate or in aged care. Some in our community have learned what it's like to be disconnected from the outside world altogether.

One of the insights the Bible offers is a diagnosis for the state of this crazy world. The diagnosis is disconnection: that long before 2020 began, our world became disconnected from its creator. Isolated from the true source of life and peace. Pandemics and recessions are just some of the many symptoms of this condition.

But Christmas is about the remedy. Christmas is about God overcoming that disconnection and isolation. But he didn't do it by sending messages from afar. Instead, **God himself came near.**

The Bible speaks about Jesus as "God with Us" (Matthew 1:23). It announces that "No one has ever seen God, but the one and only Son, who is himself God and is in closest relationship with the Father, has made him known."

This year we've also learned a few things about borders. We've seen how borders can be closed from the other side. We've found that crossing a border can involve great cost and inconvenience (two weeks in a windowless hotel room, anyone?). We've discovered that sometimes crossing a border brings the real risk that won't be able to get home safely again.

Christmas is about God crossing the border into our world. He knew it was a world infected with darkness. He knew the pain and cost that would be involved. But God loved his world too much to leave us in isolation.

We sing about the quirky details of Christmas. A baby in a feeding trough. A special star in the sky. Unexpected visitors bringing strange gifts. But the quirkiness of these details tips us off that an outrageous border crossing has taken place. The creator has crossed over into his creation on a rescue mission.

All Saints and Lifeway churches are happy to be joining together once again to bring you North Epping Carols, in this different "2020 style" format. And we'd love to have you along to one of our Christmas services to continue the celebration.

We hope that in this year of isolation and distance, you'll celebrate with us the great news that God has come near.

Tom Barrett
Assistant Minister
All Saints North Epping



O COME LET US
adore him

1. Jingle Bells

Words & Music: James Pierpont

Dashing through the snow
In a one horse open sleigh
O'er the fields we go
Laughing all the way.
Bells on bobtail ring
Making spirits bright
O what fun it is to sing a sleighing song tonight.

*Oh! Jingle bells, jingle bells jingle all the way
Oh, what fun it is to ride In a one horse open sleigh. Hey!
Jingle bells, jingle bells jingle all the way
Oh, what fun it is to ride in a one horse open sleigh*

2. Aussie Jingle Bells

Words: Greg Champion & Colin Buchanan

Dashing through the bush
In a rusty Holden Ute
Kicking up the dust
Esky in the boot
Kelpie by my side
Singing Christmas songs
It's summer time and I am in
My singlet, shorts & thongs

*Oh, jingle bells, jingle bells jingle all the way
Christmas in Australia, on a scorching summer's day. Hey!
Jingle bells, jingle bells, Christmas time is beaut
Oh what fun it is to ride in a rusty Holden ute.*

Engine's getting hot
Dodge the kangaroos
Swaggy climbs aboard
He is welcome too
All the family's there
Sitting by the pool
Christmas day, the Aussie way
By the barbecuel

*Oh, jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way
Christmas in Australia, on a scorching summer's day. Hey!
Jingle bells, jingle bells Christmas time is beaut
Oh what fun it is to ride in a rusty Holden ute.
Oh what fun it is to ride in a rusty Holden ute.
Oh what fun it is to ride in a rusty Holden ute.*

3. Away in a Manger

Away in a manger no crib for a bed
The little Lord Jesus lay down His sweet head
The stars in the bright sky looked down where He lay
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

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 cradle til morning is nigh.

Be near me Lord Jesus I ask Thee to stay
Close by me forever and love me I pray.
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care
And take us to heaven to live with Thee there.

4. On that very first Christmas

Words & Music: Colin Buchanan

Mary and Joseph go to Bethlehem,
Bethlehem, Bethlehem,
Mary and Joseph go to Bethlehem,
On that very first Christmas.

Baby Jesus born that night,
Born that night, Born that night
Baby Jesus born that night,
On that very first Christmas.

The wise men come to worship him,
Worship him, Worship him,
The wise men come to worship him,
On that very first Christmas.

The shepherds told that the King is born
The King is born, The King is born
The shepherds told that the King is born,
On that very first Christmas.

The angels singing 'Glory to God',
'Glory to God', 'Glory to God',
The angels singing 'Glory to God',
On that very first Christmas.

Mary and Joseph go to Bethlehem,
Baby Jesus born that night,
The wise men come to worship him,
The shepherds told that the King is born
The angels singing 'Glory to God',
On that very first Christmas.

5. Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

Words: Wesley & others | Music: Mendelssohn

Hark! The herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King
Peace on earth and mercy mild
God and sinners reconciled
Joyful all you 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 newborn King*

Christ by highest heaven adored
Christ the everlasting Lord
Late in time behold Him come
Offspring of the virgin's womb
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see
Hail the Incarnate Deity
Pleased as man with man to dwell
Jesus our Emmanuel
Hark! The herald.....

Hail the heav'n born Prince of Peace
Hail the Son 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
Hark! the herald.....

6. O Come let us adore

Traditional

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

For he alone is worthy
For he alone is worthy
For he alone is worthy
Christ the Lord.

We give you all the glory
We give you all the glory
We give you all the glory
Christ the Lord
Christ the Lord
Christ the Lord.

7. O Come, All Ye Faithful

English Words: Frederick Oakeley | Music: John Reading

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.*

Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing all ye citizens of heav'n 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.*

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee,
Born this happy morning,
Jesus, to Thee be glory giv'n;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing.

*O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord.*

8. Little Drummer Boy

Katherine K. Davis | Henry Onorati | Harry Simeone

Come they told me, pa rum pum pum pum
A new born King to see, pa rum pum pum pum
Our finest gifts we bring, pa rum pum pum pum
To lay before the King, pa rum pum pum pum,
Rum pum pum pum, rum pum pum pum,

So to honour Him, pa rum pum pum pum,
When we come.

Little Baby, pa rum pum pum pum
I am a poor boy too, pa rum pum pum pum
I have no gift to bring, pa rum pum pum pum
That's fit to give the King, pa rum pum pum pum,
Rum pum pum pum, rum pum pum pum,

Shall I play for you, pa rum pum pum pum,
On my drum?

Mary nodded, pa rum pum pum pum
The ox and lamb kept time, pa rum pum pum pum
I played my drum for Him, pa rum pum pum pum
I played my best for Him, pa rum pum pum pum,
Rum pum pum pum, rum pum pum pum,

Then He smiled at me, pa rum pum pum pum
Me and my drum.

9. We Three Kings

Words & Music: John H Hopkins, Jr., 1857

We three kings of Orient are
Bearing gifts we traverse afar
Field and fountain, moor and mountain
Following yonder star

CHORUS:

*O Star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright.
Westward leading, still proceeding
Guide us to your perfect light.*

Born a King on Bethlehem's plain,
Gold I bring to crown Him again.
King forever, ceasing never,
Over us all to rein.

CHORUS

Frankincense to offer have I;
Incense owns a Deity nigh;
Prayer and praising, voices raising,
Worshipping God on high.

CHORUS

Myrrh is mine, its bitter perfume
Breathes a life of gathering gloom;
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,
Sealed in the stone cold tomb.

CHORUS

Glorious now behold him arise,
King and God and sacrifice.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Earth to heaven replies:

CHORUS

10. O Little Town of Bethlehem

Words: Phillip Brooks | Music: Lewis H. Redner

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 tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary
And gathered all above
While mortals sleep, the angels keep
Their watch of wond'ring love.
O morning stars together
Proclaim the holy birth
And praises sing to God the King
And peace to men on earth!

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.

11. God rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen

English Traditional Carol

God rest ye merry, gentlemen
Let nothing you dismay
Remember, Christ, our Saviour
Was born on Christmas day
To save us all from Satan's pow'r
When we were gone astray.

CHORUS

*O tidings of comfort and joy,
Comfort and joy, O tidings of comfort and joy.*

In Bethlehem, in Israel,
this blessed Babe was born,
And laid within a manger
upon this blessed morn.
The which His mother Mary
did nothing take in scorn.

CHORUS

From God our Heavenly Father
A blessed Angel came;
And unto certain shepherds
Brought tidings of the same:
How that in Bethlehem was born
The Son of God by name.

CHORUS

“Fear not,” then said the Angel,
“Let nothing you affright,
This day is born a Saviour
Of a pure Virgin bright,
To free all those who trust in Him
From Satan’s power and might.”

CHORUS

The shepherds at those tidings
rejoiced much in mind,
And left their flocks a-feeding
‘in tempest, storm and wind,
And went to Bethl’em straightaway
this blessed Babe to find.

CHORUS

But when to Bethlehem they came
where our dear Savior lay,
They found Him in a manger
where oxen feed on hay;
His mother Mary kneeling
unto the Lord did pray.

CHORUS

Now to the Lord sing praises
all you within this place,
And with true love and brotherhood
each other now embrace;
This holy tide of Christmas
all others doth deface.

CHORUS

12. Silent Night

Words: Joseph Mohr | Music: Franz Gruber

Silent night, holy night
All is calm all is bright
'Round yon Virgin Mother and Child
Holy infant so tender and mild
Sleep in heavenly peace
Sleep in heavenly peace

Silent night, holy night
Shepherds quake at the sight
Glories stream from heaven afar
Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia
Christ the Saviour is born
Christ the Saviour is born

Silent night, holy night
Son of God love's pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face
With the dawn of redeeming grace
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth

13. Joy to the World (unspeakable joy)

Chris Tomlin | Ed Cash | George Frideric Handel | Isaac Watts | Matt Gilder

Joy to the World! The Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King!
Let every heart prepare Him room,
And Heav'n and nature sing,
And Heav'n and nature sing,
And Heav'n, and Heav'n, and nature sing.

Joy to the World! The Saviour reigns!
Let all their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.

Joy, unspeakable joy! An overflowing well;
No tongue can tell! Joy, unspeakable joy!
It rises in my soul, never lets me go!

He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders, of His love.

Joy, unspeakable joy! An overflowing well;
No tongue can tell! Joy, unspeakable joy!
It rises in my soul, never lets me go!

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No tongue can tell! Joy, unspeakable joy!
It rises in my soul, never lets me go!

Join us this Christmas

IN PERSON
OR ONLINE



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CHRISTMAS EVE

5.30pm Kids Christmas

11pm Christmas Eve Service

(both services onsite only)

CHRISTMAS DAY

8.30am Christmas Day Service

10am Christmas Day Service

(both services onsite only)

Numbers are limited for
COVID safety so please
pre-register via our website

CHRISTMAS EVE

7.30pm Family Christmas Service
(onsite and via livestream)

11pm Lessons & Carols
(via livestream only)

CHRISTMAS DAY

9.30am Family Christmas Service
(onsite and via livestream)

Watch our services live
or in your own time at
youtube.com/c/LifeWayLutheranChurch

WISHING YOU AND YOUR FAMILY A SAFE AND
BLESSED CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!