

*Ring out those bells tonight
Bethlehem, Bethlehem
Follow that star tonight
Bethlehem, Bethlehem*

Little donkey, little donkey
Had a heavy day
Little donkey, carry Mary
Safely on her way
Little donkey, carry Mary
Safely on her way

Prayer

Discovery time — What is a Christingle?

Hymn 292 It's rounded like an orange

1. It's rounded like an orange,
this earth on which we stand;
and we praise the God who holds it
in the hollow of his hand.

(Chorus)

*So Father, we would thank you
for all that you have done,
and for all that you have given us
through the coming of your Son.*

2. A candle, burning brightly,
can cheer the darkest night
and these candles tell how Jesus
came to bring a dark world light.

3. The ribbon round the orange
reminds us of the cost;
how the Shepherd, strong and gentle,
gave his life to save the lost.

4. Four seasons with their harvest
supply the food we need,
and the Spirit gives a harvest
that can make us rich indeed.

5. We come with our Christingles
to tell of Jesus' birth
And we praise the God who blessed us
by his coming to this earth.



Listening Time — Reading Luke 2:1-7

Hymn 312 Away in a manger

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.

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

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

Listening Time – Reading Luke 2:8-14

Hymn 310 See him lying on a bed of straw

See him lying on a bed of straw
a draughty stable with an open door
Mary cradling the babe she bore –
The prince of glory is his name.

*Oh, now carry me to Bethlehem
to see the Lord of love again:
just as poor as was the stable then
the Prince of Glory when he came.*

Star of silver, sweep across the skies,
show where Jesus in the manger lies
shepherds, swiftly from your stupor rise
to see the Saviour of the world!

Angels, sing again the song you sang,
sing the glory of God's precious plan
sing that Bethl'em's little baby can
be the saviour of us all.

Mine are riches, from your poverty,
from your innocence, eternity;
mine, forgiveness by your death for me,
child of sorrow for my joy.

Story Time — A Christmas Story

Hymn 304 O little town of Bethlehem

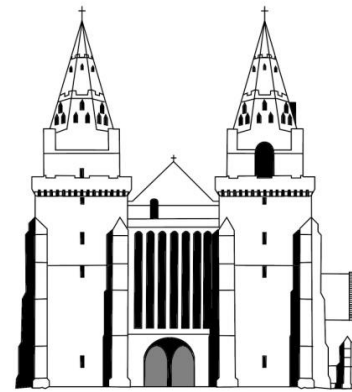
O little town of Bethlehem
How still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by.
Yet in the dark street shineth
The everlasting Light
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee tonight.

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;
Oh, come to us, abide with us
Our Lord Emmanuel!

Prayer



St Machar's Cathedral Old Aberdeen

**Christingle Service
Christmas Eve at 6.00pm**

Saturday 24th December 2024

Conducted by Rev Michael Mair

Welcome and Call to Worship

Welcome

Little donkey, little donkey

On the dusty road
Got to keep on plodding onwards
With your precious load
Been a long time, little donkey
Through the winter's night
Don't give up now, little donkey
Bethlehem's in sight

*Ring out those bells tonight
Bethlehem, Bethlehem
Follow that star tonight
Bethlehem, Bethlehem*

Little donkey, little donkey
Had a heavy day
Little donkey, carry Mary
Safely on her way
Do not falter, little donkey
There's a star ahead
It will guide you, little donkey
To a cattle shed

309 **Still the night**

Still the night, holy the night!
Sleeps the world; hid from sight,
Mary and Joseph in stable bare
Watch o'er the Child beloved and fair,
Sleeping in heavenly rest,
Sleeping in heavenly rest.

Still the night, holy the night!
Shepherds first saw the light,
Heard resounding clear and long,
Far and near, the angel-song,
"Christ the Redeemer is here!"
"Christ the Redeemer is here!"

Still the night, holy the night!
Son of God, O how bright
Love is smiling from thy face!
Strikes for us now the hour of grave,
Saviour, since thou art born!
Saviour, since thou art born!

Blessing

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Blessing