

St Andrew's Church, Wissett

CAROL SERVICE

Sunday 19th December 2021

6.30pm



Welcome to tonight's Carol Service.

Thanks go to all those who have helped prepare the church for tonight's celebration and to all our readers.

After our service mince-pies and mulled wine will be served. You are very welcome to stay but please be aware of the safety of yourselves and others.

Candles of Advent.

Voice 1: Today is the fourth Sunday of Advent, the Sunday of Love

Voice 2: Jesus shows us God's perfect love. He is God's perfect love in human form. Those who believe in Him, and live in Him, live in love. Love transforms and perfects all things. It never ends.

Voice 3: We light this candle to remind us that God is love. We thank God for the hope He gives us, for the peace He bestows, for the joy he pours into our hearts, and for the love that redeems us and shows us the way.

Voice 1: Lord God, you come to your people at all times. You love us, and give us people to love and people to be loved by. We bring to you today all our families and all our friends. Give them and give us love. May we grow in love this Advent season.

Amen

Christmas - by James Tipp

Christmas stands at the door and knocks
The coming king, small, dependant, sleeps.
Visitors from near and far, high and low
Called by the heavenly host and cosmic sign.
Stand in awe, as all creation looks on.

We too should stand, reflect upon his coming
Ask the question of ourselves, what brought us
here?
What do we expect to find this night and
Christmas morn?
This birth unlike no other, brings change to the
world
To all creation a cosmic Kingship celebrated
In the heavenly realms as on earth. Alleluia.

19 Once in royal David's city

Isaiah 9.2 & 6-7

2 In the bleak mid-winter

Isaiah 11.1-9

3 Of the Father's love begotten

Luke 1.26-33

11 Joy to the world

Luke 2.1-7 The Birth of Jesus

13 Silent night, holy night

7 While shepherds watched their flocks by night

Luke 2.8-20 The Arrival of the Shepherds

21 We three kings of Orient are

Matthew 2.1-11 The visit of the wise men

Prayers.

In a moment of quiet we calm our hearts and minds as we prepare ourselves to welcome the Christ-child at Christmas.

Let us pray.

As we remember that first Christmas, we thank you Lord for all your gifts to us but especially the greatest gift of all, born to live amongst us as one of us, your son, our saviour Jesus Christ.

Our humanity binds us together.

Bless all your children that we may find comfort on life's journey.

Grant us peace and safety.

As we follow the star may we experience wonder, hope, joy and peace.

We give you thanks.

We pray for those who travel

That they may find shelter.

We pray for those who are lost

That they may be found.

We pray for those who are seeking

That they may see signs. Amen.

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;**

thy kingdom come;

thy will be done;

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation;

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,

the power and the glory,

for ever and ever. Amen.

10 Hark! The herald-angels sing

John 1.1-14

15 Good king Wenceslas looked out

Blessing

May the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the perseverance of the magi, the obedience of Joseph and Mary, and the peace of the Christ child be ours this Christmas.

And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon us and remain with us always. Amen.

There is a collection plate at the back of the church for donations which, this year, will be in aid of Save the Children Fund. Please give generously.

We wish you a happy and peaceful Christmas filled with love.

**At the heart
of Christmas**

