



Welcome to our Sunday Service (20/12/20)

Our Service this week is the  
Churches Together in Ulverston Nativity

*Prepared by Mervyn*

Welcome to our Service today. If at all possible we would like to encourage you to try to watch this weeks service online. Perhaps ask a friend or relative if they could help you with the necessary technology. Search on Youtube for **Churches together in Ulverston Nativity 2020**.

We have been working with some of the other churches in the town to film the Nativity Story in and around the town. Included in the notes are a few pictures from the day.

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 Al-le-lu-ia!

Christ the Saviour is born!, Christ the Saviour is born!

Silent night, holy night, Son of God, oh, 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

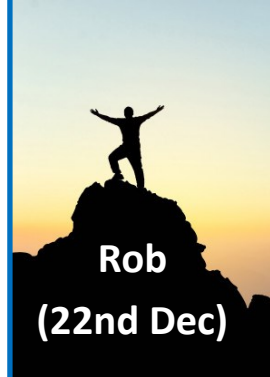
**Loving Heavenly Father**, as we approach another Christmas season, I ask that you would touch each of us afresh, or for the first time with the wonder that God became a man! That 'in Jesus' you came to live among us, to meet our deepest needs and lead us into life in all its fullness.

We thank you for the accessibility of the Christmas story.

Thank you that you took the message first to the lowly shepherds, and that the stable is a place of welcome to anyone who is willing to humble themselves and seek you.

We humble ourselves before you today and invite you to continue your work in our lives. In Jesus name, **Amen**

**Happy Birthday to**



**God bless you both!**



1In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. 2(This was the first census that took place while <sup>a</sup>Quirinius was governor of Syria.) 3And everyone went to their own town to register.

4So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. 5He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. 6While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, 7and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

8And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. 9An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. 10But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. 11Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. 12This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

13Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

14"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favour rests."

15When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

16So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. 17When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, 18and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. 19But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. 20The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.





**At Christmas we pause to celebrate that Jesus came to live among us.**

**But what's the big deal, why did he come?**

He came to... cure the incurable, love the unlovable, touch the untouchable, reach the unreachable. **He came for me and he came for you!**

He came to bring light into our darkness, hope into our hopelessness, peace into our storms and joy into our sorrows. **He came for me and he came for you!**

He came to show us how much we matter to God. He taught us to value ourselves and value all the people around us. To restore us to our true identity as children of God. **He came for me and he came for you!**

He came to forgive our mistakes and our deliberate wrong choices, to help us forgive other people and ourselves, to enjoy the lightness of a conscience made clean. **He came for me and he came for you!**

He came to pay the penalty for all our selfishness, malice and disobedience, to experience the horrors of our fallen humanity, to identify with our deepest sorrow and pain, and then lead us into freedom. **He came for me and he came for you!**

He came to break the power of death, to open the way for us to be in relationship with Father God. To demonstrate the reality of resurrection and eternal life. **He came for me and he came for you!**

**Why not take some time during this very different Christmas to get to know him more. To relax in the wonderful news that a Saviour has been born. Come to him in a spirit of humility and repentance and hear him say... "I came for you!"**



May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,  
be with us all, now and evermore, Amen.