

New? Welcome!

You are very welcome – whether you are looking into Christianity for the first time, have been a Christian for years, or are looking for a church in Birmingham.



Please complete this tear-off slip and put it in the red box at the back of church, or give it to a member of staff or the welcome team.

Still to come this Christmas...

Traditional Carols by Candlelight

Sun 17 Dec, 6.00pm

with Christmas nibbles & mulled wine

Christmas Eve

Starlight Service for All Ages, 4.00pm

Midnight Communion, 11.30pm

Christmas Day

All Age Celebration

with Holy Communion, 10.00am

Name/s

Address

Phone

Email

I would like to know more about:

- Being a Christian
- Newcomers' events
- Small Groups
- Pre-school activities
- Children's / Youth Work
- Student events
- Giving to the church
- Other

All-Age Carols

17th December 2017, 10.00am

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

WELCOME AND OPENING PRAYER

Chris Hobbs

NEWS

CAROL Once in royal David's city

READING

Luke chapter 1, verses 26 - 38

God sends an angel to tell Mary what will happen. She will have a son named Jesus and he will be called the Son of God.

²⁶ In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, ²⁷ to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ The angel went to her and said, 'Greetings, you who are highly favoured! The Lord is with you.'

²⁹ Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. ³⁰ But the angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favour with God. ³¹ You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. ³² He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, ³³ and he will reign over Jacob's descendants for ever; his kingdom will never end.'

³⁴ 'How will this be,' Mary asked the angel, 'since I am a virgin?'

³⁵ The angel answered, 'The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called^[a] the Son of God. ³⁶ Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month. ³⁷ For no word from God will ever fail.'

³⁸ 'I am the Lord's servant,' Mary answered. 'May your word to me be fulfilled.' Then the angel left her.

VIDEO He came down

CAROL Joy to the world

Our regular Sunday services are:

10.00am – For all ages, with Children's activities (0-11)

Starting at the end of January we'll have a **4.00pm** – for all ages with children's activities (0-14)

6.00pm – A more relaxed and informal service

CHRISTIANITY | EXPLORED

Over seven weeks delve deeper into the Christian faith in a relaxed and friendly environment.

Starting on **Thur 11 Jan**, 8.00-9.30pm
Contact the office for more details,
office@sssw.org.uk, 472 8253.

READING

Luke chapter 2, verses 8 - 20

Some shepherds are the first to hear that Jesus has been born. They learn that he is the Saviour and King whom God has promised.

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

¹³ Suddenly 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.'

¹⁵ When 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.'

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

GAME It's snow joke!

CAROL *Away in a manger*

READING

John chapter 1, verses 1 - 14

John tells us amazing things about someone called 'the Word'. He's always been God and now he's become a human being as well.

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was with God in the beginning. ³ Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. ⁴ In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

⁶ There was a man sent from God whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. ⁸ He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

⁹ The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. ¹⁰ He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognise him. ¹¹ He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. ¹² Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God – ¹³ children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

¹⁴ The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

CAROL *See him lying on a bed of straw*

TALK *Light in the darkness* Andy Martin

CAROL *Hark! The herald angels sing*

CLOSING PRAYER

Please stay for Christmas refreshments!