

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.

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

Still to come this Christmas...

Christmas Eve
Starlight Service for All Ages,
4.00pm
Midnight Communion, 11.30pm

Christmas Day
All Age Celebration
with Holy Communion, 10.00am

Traditional Carols by Candlelight

17 December 2017, 6.00pm

WELCOME AND OPENING PRAYER

Andy Martin

CAROL O Come all ye faithful

READING

Isaiah chapter 9, verses 2 to 7

God promises a king who will rule his people with justice

²The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned.

³You have enlarged the nation and increased their joy; they rejoice before you as people rejoice at the harvest, as men rejoice when dividing the plunder.

⁴For as in the day of Midian's defeat, you have shattered the yoke that burdens them, the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor. ⁵Every warrior's boot used in battle and every garment rolled in blood will be destined for burning, will be fuel for the fire.

⁶For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

⁷Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and for ever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.

MUSIC GROUP Silent Night

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



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 1, verses 26 to 38

Mary is told she will bear God's Son

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

²⁹Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. ³⁰But the angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favour with God. ³¹You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. ³²He 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, ³³and he will reign over the house of Jacob for ever; his kingdom will never end.'

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

³⁵The angel answered, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. ³⁶Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be barren is in her sixth month. ³⁷For nothing is impossible with God'

³⁸'I am the Lord's servant,' Mary answered. 'May it be to me as you have said' Then the angel left her.

VIDEO Wrapping paper

CAROL Good Christian Men Rejoice

READING

Matthew chapter, 1 verses 18 to 25

Joseph is told that Mary's child will be a Saviour who is "God with us"

¹⁸ This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

²⁰ But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: ²³ "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us").

²⁴ When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife.

²⁵ But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

MUSIC GROUP In the bleak Midwinter

CAROL On Christmas night all
Christians sing

READING

John chapter 1, verses 1 to 14

God comes to earth as one of us

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 recognize 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 God rest ye merry gentleman

TALK The Fathers of Jesus *Chris Hobbs*

CAROL Hark! The herald angels sing

CLOSING PRAYER

*Please stay for mulled wine
& Christmas nibbles*