



Sunday 02 January 2022

WELCOME

SONG

Come and join the celebration, it's a very special day!
Come and share our jubilation: there's a new King born today!

See the shepherds hurry down to Bethlehem;
Gaze in wonder at the Son of God who lay before them.

Wise men journey, led to worship by a star;
kneel in homage, bringing precious gifts from lands afar, so

'God is with us' – round the world the message bring;
he is with us: 'Welcome!' all the bells on earth are ringing.

LOOK AND SEE

BIBLE READING from Matthew 2:1-12 by Emily Robertson

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem ² and asked, 'Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.'

³ When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. ⁴ When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵ 'In Bethlehem in Judea,' they replied, 'for this is what the prophet has written:

⁶ "But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for out of you will come a ruler
who will shepherd my people Israel."

⁷ Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. ⁸ He sent them to Bethlehem and said, 'Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.'

⁹ After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the

place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. ¹¹ On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. ¹² And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

BIBLE TALK part 1

by Paul Jenkins

Look for King Jesus...

SONG

Joy Has dawned upon the world, promised from creation.
God's salvation now unfurled, hope for every nation.
Not with fanfares from above, not with scenes of glory,
but a humble gift of love – Jesus born of Mary.

Sounds of wonder fill the sky with the songs of angels
as the mighty Prince of Life shelters in a stable.
Hands that set each star in place, shaped the earth in darkness,
cling now to a mother's breast, vulnerable and helpless.

Shepherds bow before the Lamb, gazing at the glory.
Gifts of men from distant lands prophesy the story.
Gold – a King is born today, Incense – God is with us,
Myrrh – His death will make a way and by His blood He'll win us.

Son of Adam, Son of heaven, given as a ransom.
Reconciling God and man, Christ our mighty champion!
What a Saviour! What a Friend! What a glorious mystery!
Once a babe in Bethlehem, now the Lord of history.

BIBLE TALK part 2

...and worship him

SONG

All creatures of our God and King, come to his cradle now and sing.
O praise Him, Hallelujah!

Thou angel host with golden beam, Thou Christmas star with silver gleam.

O praise Him! O praise Him! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Our heav'nly king with royal crown with grace and mercy has come down
O praise Him, Hallelujah!

Praise praise the one come to redeem, not stopped by Herod's evil scheme

O praise Him! O praise Him! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

All wayward souls who art condemned, look to the star in Bethlehem
O praise Him, Hallelujah!

Come all ye shepherds come wise men Christ born that ye be born again
O praise Him! O praise Him! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

We here the church with joyful cheer,
welcome the king who has come near
O praise Him, Hallelujah!

Bring gifts of incense gifts of gold, see all God's promises unfold.
O praise Him! O praise Him! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

PRAYERS

*During the prayers please join in with the words in bold if you are able
'Jesus help us look for you...**Help us worship you as King.**'*

SONG

As with gladness, men of old did the guiding star behold
As with joy they hailed its light leading onward, beaming bright
So, most glorious Lord, may we evermore be led to Thee.

As with joyful steps they sped to that lowly manger bed
There to bend the knee before Him Whom Heaven and earth adore;
So may we with willing feet ever seek Thy mercy seat.

As they offered gifts most rare at that manger rude and bare;
So may we with holy joy, pure and free from sin's alloy,
All our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to Thee, our heavenly King.

Holy Jesus, every day keep us in the narrow way;
And, when earthly things are past, bring our ransomed souls at last
Where they need no star to guide, where no clouds Thy glory hide.

In the heavenly country bright, need they no created light;
Thou its light, its joy, its crown, thou its sun which goes not down;
There forever may we sing alleluias to our King!