



Parr Street Church

at Kendal Town Hall

Christmas Carols

“Good news of great joy for everyone”

Luke 2:10

Sunday 20th December 2015

4.30pm

www.parrstreet.church

*Welcome to Parr Street Church Carol Service
as we celebrate together the birth of Jesus.*

Welcome also at the Church Building, Parr Street, Kendal LA9 7DH

- ❄ CHRISTMAS DAY CELEBRATION – 10.30am, 25th December
- ❄ MORNING CHURCH for all the family every Sunday – 10.30am
- ❄ AFTERNOON CHURCH for all the family every Sunday – 4.30am (repeat)
- ❄ EVENING CHURCH – 6.30pm (from 3rd January, 2016)

Regular Events ...

- ❄ PARENTS & TODDLERS – Thursday in term-time
- ❄ LADIES MEETINGS – Tuesdays September to Easter
- ❄ MENS LUNCHESES – Fridays monthly
- ❄ YOUTH ACTIVITIES – Wednesdays after school, Friday evenings
- ❄ INTERNATIONAL CAFE – monthly ... all nationalities!

Courses ...

- ❄ CHRISTIANITY EXPLORED – 6-week courses ... next one starting on Monday 11th January at 7.30pm
- ❄ MONEY MANAGEMENT – 3-week CAP courses ... throughout 2016

... more information at www.parrstreet.church

Welcome and Prayer

Reading 1: Isaiah 9:1-7

... there will be no more gloom for those who were in distress. In the past he humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the future he will honour Galilee of the nations, by the Way of the Sea, beyond the Jordan –

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

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

*For 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.*

*Every warrior's boot used in battle and every garment rolled in blood will be destined for burning,
will be fuel for the fire.*

*For 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.*

Of 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.

Carol: O come all ye faithful

O come all ye faithful,
joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
come and behold Him,
born the King of angels:
*O come let us adore Him,
O come let us adore Him,
O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!*

God of God,
Light of light,
lo! He abhors not the virgin's womb;
very God, begotten, not created:

O come let us adore Him . . .

Sing, choirs of angels,
sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above.
Glory to God, in the highest;

O come let us adore Him . . .

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee,
born this happy morning;
Jesus, to Thee be glory given,
Word of the Father,
now in flesh appearing:

O come let us adore Him . . .

Reading 2: Matthew 1:18-25

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. 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.

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. 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.'

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

When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

Carol: Once in royal David's city

Once in royal David's city
stood a lowly cattle shed,
where a mother laid her baby
in a manger for His bed:
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ, her little child.

He came down to earth from heaven
who is God and Lord of all;
and His shelter was a stable
and His cradle was a stall:
with the poor and mean and lowly
lived on earth our Saviour holy.

And our eyes at last shall see Him,
through His own redeeming love,
for that child, so dear and gentle,
is our Lord in heaven above;
and He leads His children on
to the place where He is gone.

Not in that poor lowly stable
with the oxen standing by,
we shall see Him, but in heaven,
set at God's right hand on high:
there His children gather round
bright like stars, with glory crowned.

Reading 3: Luke 2:1-7

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

So 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. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and 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.

Reading 4: Luke 2:8-20

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

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favour rests.'

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.'

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

Carol: O little town of Bethlehem

O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by:
yet in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting Light;
the hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.

O morning stars, together
proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the King,
and peace to all on earth.
For Christ is born of Mary;
and, gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wondering love:

How silently, how silently
the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts
the blessings of His heaven.
No ear may hear His coming;
but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive Him, still
the dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem,
descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin and enter in;
be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
our Lord Immanuel.

Reading 5: John 1:1-14

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

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

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

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: Joy to the world

Joy to the world, the Lord has come!
Let earth receive her King.
Let every heart prepare Him room,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing!

Joy to the earth, the Saviour reigns!
Your sweetest songs employ;
while fields and streams and hills and plains
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace
and makes the nations prove
the glories of His righteousness,
the wonders of His love,
the wonders of His love,
the wonders, wonders of His love.

Talk: "Happy Christmas?"

Carol: Hark! the herald angels sing

Hark! The herald-angels sing,
'Glory to the new-born King,
peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!'
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic host proclaim,
'Christ is born in Bethlehem.'
*Hark! The herald-angels sing
'Glory to the new-born King!'*

Christ, by highest heaven adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord;
late in time behold Him come,
offspring of a virgin's womb!
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,
hail the incarnate Deity!
Pleased as Man with man to dwell,
Jesus our Emmanuel.

*Hark! The herald angels sing
'Glory to the new-born King!'*

Hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings,
risen with healing in His wings.
Mild, He lays His glory by,
born that man no more may die;
born to raise the sons of earth,
born to give them second birth.

*Hark! The herald angels sing
'Glory to the new-born King!'*

Prayer

“I’d like to know more ...”

If you would like to receive more information about *Christianity Explored* or other future events, please fill in this tear-off slip and give it to the person who invited you or put it in the red bin at the Welcome Desk.

- More information:** I’d like to receive more information about future events at Parr Street Church.
- Christianity Explored Course:** I’d like to sign up for an enquirer’s course starting 11th January, 2016
- I’d like to sign up for the next **CAP Money Management Course**

Name:

Phone:

Email:

Address:

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Postcode:

We’d love to hear what you thought about this afternoon. Use this space to write any comments or questions or let us know if you’d like to meet and chat with someone about Christianity.

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Contact Details:

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01539 733292

www.parrstreet.church

Pastor: Paul Baxendale

Youth Worker: Hannah Boadle

Christians Against Poverty Centre Manager: Amanda Conner

Parr Street Church is a member of the North West Partnership of Churches

www.northwestpartnership.com

