

# **Christmas Eve Crib & Carol Service around St Edith's Well**

24 December at 4.30pm

*Please pick up a Lantern from the path, near the Kemsing Village Sign.  
If you borrow one of the church's lanterns, please return it after the service - many thanks!*

*The best view of the Crib is from the footpaths along the south and east side of St Edith's Well.*

Welcome and Introduction

Bible Reading: Micah 5:2, 4-5

**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.**

**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 to us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels  
The great glad tidings tell:  
O come to us, abide with us,  
Our Lord Emmanuel.**

Bible Reading: Luke 2:1-5



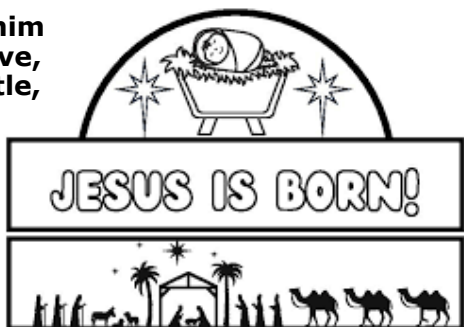
The Churches of  
Kemsing and Woodlands



**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.**



**Bible Reading: Luke 2:6-7**

**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 alleluia:  
Christ, the Saviour is born, Christ, the Saviour is born.**

**Silent night, holy night.  
Son of God, 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.**

**Bible Reading: Luke 2:8-16**

**While shepherds watched their flocks by night  
all seated on the ground,  
the angel of the Lord came down and glory shone around.  
"To you in David's town this day is born of David's line  
A Saviour, who is Christ the Lord,  
and this shall be the sign:"**

**Thus spake the seraph: and forthwith  
appeared a shining throng  
of angels, praising God, who thus  
addressed their joyful song:**

**"All glory be to God on high  
and on the earth be peace;  
Goodwill henceforth from heaven to men  
Begin and never cease."**

Bible Reading: Matthew 2:1-2, 9-11

**We three kings of Orient are,  
bearing gifts we travel afar,  
field and fountain, moor and mountain,  
following yonder star:**

***O star of wonder, star of night,  
star with royal beauty bright,  
westward leading, still proceeding,  
guide us to thy perfect light.***

**Born a king on Bethlehem plain,  
gold I bring to crown him again:  
King forever, ceasing never,  
over us all to reign. *O star...***

**Glorious now, behold him arise,  
King, and God, and sacrifice!  
Heaven sings out "Alleluia",  
"Alleluia" the earth replies. *O star...***



**Christmas: More than a Fuzzy Festive Feeling...**

**Hark! The herald angels sing,  
'Glory to the new-born King,  
peace on earth and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled!'  
Joyful, all you 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!'***



**What kind of Christmas  
are *you*? Scan to find out!**

**Christ, by highest Heav'n adored;  
Christ the everlasting Lord;  
Hope eternal drawing near,  
peace that stills our every fear.  
Light of life the world to bless,  
born to rule in righteousness;  
Pleased with us in flesh to dwell,  
Jesus our Emmanuel. *Hark! the...***

**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 we no more may die;  
born to raise us from the earth,  
born to give us second birth. *Hark! the...***

Christmas Prayer and Blessing

**We wish you a Merry Christmas x3  
...and a Happy New Year!**

**Good tidings we bring, to you and your kin,  
We wish you a Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year.**

*Everyone  
at Kemsing  
Church  
joins me  
in wishing  
you all a  
very joyous  
Christmas...  
...and a  
hope-filled  
New Year  
- 2026!*

Rev Pete

Very grateful thanks to all who so tirelessly enable this service to happen,  
including our Tremendous Technical Team, Marvellous Musicians,  
Magnificent Marshalls, our Unflappable Risk-Assessors...

**Are you good at websites?!** Rev Pete would love to hear from  
anyone who could help us get a new church one up and running!

If you would like to support the work and ministry of Kemsing & Woodlands Parish, please scan here. There is also a Card Giving Station at the back of church, along with GiftAid forms and envelopes, and other relevant information. *Heartfelt thanks to all who give, in whatever way you are able.*



*All warmly welcome over in Kemsing Church for our  
**Christmas Night Communion at 7.00pm** this evening,  
and **Christmas Family-Friendly Communion Service**  
at **10.00am** tomorrow morning!*

**For more info** please call 01732 805755 or [peterevd@gmail.com](mailto:peterevd@gmail.com)