

The Christmas Story of the The Light that Never Goes Out

A Christmas Eve Carols by Candlelight Service

Reader: RevMel

Welcome, dear friends, on this holy night,
To gather in wonder, and bask in the Light.
For darkness fades where God's love is about,
It's time we celebrate **the Light that never goes out.**

Tonight we trace the story bright,
From dawn of time to Bethlehem night.
From Eden's spark to manger's glow,
Through cross and tomb, the Light will show.

Twelve candles tell the tale once more,
Of love that burns from shore to shore.
Through prophets' words and angels' song,
God's light has led us all along.

So still your hearts, let worries cease,
This night is filled with holy peace.
For Christ has come — let every doubt,
Be warmed by the **Light that never goes out.**



Candle 1: Creation

Reader: Lesley Bracey

In the silence before the beginning of days,
God dreamed of light in glorious rays.
“Let there be light!” His voice declared,
And darkness trembled — it didn't dare.



The stars were scattered, the sun took flight,
The moon learned how to borrow light.
The oceans shimmered, the land grew green,
And God looked round and said, "How serene!"

From dust He formed both woman and man,
And gave them purpose, a hope, a plan.
They walked in the garden, unhurried, free —
The world aglow with divinity.

Yet even then, God's heart could see,
That love would cost — eventually.
But for now, creation danced in delight,
At the voice of the Maker who called forth light.

*We light this first candle for the Light that began it all
— the Light of Creation may it shine tall.*



Candle 2: The Fall

Reader: Lesley Bracey

But light met shadow, as darkness crept near,
A whisper of doubt tickled Eve's ear.
The fruit looked shiny, the serpent sly,
"Surely you won't die," came the lie.

They reached, they ate, the garden cried,
And innocence faded, just as God sighed.
The sun still shone, but something broke,
The Light grew dim beneath sin's cloak.

Yet even as they hid in shame,
God called their names — He still came.
His love refused to turn away,
Even when hearts had gone astray.

So hope was planted, small and deep,
A promise for the world to keep.
Darkness fell, but heaven planned —
Redemption still was close at hand.

*We light this candle for the Light that still seeks,
even when we hide, His message still speaks.*





Candle 3: The Promise

Reader: Deanne Thompson

Generations passed, yet still God spoke,
Through barren womb and burning oak.
To Abraham, Sarah, Jacob too,
He promised blessing — and He'd see it through.

Kings and shepherds, rich and poor,
All heard hints of what was in store.
A child would come, a holy one,
God's own Light — His promised Son.

The prophets watched with weary eyes,
And whispered hope to clouded skies.
A Saviour's coming, they'd declare,
Though centuries passed, still God was there.

So faith kept burning through the years,
Through exile, silence, hope, and tears.
The world kept watch, both day and night,
For the dawn of redeeming light.

*We light this candle for the Promise of the hope to come.
Let us stand and sing of our Emmanuel to come.*



Carol: "O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.*

O come, O key of David, come,
And open wide our heavenly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery.
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.*

O come, O branch of Jesse, free
your own from Satan's tyranny;
From depths of hell your people save,
And give them victory over the grave.
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.*

O come, O dayspring, come and cheer
Our spirits by your advent here;
Drive away the gloomy clouds of night
and death's dark shadows put to flight!
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.*





Candle 4: The Prophets

Reader: Deanne Thompson

Isaiah dreamed of a child divine,
Born to shine with heaven's sign.
Micah whispered of Bethlehem's stall,
And Zechariah shouted, "Salvation for all!"

They waited long through night and fear,
But God's voice still rang clear:
"Prepare the way, make straight the road,
For Light Himself will bear your load."

Their scrolls were old, their ink was dry,
Yet faith still looked up to the sky.
And when they thought that God was gone,
He was simply waiting for the dawn.

*We light this candle for the Prophets who declared
The Day will come, be strong and prepared.*



Candle 5: The Birth of Jesus

Reader: Pam Johnson

At last — the night that split in two,
When heaven's light came breaking through!
No palace grand, no royal bed,
A manger held God's Light instead.

A weary mum, a worried dad,
A barn full of beasts who looked quite glad.
The angels sang, the cattle stirred,
Creation gasped — the news was heard!

From heaven's height to humble place,
God's glory shone in baby face.
No darkness now could ever win,
The Light had come to dwell within.

*We light this candle for the Light of men,
Born to the world in Bethlehem.*





Carol: O Little Town of Bethlehem

Oh 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 shining,
the everlasting light
the hopes and fears of all the years
are met in you tonight.

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

How silently, how silently
the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts
the blessings of this 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
their great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
our Lord Emmanuel.



Candle 6: Angels and Shepherds

Reader: Pam Johnson

The shepherds blinked through starry skies,
As angels burst with bright surprise!
“Glory to God!” they sang with cheer,
(Quite loud — the sheep were shocked, we hear.)

They hurried off, still wide awake,
To find the Child for heaven’s sake.
And there He lay — so small, so sweet,
Light eternal with tiny feet.

They bowed, they laughed, they spread the word,
The greatest news they’d ever heard.
And somewhere angels grinned above —
“This is God’s light, wrapped in love.”

*We light this candle for the joy that makes creation sing,
as heaven’s song resounds — “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing.”*





Carol: Hark the Herald Angels Sing

Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King
Peace on earth and mercy mild
God and sinners reconciled
Joyful all you nations rise
Join the triumph of the skies
With angelic host proclaim
'Christ is born in Bethlehem'
*Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn 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 in human flesh to dwell
Jesus, our Emmanuel
*Hark! The herald angels sing
"Glory to the newborn King!"*

Hail! the heaven-born Prince of Peace
Hail the son 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 need die
Born to raise us from the earth
Born to give us second birth.
*Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King*

Come, Emmanuel, draw near,
Cast away our doubt and fear.
Born to heal our broken race,
Fill the world with truth and grace.
Write Your image on our hearts,
Make us whole in all our parts.
Born to lift us up in love,
Heaven's gift from God above.
*Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King*



Candle 7: The Cross

Reader: Wally Kluktewicz

Years went by — the Light still shone,
Bringing hope to hearts of stone.
Yet darkness rose, its shadow spread,
Till thorns were placed upon His head.

The sky turned black at midday's hour,
As darkness claimed its fleeting power.
Yet even then, as hope seemed gone,
The Light of Love kept shining on.

Forgiveness flowed from wounded hands,
A gift the world still barely understands.
The cross was dark — yet somehow bright,
For death was swallowed up in Light.

*We light this candle for the Cross of grace,
Where Light broke through the darkest place.*





Candle 8: The Resurrection

Reader: Wally Kluktewicz

Three days passed, the tomb was sealed,
The Light lay still — or so it seemed.
But then at dawn, the stone rolled wide,
And Life itself stepped out alive!

The guards fell back, the women ran,
To tell the news: "It's just as He planned!"
From garden tomb to upper room,
The Light returned, dispelling gloom.

No grave can hold, no night restrain,
The One who rose — alive again.
And every heart that trusts His might,
Can share His everlasting Light.

*We light this candle for the Risen Light
Death defeated, hope burns bright.*

So let us sing out loud *another song of cheer,*
called 'It came upon a midnight clear'.



Carol: It came upon a Midnight Clear

It came upon a midnight clear,
that glorious song of old
From angels bending near the earth
to touch their harps of gold
"Peace on the earth, goodwill to all,
from heaven's all gracious king"
The world in solemn stillness lay
to hear the angels sing.

With sorrow brought by sin and strife,
the world has suffered long,
and, since the angels sang, have passed
two thousand years of wrong;
for nations still at war hear not
the love-song which they bring;
O hush the noise of conflict now,
and hear the angels sing!

And those whose journey now is hard,
whose hope is burning low,
who tread the rocky path of life
with painful steps and slow:
O listen to the news of love
which makes the heavens ring!
O rest beside the weary road
and hear the angels sing!

And still the days are hastening on
by prophets seen of old -
towards the fullness of the time
when comes the age foretold:
then earth and heaven renewed shall see
the Prince of Peace, their king;
and all the world repeat the song
which now the angels sing.





Candle 9: The Holy Spirit

Reader: Elizabeth Bissaker

Then tongues of fire began to dance,
The church was born — by God's advance!
No longer bound to temple walls,
His Spirit shone in hearts and halls.

The frightened few became quite bold,
Their faith now shining, pure as gold.
They preached, they prayed, they healed, they sang,
And Light through every nation rang.

From flame to heart, from soul to soul,
The Light of God made people whole.
The Spirit whispered, "Shine, don't hide —
You are the lamp where I reside."

*We light this candle for the Spirit's coming,
The flame of faith forever burning.*



Candle 10: The Church

Reader: Elizabeth Bissaker

From age to age, the story spread,
By those who followed where Jesus led.
Through trials, triumphs, doubt, and grace,
The Light kept shining — place to place.

Sometimes dim, sometimes bright,
But never gone — still burning light.
From catacombs to city streets,
Wherever faith and courage meet.

We are the lamps that bear His flame,
Ordinary folk with heaven's name.
Together shining, side by side,
Carrying Christ's light far and wide.

*We light this candle for the Church,
As bearers of the eternal search.*



*"It's time for another Christmas song,
Let's sing 'O Come, All Ye Faithful' all night long.*



Carol: O Come, All You 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.*

True God of true God,
Light of light eternal,
He who abhors not
the Virgin's womb;
Son of the Father,
begotten, not created:

*O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord.*

Child for us sinners,
poor and in the manger,
fain we embrace thee
with love and awe;
who would not love thee,
loving us so dearly?

*O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord.*

Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens
of Heaven above!
Glory to God,
glory in the highest:

*O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord.*



Candle 11: The New Creation

Reader: Jim Bissaker

One day the darkness will be no more,
No tears, no pain, no closing door.
The Lamb will shine — the Light of grace,
And we shall see Him face to face.

No need for sun or moon above,
For Christ will be our endless love.
The story ends where it began —
God's Light with us, His home with man.

And all creation will sing anew,
The Light of the world has made all things true.
Forever bright, forever right,
Forever safe in perfect light.



*We light this candle with elation
for Christ, the Light of all creation.*

*Let us lift our candles, high and bright,
as we stand and sing Silent Night.*



Carol: "Silent Night"

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, "Hallelujah!"
*Christ the Savior is born
Christ the Savior is born.*



Candle 12: Christ's Light in Us

Reader: RevMel

And now this light is ours to share,
To bring God's love to dark despair.
In busy streets or quiet prayer,
Let every heart reflect His care.

A candle flickers, small and slight,
Yet joined with others — what a sight!
The Light that never goes out burns true,
Through me, through them, through all of you.

So lift your flame and let it gleam,
In word and deed, in faith and dream.
The Light has come — it's ours to show,
Until the whole wide world will glow.

*May this final candle proclaim what hope is all about
Christ is the Light that never goes out.*



The candles glow, their message clear,
God's Light is with us — always near.
So take His brightness where you go,
And let His love through your living show.

For night may fall, and shadows play,
But Christ, our Light, still leads the way.
His flame burns strong, dispelling doubt —
Forever **the Light that never goes out.**



A Final Invitation

And if this night has warmed your heart,
Our carols tonight were just the start!
Come join us while the stars still gleam,
At **11 pm for our Midnight stream.**

Then greet the dawn, with joy and song,
At **8 am — it won't be long!**
For Christmas Day we'll praise and shout,
Of **Light and Love that never goes out.**

