

St Nicholas Sevenoaks

Growing in the Gospel

A warm welcome to St Nicholas Church!

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

with Eynsford Concert Band

Conductor: Mike Smith



**7pm,
Sunday 1st December 2013**

Welcome: The Revd. Dr. Gavin McGrath

Congregational Carol: arr. Rickard

1. **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.*
2. God of God,
Light of Light,
lo, he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
very God,
begotten not created:
O come...
3. See how the shepherds,
summoned to his cradle,
leaving their flocks, draw nigh with
lowly fear;
we too will thither
bend our joyful footsteps:
O come...
4. Lo, star-led chieftains,
Magi, Christ adoring,
offer him incense, gold and myrrh;
we to the Christ-child
bring our hearts' oblations:
O come...
5. Sing, choirs of angels,
sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;
glory to God
in the highest:
O come...

Words and Music: John Francis Wade, trans. Frederick Oakley & Others

Concert Band: *Great and Glorious* – Statham

Solefield School Choir: *Camel Caravan* – Andy Murray
Mid-Winter – Bob Chilcott

Congregational Carol:

1. **The first Nowell the angel did say**
was to Bethlehem's shepherds in fields as
they lay;
in fields where they lay keeping their
sheep,
on a cold winter's night that was so
deep.
*Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel*
2. Then wise men from a country far
looked up and saw a guiding star;
they travelled on by night and day
to reach the place where Jesus lay:
Nowell, Nowell,...
3. At Bethlehem they entered in,
on bended knee they worshipped him;
they offered there in his presence
their gold and myrrh and frankincense:
Nowell, Nowell,...

4. Then let us all with one accord
sing praises to our heavenly Lord;
for Christ has our salvation wrought
and with his blood mankind has bought:

Nowell, Nowell,...

Unknown (c. 17th Century)
© in this version Jubilate Hymns

Church Music Group – Helen Greig & Peter Harlow: *We are the reason*

As little children, we would dream of Christmas morn,
and all the gifts and toys we knew we'd find.
But we never realised a baby born one blessed night
gave us the greatest gift of our lives.

We were the reason that he gave his life;
we were the reason that he suffered and died.
To a world that was lost, he gave all he could give
to show us the reason to live.

As the years went by, we learned more about gifts,
the giving of ourselves and what that means.
On a dark and cloudy day a man hung dying in such pain
because of love, because of love.

And we were the reason.

I finally found the reason for living;
it's in giving every part of my heart to him.
In all that I do, every word that I say,
I'll be giving my heart just for him.

And we are the reason that he gave his life;
we are the reason that he suffered and died.
To a world that was lost, he gave all he could give
to show us the reason to live.
He is my reason to live!

Words and Music by David Meece © 1980 Word Music Inc.

Concert Band: *Anno Domini* – arr. Mitchell

St Nicholas Choir and Wind Ensemble: *Gallery Carol*
Traditional English, arr. Peter Young

Solefield School Choir: *Believe* – Ballard and Silvestri arr. Mac Huff

Congregational Carol:

1. **Silent night! Holy night!**
All is calm, all is bright
round the virgin and her child;
holy infant, so gentle and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace;
sleep in heavenly peace.
2. Silent night! Holy night!
Shepherds quail at the sight,
glory streams from heaven afar;
heavenly hosts sing, "Alleluia,
Christ the saviour is born,
Christ the saviour is born."

3. Silent night! Holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light:
radiant beams your holy face
with the dawn of saving grace,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

After J Mohr (1792-1848)
J F Young (1820-1885)

Concert Band: *O Magnum Mysterium* – Lauridsen

St Nicholas Choir: *As the Bells Ring*

Bob Chilcott

Concert Band: *Christmas Finale* – arr. Mike Smith

Bible Reading: Matthew 1:18-25

Matthew 1:18-25

¹⁸This 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. ¹⁹Because 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.

²⁰But 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. ²¹She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.'

²²All this took place to fulfil 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').

²⁴When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. ²⁵But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

Christmas Message: The Revd. Angus MacLeay, Rector

Congregational Carol: arr. Rickard

1. **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.*

2. 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 us to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark, the herald...

3. 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 them second birth.
Hark, the herald...

C Wesley (1707-1788) and others

The Blessing: The Revd. Dr. Gavin McGrath



EYNSFORD CONCERT BAND

EYNSFORD CONCERT BAND is a symphonic wind ensemble that has been based in the small Kentish village of Eynsford since 1972. The band tours overseas regularly, and aspires to attain the highest standards of musicianship within a social and friendly environment. Attracting players from all over the South East of England, the band nonetheless retains a core of long-standing members.

The band is firmly rooted in its community and every year raises substantial amounts for local charities, raising over £35,000 since 2004. The band has 50 playing members and is a Registered Charity (No. 277086) itself. Investing any revenue from performances back into the band, to fund the purchase of music, hire of the rehearsal or performance venues and obtaining instruments for those members who cannot afford to buy them, it is only through the voluntary efforts of its members that the band survives.

We enjoy touring and in the past have visited Austria, Canada, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Ireland, Netherlands, Malta, Spain, the Fjords of Norway and Belgium as well as undertaking a cruise of the Mediterranean. The band has recorded 3 CDs, proudly releasing Heritage in 2010.

In October of this year, the band was proud and privileged to perform a joint concert with The Band of the Grenadier Guards. This charity concert, in aid of SSAFA (the Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association), was a huge success and hopefully the beginning of many more joint adventures in the coming years. The concert was only possible through the hard work of our Chairman, Brian Bennett and the close association between the Grenadiers and our Musical Director, Mike Smith.

MIKE SMITH

Eynsford Concert Band is delighted to have Mike as our Musical Director. Mike is a Director of Music in the Army and has recently taken on a role as a Staff Officer at the Royal Military School of Music.

Born in Warwickshire, Mike joined the Army as a clarinetist and served in England, Northern Ireland and Cyprus before being selected to attend the three year Bandmaster Course at The Royal Military School of Music, Kneller Hall. He graduated in 1996, winning the Commandant's Prize and the coveted Worshipful Company of Musicians's Medal for best all-round Student Bandmaster of the Year, and was also one of the first students to gain a Bachelor of Arts Degree through his studies at Kneller Hall.

In April 2008 he was selected for a commission into the Corps of Army Music, and subsequently served as Director of Music of The Band of The Royal Irish Regiment and The Band of the Corps of Royal Engineers, before being asked to take up the much coveted appointment of Director of Music of The Band of the Grenadier Guards between June 2011 and July 2013.

Outside the Army, Mike has enjoyed conducting a number of civilian music ensembles, including brass band, a symphonic flute ensemble, and now, Eynsford Concert Band. Mike's appointment takes our band into a new and exciting era. Having the opportunity to work with such an accomplished musician is a real privilege - not to mention his ability to arrange for us to perform alongside The Band of the Grenadier Guards!



SOLEFIELD SCHOOL CHOIR

The Chamber Choir was formed about ten years ago on an invitation basis for the school's best choristers to tackle more demanding music than was on offer in the Senior Choir. They have performed regularly in the Sevenoaks Festival and in the Westerham Festival and they have also entertained at Hever Castle, Waitrose, Ightham Mote, St Nicholas in Sevenoaks and with Combe Bank Senior School.



Please join us at St. Nicholas
for any of our Christmas events

SUNDAY, 15th DECEMBER

9.15am & 11am Children's Carol Service

SUNDAY, 22nd DECEMBER

9.30am Family Carol Service at Lady Boswell's School
4pm Family Carol Service at Walthamstow Senior School
6.30pm Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols
followed by refreshments with mince pies

CHRISTMAS EVE

2.30pm and 4pm Family Carols by Candlelight
11.15pm Midnight Communion

CHRISTMAS DAY

8am Holy Communion Service
10am Christmas Family Celebration
(followed by Holy Communion)
10am Christmas All Together Service at Walthamstow Senior
School



Rectory and Church Car Park

Please remember!! If your car is blocking anyone else in,
please be available to move it **PROMPTLY** after the service.

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