

# *The Chiltern Choir*

# Christmas Cheer

Saturday 13 December  
2008



## *Christmas Cheer*

**Choir – It's the most wonderful time of the year**  
by George Wyle and Eddie Pola

**Welcome** by our MC this evening, John Facer

**All: 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 th'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 th'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 heav'n 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.*

**Choir – The Angel Gabriel**

Arr Edgar Pettman

**Reading – Song of the Holly**

By William Shakespeare

**All: God rest you merry Gentlemen**

God rest you merry gentlemen  
Let nothing you dismay,  
For Jesus Christ our Saviour  
Was born upon this day,  
To save us all from Satan's power  
When we have gone astray:  
*O tidings of comfort and joy*  
*Comfort and joy,*  
*O tidings of comfort and joy*

From God our hevn'ly Father  
A blessed angel came,  
And unto certain shepherds  
Brought tidings of the same,  
How that in Bethlehem was born  
The Son of God by name:  
*O tidings of comfort and joy*

Now to the Lord sing praises,

All you within this place,  
And with true love and brotherhood  
Each other now embrace;  
This holy tide of Christmas  
All others doth deface:  
*O tidings of comfort and joy*

**Choir – Bethlehem Down**

**Reading – Talking Turkeys**

by Benjamin Zephaniah

**Solo – Angel Voices**

by John Rutter

Soloist - Gwendolen Burton

**Choir – Ding dong! merrily on high**

by Charles Wood

**All: 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 men  
From heaven's all gracious King!'  
The world in solemn stillness lay  
To hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come,  
With peaceful wings unfurled,  
And still their heavenly music floats  
O'er all the weary world:  
Above its sad and lowly plains  
They bend on hovering wing,  
And ever o'er its Babel sounds  
The blessed angels sing.

For lo! The days are hastening on  
By prophet bards foretold,  
When with the ever circling years  
Comes round the age of Gold:  
When peace shall over all the earth  
Its ancient splendours fling,  
And the whole world give back the song  
Which now the angels sing.

### **Choir and Helpers – Twelve days of Christmas**

### **Reading – from the Wind in the Willows**

by Kenneth Graham

### **Choir – No small wonder**

by Paul Edwards

### **Choir – Jingle Bells**

### **Appeal on behalf of the Peace Hospice**

by Peace Hospice Chief Executive, Jonathan Carmichael.

### **All: 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,*  
  
See how the shepherds,  
Summoned to his cradle,  
Leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear;  
Wee too would thither  
Bend our joyful footsteps:  
*O come let us adore him,*  
  
Lo! Star led chieftains,  
Magi, Christ adoring,  
Offer him incense, gold and myrrh;  
We to the Christ Child  
Bring our heart's oblations:  
*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,*  
*O come let us adore him,*  
*O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord!*