

## WHAT'S ON?

St Peter's Barge  
London's Floating Church



### CHRISTMAS IS NOT CANCELLED!

#### Carol services\*

Dec 13: 11:00 & 18:00\*\*

Dec 20: 11:00 & 18:00\*\*

Dec 24: 21:00\*\*

Dec 25: 11:00

#### Zoom events

Dec 13: 15:00 The Great Barge Bake-along

Dec 20: 15:00 Children's Interactive Nativity

*\*carol services on the Barge will be COVID-secure. You will need to pre-register and follow the safety guidelines.*

*\*\*candlelit*

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**ZOOM NATIVITY:** Sun Dec 20th (15:00) on Zoom. The story of Christmas told like you've never heard it before! All welcome. For more info email the Barge office.

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**LIFE EXPLORED:** a 7-session DVD-based course on Zoom for anyone wanting to explore the big questions of life. A new course is beginning on Tues Jan 12<sup>th</sup>. For more information or to sign up for this course, email Callum on [c.elwood@stpetersbarge.org](mailto:c.elwood@stpetersbarge.org)

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**ZOOM BREAKOUT:** today, straight after the service, for those watching online, there is a chance to meet one another in breakout rooms. Meeting ID: 851 0141 1002 / Passcode: 601996

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**BARGE OFFICE:** the office is closed from Dec 25-Jan 3 inclusive. For anything urgent please contact Callum at [c.elwood@stpetersbarge.org](mailto:c.elwood@stpetersbarge.org)

## Christmas Carol Service

### WELCOME

**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, 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...*

Latin, 18th century  
\* tr. Frederick Oakley (1802-1880)

### READING – Isaiah 9:1-7

**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 men 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.

Phillips Brooks (1835-1893)

## READING – Matthew 1:18-25

### O come, O come, Emmanuel

And ransom captive Israel  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appears.

O come, Thou, Dayspring from on high  
And cause Thy light on us to rise  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night  
And death's dark shadow put to flight  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, O come, true prophet of the Lord  
And turn the key to heaven's door  
Be Thou our comforter and guide  
And lead us to the Father's side  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall by His Word our darkness dispel

O come, our great High Priest, and intercede  
Thy sacrifice, our only plea  
The judgment we no longer fear  
Thy precious blood has brought us near  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Has banished every fear of hell

O Come, Thou King of nations, bring  
An end to all our suffering  
Bid every pain and sorrow cease  
And reign now as our Prince of Peace  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come again with us to dwell

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Praise (BMI)/Sovereign Grace Worship (ASCAP)

## READING – Matthew 2:1-12

### TALK – God's Free Gift

'The wages of sin is death, but  
the free gift of God is eternal life  
in Christ Jesus our Lord'  
(Romans 6:23)

### 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;  
when like stars his children crowned  
all in white shall wait around.

Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-1895)

\* CCL No. 1980180

### DONATIONS

This Christmas we are collecting for GrowTH,  
a charity which provides for homeless people in  
Tower Hamlets. If you would like to donate,  
please do so online to the account below, with  
the reference 'GROWTH'.

St Peter's CW Trust  
Account no: 20514646  
Sort: 50-00-00



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