



# St Augustine's Christingle service



*December 24, 2009 at 6pm*

*We welcome you here in the blessed name of the Lord Jesus,  
Whose birthday we celebrate tomorrow !*

*Our theme for today's service is*

*"God loves us so much that He gave ..."*

*Please stand to sing the hymn*

## **All things bright and beautiful**

*Chorus :*

*All things bright and beautiful  
All creatures great and small,  
All things wise and wonderful,  
The Lord God made them all.*

2. Each little flower that opens,  
Each little bird that sings,  
He made their glowing  
colours,  
He made their tiny wings.

*Chorus : All things bright and  
beautiful.....*

3. The cold wind in the winter,  
The pleasant summer sun,  
The ripe fruits in the garden,  
He made them every one.

*Chorus : All things bright and  
beautiful.....*

*Please sit*

4. The tall trees in the greenwood  
The meadows where we play,  
The rushes by the water  
We gather every day.

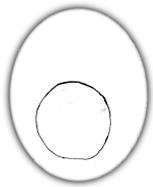
*Chorus : All things bright and  
beautiful.....*

5. The farmers' sheep and cattle,  
The dogs and cats we love,  
The rats and mice and possums,  
All come from God above.

*Chorus : All things bright and  
beautiful.....*

6. He gave us eyes to see them,  
And lips that we might tell  
How great is God Almighty,  
Who has made all things well.

*Chorus : All things bright and  
beautiful.....*



# The Orange

*The orange represents*  
the wonderful world that God created.

Genesis Chapter 1 verse 31 :

God looked at everything that He had made, and He was very pleased.

*Let us pause for a moment and think of -*  
some of the wonders of God's creation.

*Narrator :* God loves us so much that -  
*ALL :* He gave us eyes to see them,  
And lips that we might tell  
How great is God Almighty,  
Who has made all things well.

## The four Arms

*The first arm represents*  
the wonderful variety  
of the flowers of this world.



Matthew Chapter 6 verses 28-29 :

Look how the wild flowers grow: they do not work or make clothes for themselves. But I tell you that not even King Solomon with all his wealth had clothes as beautiful as one of these flowers.

*Let us pause for a moment and think of -*  
the many different flowers in our world  
and how beautifully they are made.

*Narrator :* God loves us so much that -  
*ALL :* He gave us eyes to see them,  
And lips that we might tell  
How great is God Almighty,  
Who has made all things well.

*The second arm represents*  
the wonderful variety  
of the birds of this world.



Matthew Chapter 10 verse 29 :

Not one sparrow ( What do they cost ? Two for a cent ? )  
can fall to the ground without your Father God knowing it.

And the very hairs of your head are all counted. So don't worry !  
You are more valuable to God than many sparrows.

*Let us pause for a moment and think of -*  
the many different birds in our world and how beautifully they are  
made, remembering their songs, their colours and the beauty of  
their flight.

*Narrator :* God loves us so much that -  
*ALL :* He gave us eyes to see them,  
And lips that we might tell  
How great is God Almighty,  
Who has made all things well.



*The third arm represents*  
the wonderful variety  
of the trees of this world.

Psalms 1 verses 1,3 :

Blessed is the person who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked  
for he is like a tree planted by streams of water.

*Let us pause for a moment and think of -*  
the many different trees in this world - of their shade and  
their fruits, and their majesty and beauty, and their  
usefulness in providing nesting places, food, fuel and shade.

*Narrator :* God loves us so much that -  
*ALL :* He gave us eyes to see them,  
And lips that we might tell  
How great is God Almighty,  
Who has made all things well.

*The fourth arm represents*

the wonderful variety  
of the animals of this world.



Isaiah Chapter 11 verses 1 and 6 :

**A shoot will come up from the root of Jesse, and the wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lamb and the yearling and a little child will lead them.**

**Let us pause for a moment and think of -**

the loving pets we have cared for and  
of the other wonderful animals that live in this world.

**Narrator :** God loves us so much that -

**ALL :** **He gave us eyes to see them,  
And lips that we might tell  
How great is God Almighty,  
Who has made all things well.**

*Please stand to sing the hymn*

### **O little town of Bethlehem**

1. 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 street shineth  
The everlasting light;  
The hopes and fears of all the years  
Are met in thee tonight.
2. For Christ is born of Mary;  
And, gathered all above,  
While mortals sleep, the angels  
keep  
Their watch of wondering love.  
O morning stars, together  
Proclaim the holy birth,  
And praises sing to God the King,  
And peace to men on earth.
3. 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.
4. 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 Emmanuel.

*Please sit*

## **The Red Ribbon**

*The red ribbon represents*

the birth, life, death and resurrection of Jesus, God's Son,  
Who willingly gave His life for all people everywhere.

### *Jesus's birth*

Luke Chapter 2 verses 1 - 7 :

**While they were there the time came for the Baby to be born, and she gave birth to her Son.**

**Innkeeper :** Isn't He beautiful ?

**ALL :** **Yes !**

**Narrator :** God loves us so much that -

**ALL :** **His Son was born in a humble stable to  
indicate that He is available to all  
people everywhere.**

### *The shepherds and the angels*

*adapted from* Luke Chapter 2 verses 8 - 20 :

**Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel  
praising God and singing**

**ALL SING :** All glory be to God on high,  
And to the earth be peace;  
Good will henceforth from heaven to men  
Begin and never cease.

**Narrator :** God loves us so much that -

**ALL :** **He sent His angels to announce His  
Son's birth to a group of ordinary  
shepherds.**

### *The visit of the Wisemen from the East*

*adapted from* Matthew Chapter 2 verses 1 - 12 :

**I have brought gold for this precious King ...  
I have brought frankincense for this special King ...  
I have brought myrrh for this King Who is born to be Saviour of the world.**

Please stand to sing the hymn

### The First Nowell

1. The first Nowell the angel did say  
Was to certain poor shepherds in  
fields as they lay;  
In fields where they lay keeping  
their sheep,  
On a cold winter's night that was  
so deep.

*Chorus :*  
*Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,*  
*Born is the King of Israel.*

2. They looked up and saw a star,  
Shining in the east beyond them far,  
And to the earth it gave great light  
And so it continued both day and  
night.

*Chorus*

3. And by the light of that same star  
Three wise men came from country  
far;  
To seek for a king was their intent  
And to follow the star wherever it  
went.

*Chorus*

4. This star drew nigh to the north-  
west  
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest,  
And there it did both stop and  
stay  
Right over the place where Jesus  
lay.

*Chorus*

5. Then entered in those wise men  
three,  
Full reverently upon their knee,  
And offered there in His presence  
Their gold and myrrh and  
frankincense.

*Chorus*

6. Then let us all with one accord  
Sing praises to our Heavenly  
Lord,  
That hath made heaven and  
earth of nought,  
And with His blood mankind  
hath bought.

*Chorus*

*Narrator :* God loves us so much that -  
*ALL :* ***He gave His only Son, so that everyone  
who believes in Him may not die but  
have eternal life.***

## Message

## The Candle

*The candle represents*

Jesus, the light of the world  
*and also*

the shining lights of God's people in this world.

John Chapter 8 verse 12 :

**I am the light of the world ! Whoever follows Me  
will have the light of life, and will never walk in darkness.**

Please stand to sing the hymn

**Jesus bids us shine with a pure, clear light.**

1. Jesus bids us shine with a pure, clear light,  
Like a little candle burning in the night:  
In the world of darkness, so we must shine;  
You in your small corner, and I in mine
2. Jesus bids us shine first of all for Him;  
Well He sees and knows it if our light grows dim:  
He looks down from heav'n to see us shine;  
You in your small corner, and I in mine
3. Jesus bids us shine, then, for all around;  
Many kinds of darkness in the world abound -  
Sin, and want, and sorrow; so we must shine;  
You in your small corner, and I in mine

*Narrator :* God loves us so much that -

*ALL :* ***He invites us to join His family and  
become His light in the world.***

Please sit

## Making and lighting the Christingle

Please stand to sing ( twice ! )

**Happy Birthday to Jesus**

Happy Birthday to You !  
Happy Birthday to You !  
Happy Birthday, dear Jesus -  
Happy Birthday to You !



# Blessing the Christingles

*Please blow out the candles !*

*Please sit or kneel to sing the Lord's Prayer :*

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be Your name, Your kingdom come,  
Your will be done, on earth, as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are Yours,  
now and for ever. Amen

*Please stand to sing the Carol*

## Silent Night

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. Silent night, Holy night,<br>All is calm, all is bright,<br>Round yon Virgin Mother and Child.<br>Holy Infant so tender and mild.<br>Sleep in heavenly peace;<br>Sleep in heavenly peace.        | 2. Silent night, holy night.<br>Shepherds quake at the sight,<br>Glories stream from heaven afar<br>Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia;<br>Christ the Saviour is born.<br>Christ the Saviour is born. |
| 3. Silent night, holy night,<br>Son of God, love's pure light,<br>Radiance beams from Thy holy face,<br>With the dawn of redeeming grace<br>Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth,<br>Jesus, Lord at Thy birth. |   |

*Please remain standing for the Blessing.*

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We wish you *ALL* a blessed Christmas and a happy New Year !

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Those contributing :

*Names omitted*

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*There will be no church services at St Augustine's in January.*