

O morning star, splendour of eternal light and bright sun of righteousness; come and bring light to those who dwell in darkness and walk in the shadow of death.

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

O King of the nations, you alone can fulfil their desires: cornerstone, binding all together: come and save the human race which you fashioned from the dust of the earth.

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

O Emmanuel, our King and Lawgiver, hope of the nations and their Saviour; come and save us, O Lord our God.

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Come, O Lord, and visit us in peace: that we may rejoice before you with a perfect heart. Come, Lord Jesus, do not delay; give new courage to your people who trust in your love. By your coming, raise us to the joy of your kingdom, where you live and reign with the Father and the Spirit, one God for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

May the Lord when he comes find us watching and waiting.

**Amen.**

**HYMN: 28 Lo, he comes with clouds descending**  
(The collection is taken)

**The Blessing**

**Organ Voluntary:** Prelude in C      *Bach*



ST. MARY'S OLD SWINFORD

## From Darkness To Light



AN ADVENT CAROL SERVICE  
Sunday 29th November 2015  
6.30 pm

The service begins in complete darkness. The candlelit procession of the Choir and the spreading of light throughout the congregation symbolises the entrance of the light of Christ into the darkness of the world. The service will proceed without announcement, but please have the first hymn open and ready.

## Prepare the way of the Lord

**Choir:** Psalm 121 *Rose*

**HYMN:** 26 O come O come Emmanuel

Please remain standing for the lighting of the first Advent Candle:

People of God: awake!  
The day is coming soon  
when you shall see God face to face.  
Remember the ways and the works of God.  
God calls you out of darkness  
to walk in the light of his coming.  
You are God's children.

**Lord, make us one as we walk with Christ  
today and for ever.**



### Bidding Prayer and Advent Collect

The grace and peace of God our Father and  
the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.  
**And also with you.**

### The Lord's Prayer

**Choir:** The bells of waiting Advent ring *arr Iliff*

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** Exodus 3. 1-6  
God reveals himself to Moses in the burning bush.

**Choir:** Advent Message *How*

**HYMN:** 31 Come thou Long expected Jesus

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:** Isaiah 40. 1-11  
Prepare the way of the Lord

**Choir:** Veiled in Darkness *Rudolph*

**HYMN:** 29 The Lord will come and not be slow

**3<sup>rd</sup> Reading:** Holy One *Janet Lees*

**Choir :** How beautiful upon the mountains *Stainer*

**4<sup>th</sup> Reading:** Malachi 3. 1-5  
Behold I send my messenger.

**HYMN:** 30 Hark, the glad sound the Saviour comes.

**5<sup>th</sup> Reading:** Isaiah 61. 1 – 3, 11  
The Spirit of the Lord is upon me.

**Choir:** Cherry Tree Carol *arr Cleobury*

**6<sup>th</sup> Reading:** A giving time *Virginia Becker*

**HYMN:** 27 On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry.

**7<sup>th</sup> Reading:** Luke 1. 5-25  
The birth of John the Baptist is foretold

**Choir:** Mary's Magnificat *Carter*

### Prayers

Please sit or kneel.

O Wisdom, coming forth from the Most High, filling all creation and reigning to the ends of the earth; come and teach us the way of truth.

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

O Lord of lords and ruler of the House of Israel, you appeared to Moses in the fire of the burning bush and gave him the law on Sinai; come and save us with your outstretched arm and ransom us.

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

O Root of Jesse, standing as a sign among the nations; Kings will keep silence before you for whom the nations long; come and save us, and delay no longer.

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

O Key of David and sceptre of the House of Israel, you open and none can shut, you shut and none can open; come and free the captives from prison and break down the walls of death.

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**