

United Benefice of Berrow with Pendock Eldersfield, Hollybush and Birtsmorton



A Crib and Christingle Service

THE WELCOME

THE FIRST CAROL – Calypso Carol

THE OPENING PRAYERS

Minister: Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All: and also with you.

Minister: We have come together as the family of God in our Father's presence to celebrate the festival of Christmas. In this service we hear about the good news of the birth of Christ, and we offer our thanksgiving to God in the joyful singing of carols.

All: Lord, direct our thoughts, teach us to pray and lift our hearts to worship you in spirit and in truth. Amen.

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

**All: Lord Jesus, Light of the world,
blessed is Gabriel who brought good news.
Blessed is Mary, your mother and ours.
Bless your Church preparing for Christmas and bless us your children who long for your coming. Amen.**

Minister: Jesus Christ is the Light of the world

All: a light no darkness can quench.

Minister: The shepherds kept watch by night,

All: and your glory shone around them.

Minister: The darkness is not dark to you,

All: the night is bright as the day.

Minister: Let your light scatter the darkness,

All: and light up our Church with your glory.

THE SECOND CAROL by the Children of Eldersfield School

THE READING

THE TALK

THE THIRD CAROL by the Children of Pendock School

THE CHRISTINGLES

Please show your Christingles

Minister: We remember that Christ is the Light of the World.
Christingles remind us to shine as lights in the World, bringing light and hope to those who walk in darkness.

THE BLESSING OF THE CRIB

Minister: God our Father on this night your Son Jesus Christ
was born of the Virgin Mary for us and for our salvation:
bless this crib which we have prepared to celebrate that holy
birth. May all who see it be strengthened in faith and receive
the fullness of life he came to bring, who is alive and reigns
for ever. **Amen**

We extinguish our Christingles

THE FOURTH CAROL – Away in a Manger

THE PRAYERS AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Minister: We have come together in the presence of God our Father to
rejoice in the gift of Jesus to us as the light of the world.

The Christingle we have held speaks of the world in which
we live, and today, we pray that we may each be mirrors of
the light of Christ in that world;

We hold before our heavenly Father all those who do not
know the true meaning of Christmas and for whom the light
of Christ does not shine in their lives;

We pray for children everywhere and for young people who
this Christmas have no food, no shelter, inadequate clothing
and no one to love them.

We thank you for those who work for The Children's Society.
Through their efforts we ask that your light might shine into
the lives of those lost in the darkness of fear, disregard,
conflict or poverty.

We commend all whom we love, all those who have asked for our prayers, and all for whom this Christmas will be difficult to the unfailing love of God.

All: Lord in your mercy
Hear our prayer

Minister: As our Saviour has taught us, so we pray:

All: **Our Father,**
which art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
in earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil;
for thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

THE FINAL CAROL - We wish you a Merry Christmas!

THE BLESSING

Minister; May the joy of the angels,
the eagerness of the shepherds,
the perseverance of the wise men,
the obedience of Joseph and Mary,
and the peace of the Christ child be yours this Christmas.
And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always.

All: **Amen.**