

## The Peace

Unto us a child is born, a son is given; and his name is called the Prince of Peace.

The Peace of the Lord be with you;  
**and also with you.**

*Let us offer one another a sign of peace*

## ♪ THE VIRGIN MARY HAD A BABY BOY

## The Blessing

God sent his angels from glory to bring shepherds the good news of Jesus' birth. **Amen. We thank you Lord.**

You have heard his story, the story of God's own son.  
**Amen. We thank you Lord.**

May he fill you with joy to bring his good news to others.  
**Amen. We thank you Lord.**

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Further Services are:

24.12.18 @ 20.00 Christmas Eucharist      25.12.18 @ 10.00 Christmas Eucharist

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### Bishops of the Church of England's Diocese in Europe:

The Rt Revd Dr Robert Innes      The Rt Revd Dr David Hamid

**Archdeacon:** The Venerable Colin Williams      **Area Dean:** Revd John Newsome

**Chaplain:** Revd Kara K. Werner

### Assistant Clergy:

Revd Brigitte Gutbrod    Revd Julie Lipp-Nathaniel    Revd Wolfgang Siebenpfeiffer    Revd Solomon P Benjamin

**Church Wardens:** Alison Seyerle

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### FINANCIAL SUPPORT

St. Catherine's Anglican Church does not receive financial support from the German government or the Diocese in Europe.

We depend on the generosity of those who worship with us in order to maintain our ministry.

Thanks in advance for your support and contributions, which may be paid by Überweisung (bank transfer) to: **The Friends of the English Church e.V.** at the: **Evangelische Bank IBAN: DE67 5206 0410 0000 4022 22**



St. Catherine's Anglican Church  
*"Journey to Bethlehem" Crib Service*

*24. December 2018*



[www.stcatherines-stuttgart.de](http://www.stcatherines-stuttgart.de)

## Welcome

### ♪ COME AND JOIN THE CELEBRATION

#### The lighting of the Advent Wreath

Our Advent Ring has reminded us of the coming of Christ who brings us hope, peace, joy and love. The light that shines in the darkness is coming into the world.

*All the candles are lit and a member of the congregation says*  
**Unto us a child is born. Unto us a Son is given, Wonderful, Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**  
Almighty God let the light of Christ shine within our hearts.  
Bring to us and all the world your peace, your joy, your hope, your love.  
**Amen.**

#### A Meditation

### THE FRIENDLY BEASTS

**Jesus, our brother, kind and good**  
Was humbly born in a stable rude;  
And the friendly beasts around him stood.  
**Jesus, our brother, kind and good.**

**'I' said the Donkey, shaggy and brown,**  
'I carried his mother up hill and down;  
I carried his mother to Bethlehem town.'  
**'I' said the Donkey, shaggy and brown.**

**'I' said the Cow, all white and red,**  
'I gave him my manger for his bed;  
I gave him my hay to pillow his head.'  
**'I' said the Cow, all white and red.**

**'I' said the Sheep, with curly horn,**  
'I gave him my wool for his blanket warm;  
he wore my coat on Christmas morn.'  
**'I' said the Sheep, with curly horn.**

**'I' said the Dove, from the rafters high,**  
'I cooed him to sleep so he would not cry;  
we cooed him to sleep, my mate and I.'  
**'I' said the Dove, from the rafters high.**

Thus every beast by some glad spell,  
In the stable dark was glad to tell,  
Of the gift they gave to Emmanuel  
**The gift they gave to Emmanuel.**

#### Blessing of the Crib

*The crib figures are brought to 'Bethlehem'*

Dear friends as we meet to celebrate the birth of Christ let us pray that God will bless this crib, that all who worship his Son, may come to share his life in glory.

*Silence is kept*

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. **Amen.**

### ♪ AWAY IN A MANGER

#### A Bible Reflection

#### The Prayers and The Collect

Lord hear us; **Lord graciously hear us.**

*Silence is kept*

United as members of his family we pray with one heart and voice....  
**Our Father, who art in heaven.....**  
**.... for ever and ever. Amen.**