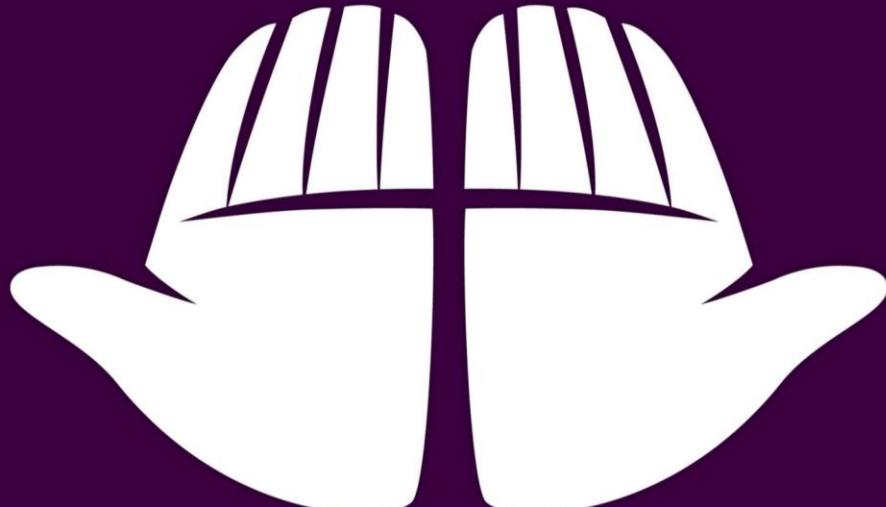




HON 494, 242, 206,  
27, 138, 317, 87



1<sup>st</sup> February 2026  
10:00 Morning Worship  
**Candlemas Christingle**  
Blended Worship



# EMBRACE the Middle East

February Charity of the Month  
**Embrace the Middle East**



## Song: The Spirit lives to set us free

HON 494

1. **The Spirit lives to set us free,  
walk, walk in the light.  
He binds us all in unity,  
walk, walk in the light.**

*Walk in the light,  
walk in the light,  
walk in the light,  
walk in the light of the Lord.*

2. **Jesus promised life to all,  
walk, walk in the light.  
The dead were wakened by his call,  
walk, walk in the light.**



3. **He died in pain on Calvary,  
walk, walk in the light,  
to save the lost like you and me,  
walk, walk in the light.**

*Walk in the light,  
walk in the light,  
walk in the light,  
walk in the light of the Lord.*

4. **We know his death was not the end,  
walk, walk in the light.  
He gave his Spirit to be our friend,  
walk, walk in the light.**

## Song: The Spirit lives to set us free

HON 494

5. **By Jesus' love our wounds are healed,  
walk, walk in the light,  
The Father's kindness is revealed,  
walk, walk in the light.**

*Walk in the light,  
walk in the light,  
walk in the light,  
walk in the light of the Lord.*

6. **The Spirit lives in you and me,  
walk, walk in the light.  
His light will shine for all to see,  
walk, walk in the light.**

Damian Lundy (b. 1944)





Welcome

## The prayer for The Green Howards Regiment

Almighty and most merciful Father,  
we give thanks for the service of The Green Howards Regiment  
which bore the symbol of your cross  
and whose sacrifice is commemorated in our Regimental Chapel.

Today, may your inspiration and protection  
be with The Royal Yorkshire Regiment,  
that it may protect the weak and vulnerable  
and serve the cause of liberty and truth.

We ask this in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the Prince of Peace and Saviour of all.

**All**      **Amen.**



## The Greeting

The light and peace of Jesus Christ be with you  
**All** and also with you.

## Opening Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ,  
light of the nations and glory of Israel:  
make your home among us,  
and present us pure and holy  
to your heavenly Father,  
your God, and our God.

**All** Amen.



1. Immortal, invisible,  
God only wise,  
in light inaccessible  
hid from our eyes,  
most blessèd, most glorious,  
the Ancient of Days,  
almighty, victorious,  
thy great name we praise.

2. Unresting, unhasting,  
and silent as light,  
nor wanting, nor wasting,  
thou rulest in might;  
thy justice like mountains  
high soaring above  
thy clouds which are fountains  
of goodness and love.

3. To all life thou givest,  
to both great and small;  
in all life thou livest,  
the true life of all;  
we blossom and flourish  
as leaves on the tree,  
and wither and perish;  
but naught changeth thee.

4. **Great Father of glory,  
pure Father of light,  
thine angels adore thee,  
all veiling their sight;  
all loud we would render,  
O help us to see  
'tis only the splendour  
of light hideth thee.**

Walter Chalmers Smith



## Introduction

## Reading: Luke 2:22-40 (Good News Translation)

The time came for Joseph and Mary to perform the ceremony of purification, as the Law of Moses commanded. So they took the child to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord, as it is written in the law of the Lord: “Every first-born male is to be dedicated to the Lord.” They also went to offer a sacrifice of a pair of doves or two young pigeons, as required by the law of the Lord.

At that time there was a man named Simeon living in Jerusalem. He was a good, God-fearing man and was waiting for Israel to be saved. The Holy Spirit was with him and had assured him that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's promised Messiah.



## Reading: Luke 2:22-40 (Good News Translation)

Led by the Spirit, Simeon went into the Temple. When the parents brought the child Jesus into the Temple to do for him what the Law required, Simeon took the child in his arms and gave thanks to God:

“Now, Lord, you have kept your promise,  
and you may let your servant go in peace.

With my own eyes I have seen your salvation,  
which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples:  
A light to reveal your will to the Gentiles  
and bring glory to your people Israel.”



## Reading: Luke 2:22-40 (Good News Translation)

The child's father and mother were amazed at the things Simeon said about him. Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother, "This child is chosen by God for the destruction and the salvation of many in Israel. He will be a sign from God which many people will speak against and so reveal their secret thoughts. And sorrow, like a sharp sword, will break your own heart."

There was a very old prophet, a widow named Anna, daughter of Phanuel of the tribe of Asher. She had been married for only seven years and was now eighty-four years old. She never left the Temple; day and night she worshiped God, fasting and praying. That very same hour she arrived and gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were waiting for God to set Jerusalem free.



## Reading: Luke 2:22-40 (Good News Translation)

When Joseph and Mary had finished doing all that was required by the Law of the Lord, they returned to their hometown of Nazareth in Galilee. The child grew and became strong; he was full of wisdom, and God's blessings were upon him.

This is the word of the Lord

**All**      **Thanks be to God**

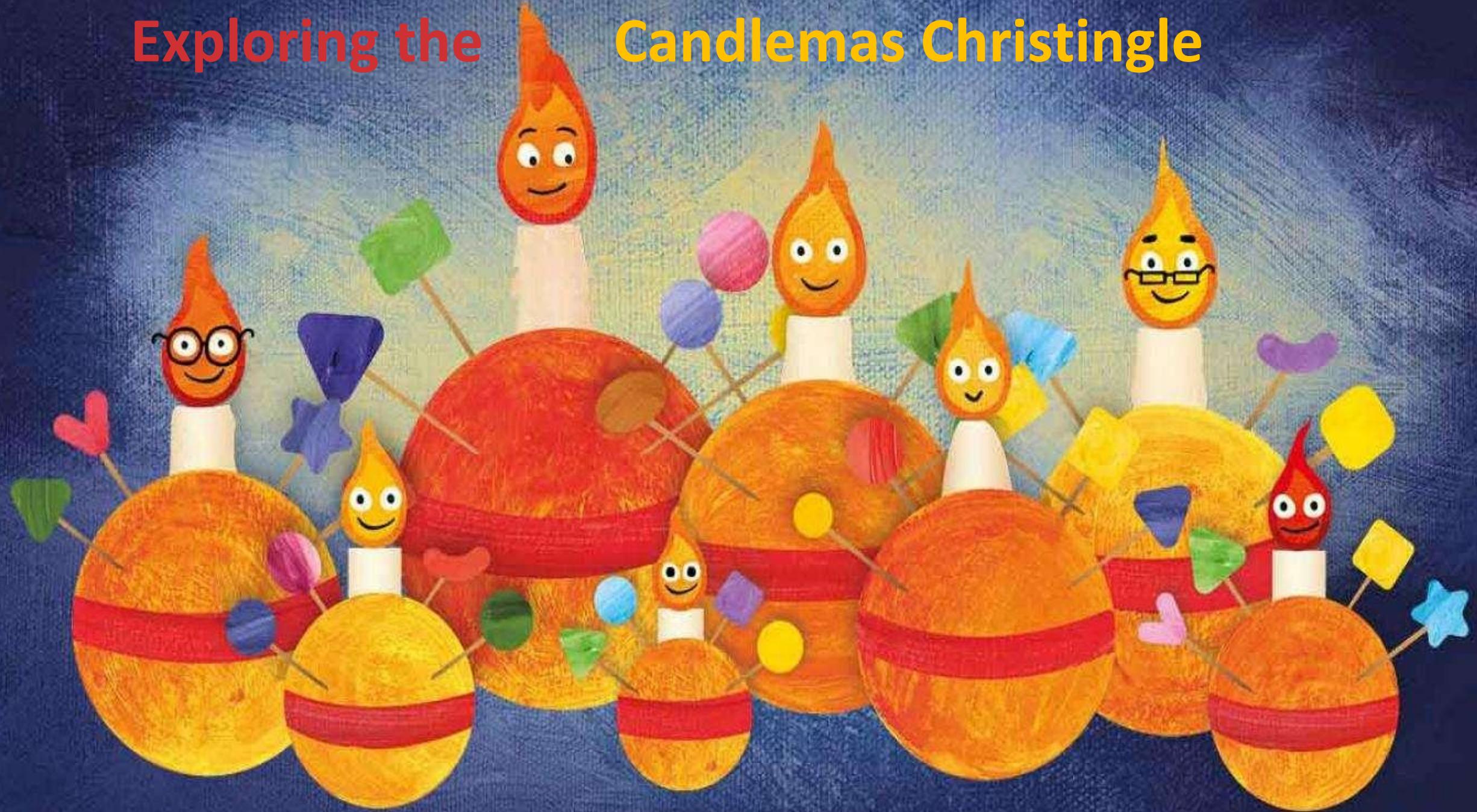


# Song Squad: Like a candle flame



Exploring the

Candlemas Christingle



## First Reading: from Genesis 1:1-31

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. And God said, 'Let there be light. Let there be water and sky, let there be land and sea. Let the land produce vegetation; seed-bearing plants and trees that bear fruit. Let there be sun and moon and stars. Let the water teem with living creatures; let birds fly in the sky. Let the land produce living creatures. Let there be human beings.' God saw all he had made, and it was very good.



## Response

The orange represents the world –  
with all its differences and diversities,  
races, colours, creeds;  
creatures that run, crawl, swim and fly;  
trees, flowers, fruit, deserts and oceans,  
forests and snow-capped mountains,  
dark and light, night and day.

**All** When we misuse or abuse the world that God made,  
Lord have mercy.



**He's got the whole world in his hands.**  
**He's got the whole world in his hands.**  
**He's got the whole world in his hands.**  
**He's got the whole world in his hands.**

**He's got everybody here in his hands.**  
**He's got everybody here in his hands.**  
**He's got everybody here in his hands.**  
**He's got the whole world in his hands.**

## Second Reading: 1 Peter 1:18-19

For you know it was not with perishable things such as silver and gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.



## Response

The red ribbon represents the blood that Jesus shed  
for the whole world.

God sent his Son, Jesus, born to Mary;  
he lived among us, as one of us.

But in order to save us, he gave his life for us –  
crucified as a common criminal –  
hung on a cross.

**All** **When we turn away from God  
and do not love our neighbours as ourselves,  
Lord have mercy.**



**Amazing grace! How sweet the sound  
that saved a wretch like me.  
I once was lost, but now I'm found;  
was blind but now I see.**

**When we've been there a thousand years,  
bright shining as the sun,  
we've no less days to sing God's praise  
than when we first begun.**

John Newton & John Rees



## Third Reading: Genesis 1:14 and 8:22

And God said, “Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night. And let them be for signs and for seasons, and for days and years.

“While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease.”



## **Response**

**We bring this stick to represent Spring;  
new birth, full of hope and promise.**

**We bring this stick to represent Summer;  
successful crops, sunshine,  
welcome rain, brightness and warmth.**

**We bring this stick to represent Autumn;  
with her glorious colours, sweeping winds,  
time for harvest and preparation.**

**We bring this stick to represent Winter;  
stark beauty, crisp, bleak,  
wrapping a silent blanket round the earth.**



## Response

Each stick bears fruit;  
reminding us of God's bounty  
and goodness to us.

**All** When we do not share God's gifts with others,  
Lord have mercy.



**For the fruits of his creation,  
thanks be to God;  
for his gifts to every nation,  
thanks be to God;  
for the ploughing, sowing, reaping,  
silent growth while we are sleeping,  
future needs in earth's safe keeping,  
thanks be to God.**

Fred Pratt Green



## Fourth Reading: Isaiah 60:1-3

Arise, shine, for your light has come,  
and the glory of the Lord rises upon you.  
See, darkness covers the earth  
and thick darkness is over the peoples,  
but the Lord rises upon you  
and his glory appears over you.  
Nations will come to your light,  
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.



## Response

The candle represents Jesus, the light of the world,  
who shines in even the darkest places.

May Almighty God, who sent his Son to be our Light,  
and to live and die for us,  
forgive us our sins and bring us to eternal life.

**All** Amen.



**Lord, the light of your love is shining,  
in the midst of the darkness, shining;  
Jesus, Light of the World, shine upon us,  
set us free by the truth you now bring us,  
shine on me, shine on me.**

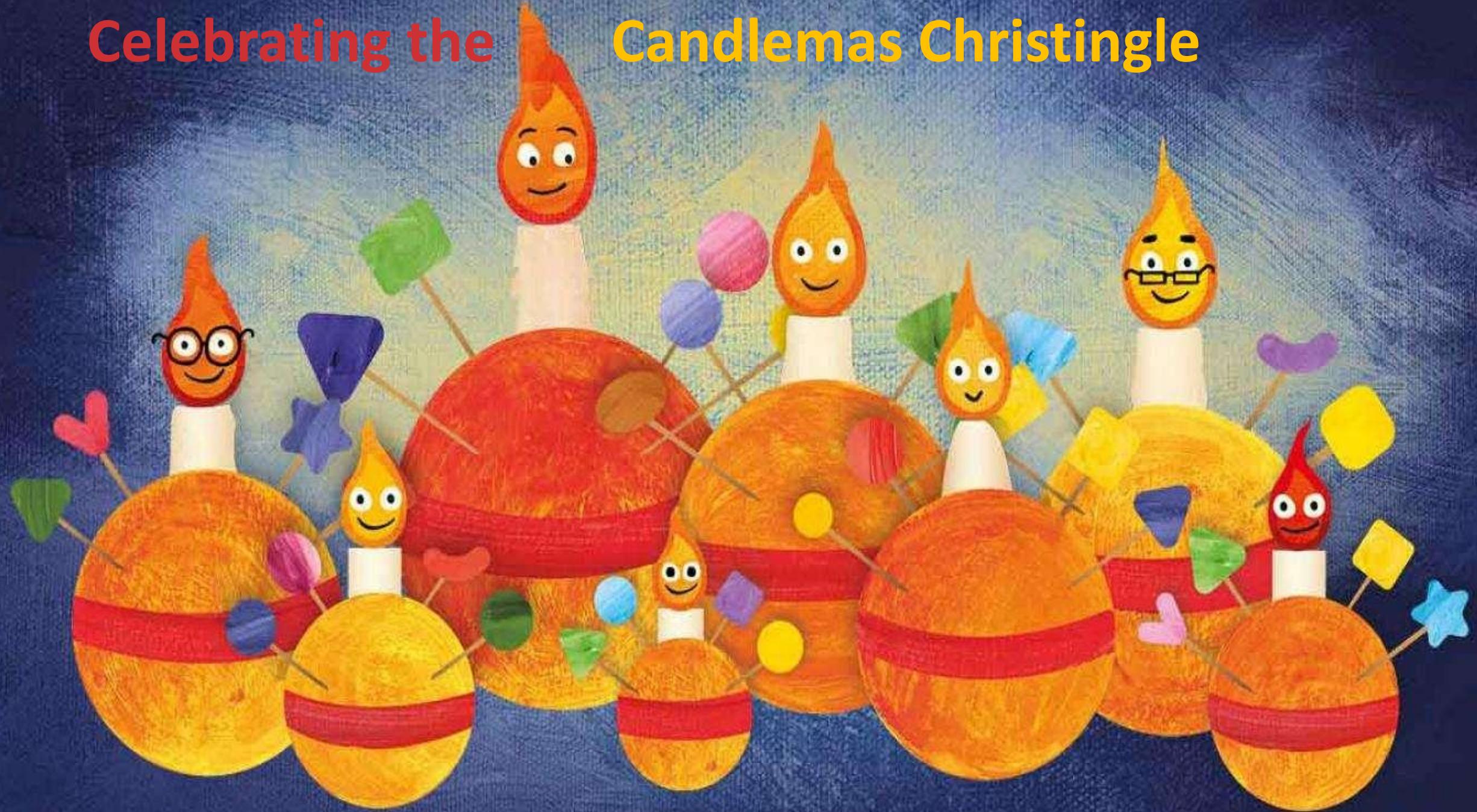
**Shine, Jesus, shine,  
fill this land with your Father's glory,  
blaze, Spirit, blaze,  
set our hearts on fire.**

**Flow, river, flow,  
flood the nations with grace and mercy;  
send forth your Word,  
Lord, and let there be light.**



Celebrating the

Candlemas Christingle



## Song: Sing Christingle

**The Christingle begins with an orange,  
Telling us of the world God made.  
For creation is full of his glory;  
All around we see his love displayed.**

*Sing Christingle*

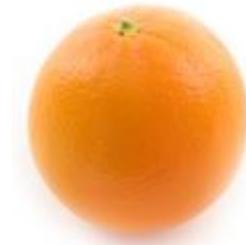
*Sing Christingle*

*Sing Christingle, it's the light of Christ.*

*Sing Christingle*

*Sing Christingle*

*Sing Christingle, light of Christ.*



## Song: Sing Christingle

**Every year we give thanks for the seasons,  
And the fruits of the earth to share.  
The Christingle is here to remind us  
That the love of God is everywhere.**

*Sing Christingle*

*Sing Christingle*

*Sing Christingle, it's the light of Christ.*

*Sing Christingle*

*Sing Christingle*

*Sing Christingle, light of Christ.*



## Song: Sing Christingle

**God of love, we give thanks now for Jesus;  
We remember his birth again.  
But the red ribbon round the Christingle,  
Tells the story his cross and pain.**

*Sing Christingle*

*Sing Christingle*

*Sing Christingle, it's the light of Christ.*

*Sing Christingle*

*Sing Christingle*

*Sing Christingle, light of Christ.*



## Song: Sing Christingle

To complete the Christingle: a candle,  
Shining out in the darkest night.  
Jesus promised to lead us and guide us;  
Come and celebrate the world's true light!

*Sing Christingle*

*Sing Christingle*

*Sing Christingle, it's the light of Christ.*

*Sing Christingle*

*Sing Christingle*

*Sing Christingle, light of Christ.*



## What we believe

Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of God.

**All** Though he was divine,  
he did not cling to equality with God,  
but made himself nothing.  
Taking the form of a slave,  
he was born in human likeness.  
He humbled himself  
and was obedient to death,  
even the death of the cross.  
Therefore God has raised him on high,  
and given him the name above every name:  
that at the name of Jesus  
every knee should bow,  
and every voice proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father. Amen.



# Prayers

Lord, have mercy.  
**All** Christ, have mercy.

## The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray the prayer that Jesus himself taught us:

**All** 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.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever.  
Amen.



1. Colours of day dawn into the mind,  
the sun has come up,  
the night is behind,  
Go down in the city, into the street,  
and let's give the message  
to the people we meet.

*So light up the fire  
and let the flame burn,  
open the door, let Jesus return,  
take seeds of his Spirit,  
let the fruit grow,  
tell the people of Jesus,  
let his love show.*

2. Go through the park, on into the town;  
the sun still shines on;  
it never goes down.  
The light of the world is risen again;  
the people of darkness  
are needing our friend.

*So light up the fire  
and let the flame burn,  
open the door, let Jesus return,  
take seeds of his Spirit,  
let the fruit grow,  
tell the people of Jesus,  
let his love show.*

3. **Open your eyes, look into the sky,  
the darkness has come,  
the sun came to die.  
The evening draws on, the sun disappears,  
but Jesus is living,  
and his Spirit is near.**

*So light up the fire  
and let the flame burn,  
open the door, let Jesus return,  
take seeds of his Spirit,  
let the fruit grow,  
tell the people of Jesus,  
let his love show.*

## Candlemas Responsory

Father, we have shared in the joy of Simeon and Anna;  
help us, like them, to trust your word.

**All Praise to Christ our light.**

We have greeted Jesus, the light of the world;  
may we be filled with the light of your love.

**All Praise to Christ our light.**



## Candlemas Responsory

We stand near the place of new birth.

**All** Let us shine with the light of your love.

We turn from the crib to the cross.

**All** Let us shine with the light of your love.

We go to carry his light.

**All** Let us shine with the light of your love.

Thanks be to God.



# Song Squad:

## Nunc dimittis





Notices

## The Peace

Jesus is the Light of the world and the Prince of Peace.  
Let us share with one another a sign of God's peace.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**All** And also with you



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StMs