

# CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL

## THE CATHEDRAL CAROL SERVICE 2024

THURSDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER AT 6.00PM  
FRIDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER AT 6.00PM  
SATURDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER AT 6.00PM  
SUNDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> DECEMBER AT 3.00PM

# WELCOME

Built to the glory of God, the Cathedral is a living church that has been at the centre of life in Chichester for over nine centuries. We warmly welcome you to this service as we celebrate Our Lord's Nativity.

This booklet contains all you will need to follow the service. Please ask a Steward if you would like a large-print copy.

The service on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> December will be live-streamed and broadcast online via the Cathedral's website, YouTube channel and Facebook pages. Typically, services are made available for up to 48 hours, however this period may be longer for special recordings. For further information, please contact:

**[info@chichestercathedral.org.uk](mailto:info@chichestercathedral.org.uk)**

Photography, filming and audio recordings are not permitted during this service. Please ensure that mobile telephones are switched off or silenced.

An induction loop is provided for the benefit of hearing aid users. To use this, please switch your hearing aid to 'T'.

Parents and caregivers are reminded that children remain in their care throughout this service and must not be left unattended or to wander around the Cathedral by themselves.

Toilets and baby-changing facilities can be accessed from the North Transept of the Cathedral. Children using these facilities must be accompanied by a parent or caregiver.

In the event of an emergency please follow the direction of the Vergers and Stewards.

**[www.chichestercathedral.org.uk](http://www.chichestercathedral.org.uk)**

# THE CAROL SERVICE

Welcome to this year's Cathedral Carol Service which seeks, through music, Scripture, and poetry, to proclaim afresh the mystery of Christmas: that Jesus, born of Mary, is God-with-us. In the moment of his birth, all creation – from the oxen to the angelic host – rejoices as God dwells in his fullness in the arms of Mary.

Our readings suggest to us that this child will be the one, foretold by the prophet Isaiah in the eighth century BC, who will 'not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth' (*Isaiah 11: 3-4*). In his life, death and resurrection, Christians discern not just a life well lived but the bearer of ultimate healing to our fragmented world and selves, in whose presence the 'wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid and the calf and the lion and the fatling together' (*Isaiah 11: 6*).

The hope of the Christ-child is the invitation for each one of us to step into the mystery of this life and to discover, for ourselves and for our world, the healing that comes from learning what it might mean to forgive and be forgiven.

May you discover afresh this night the joy of God's forgiveness and love, step decisively out of the shadow of death and into the radiance of Christ's welcome.

*Up, heavy hearts, with joy your joy embrace.  
From death, from dark, from deafness, from despairs,  
This life, this light, this Word, this joy repairs.  
Gift better than himself God doth not know;  
Gift better than his God no man can see.*

*Robert Southwell, SJ, 1561-95*

# BEFORE THE SERVICE

## ORGAN MUSIC BEFORE THE SERVICE

*Played by Stephanie Gaunt, Organ Scholar:*

THE HOLY BOY

*John Ireland (1879-1962)*

SCHLAFE, MEIN LIEBSTER

*from* THE CHRISTMAS ORATORIO

*Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)*

*arr. Harvey Grace (1874-1944)*

PRELUDE ON "THE HOLLY AND THE IVY"

*Herbert Sumsion (1899-1995)*

*Played by Thomas Simpson, Organ Scholar Emeritus:*

PRELUDE IN E-FLAT MAJOR BWV 552*i*

WACHET AUF, RUFT UNS DIE STIMME BWV 645

*Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)*

## SATURDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER

*Five minutes before the service, the following are escorted to their seats:*

THE MAYOR OF CHICHESTER AND MAYOR'S CONSORT  
*Cllr Sarah Quail, and Mr Anthony Quail*

THE CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN  
OF WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL  
*Cllr Pieter Montyn and Cllr Elizabeth Sparkes*

THE CHAIRMAN OF CHICHESTER DISTRICT COUNCIL  
*Cllr Clare Apel, and Mr Ralph Apel*

*Three minutes before the service, the following are escorted to their seats:*

THE HIGH SHERIFF OF EAST SUSSEX  
*Mrs Lucinda Fraser DL*

THE HIGH SHERIFF OF WEST SUSSEX  
*Mrs Philippa Gogarty, and Mr Rory Gogarty*

*Immediately before the service, please stand as the Dean escorts to their seats:*

HM LORD-LIEUTENANT OF EAST SUSSEX  
*Mr Andrew Blackman, and Mr Richard Smith*

HM LORD-LIEUTENANT OF WEST SUSSEX  
*Lady Emma Barnard, and Mr James Barnard*

*Please then sit for the Welcome.*

# ORDER OF SERVICE

*Please stand and keep silence as the procession enters.*

*From the West Doors, the choir begins*

## THE PROCESSIONAL CAROL



*Choir*    Once in royal David's city  
              stood a lowly cattle shed,  
              where a mother laid her baby  
              in a manger for his bed:  
              Mary was that mother mild,  
              Jesus Christ her little child.

*Choir*    He came down to earth from heaven  
              who is God and Lord of all,  
              and his shelter was a stable,  
              and his cradle was a stall;  
              with the poor and mean and lowly  
              lived on earth our Saviour holy.

*All*      **And through all his wondrous childhood  
he would honour and obey,  
love and watch the lowly maiden,  
in whose gentle arms he lay:  
Christian children all must be  
mild, obedient, good as he.**

**For he is our childhood's pattern,  
day by day like us he grew,  
he was little, weak, and helpless,  
tears and smiles like us he knew:  
and he feeleth for our sadness,  
and he shareth in our gladness.**

**And our eyes at last shall see him,  
through his own redeeming love,  
for that child so dear and gentle  
is our Lord in heaven above;  
and he leads his children on  
to the place where he is gone.**

**Not in that poor lowly stable,  
with the oxen standing by,  
we shall see him; but in heaven,  
set at God's right hand on high;  
where like stars his children crowned  
all in white shall wait around.**

*Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-1895)*

*Irby*

*Melody by H. J. Gauntlett (1805-1876)*

*Harmonised by A. H. Mann (1850-1929)*

*Descant: Timothy Ravalde (b. 1988)*

## BIDDING

*All remain standing.*

Beloved in Christ, be it this Christmastide our care and delight to prepare ourselves to hear again the message of the angels; in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem and see this thing which is come to pass, and the Babe lying in a manger.

Let us read and mark in Holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God from the first days of our disobedience unto the glorious Redemption brought us by this Holy Child; and let us make this Cathedral Church glad with our carols of praise:

But first let us pray for the needs of the whole world; for peace and goodwill in Europe, the Holy Land and over all the earth; for our stewardship of creation for future generations; for unity and fellowship within the Church he came to build, and especially in the kingdoms of our sovereign King Charles and within this City and Diocese of Chichester:

And because this of all things would rejoice his heart, let us at this time remember in his name the poor and the helpless, the cold, the hungry and the oppressed; the sick in body and in mind and those that mourn; the lonely and the unloved; all who know not the Lord Jesus, or who love him not, or who by sin have grieved his heart of love.



Lastly, let us remember before God all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore and in a greater light, that multitude which no man can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in this Lord Jesus, we for evermore are one. These prayers and praises let us humbly offer up to the throne of heaven, in the words which Christ himself taught us:

*All*    **Our Father,  
who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done;  
on 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 Almighty God bless us with his grace:  
Christ give us the joys of everlasting life:  
and unto the fellowship of the citizens above  
may the King of Angels bring us all.

*All*    **Amen.**

*Please sit.*

*Please turn the page quietly*

## CHOIR

Ding! dong! merrily on high  
in heaven the bells are ringing!  
Ding! dong! verily the sky  
is riven with angels singing!  
*Gloria! Hosanna in excelsis!*

E'en so here below, below,  
let steeple bells be swungen,  
and "Io, io, io!"  
by priest and people sungen!  
*Gloria! Hosanna in excelsis!*

Pray you, dutifully prime  
your matin chime, ye ringers!  
May you beautifully rime  
your evetime song, ye singers!  
*Gloria! Hosanna in excelsis!*

*G. R. Woodward (1848-1934)*

*16<sup>th</sup>-century French tune  
arr. Mack Wilberg (b. 1955)*

## THE FIRST READING

*Read by a Cathedral Chorister*

*God tells Adam that he has lost the life of Paradise and that his seed will bruise the serpent's head.*

Adam and Eve heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, 'Where are you?' He said, 'I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.' He said, 'Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?' The man said, 'The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate.' Then the Lord God said to the woman, 'What is this that you have done?' The woman said, 'The serpent tricked me, and I ate.' The Lord God said to the serpent, 'Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel.'

Thanks be to God.

*Genesis 3: 8-15*

*Please turn the page quietly*

## CHOIR

Adam lay ybounden,  
bounden in a bond;  
four thousand winter  
thought he not too long.  
*Deo gracias!*

*Thanks be to God!*

And all was for an apple,  
an apple that he took,  
as clerkes finden  
written in their book.  
*Deo gracias!*

Ne had the apple taken been,  
the apple taken been,  
ne had never Our Lady  
a-been heavenè Queen.

Blessed be the time  
that apple taken was,  
therefore we moun singen:  
*Deo gracias!*

*15<sup>th</sup>-century words*

*Philip Ledger (1937-2012)*

## THE SECOND READING

*Read by:*

*A Lay Vicar of the Cathedral Choir (Thursday and Sunday)*

*Justin Audibert, Chichester Festival Theatre (Friday)*

*Bradley Smith, St Olav Christian Bookshop (Saturday)*

And God held in his hand  
A small globe. Look he said.  
The son looked. Far off,  
As through water, he saw  
A scorched land of fierce  
Colour. The light burned  
There; crusted buildings  
Cast their shadows: a bright  
Serpent, a river  
Uncoiled itself, radiant  
With slime.

On a bare  
Hill a bare tree saddened  
The sky. Many people  
Held out their thin arms  
To it, as though waiting  
For a vanished April  
To return to its crossed  
Boughs. The son watched  
Them. Let me go there, he said.

The Coming  
R. S. Thomas (1913-2000)  
Text © Orion Publishing Group

*Please turn the page quietly*

## CHOIR

The tree of life my soul hath seen,  
laden with fruit and always green;  
the trees of nature fruitless be  
compared with Christ the Apple Tree.

His beauty doth all things excel,  
by faith I know but ne'er can tell  
the glory which I now can see  
in Jesus Christ the Apple Tree.

For happiness I long have sought,  
and pleasure dearly I have bought;  
I missed of all; but now I see  
'tis found in Christ the Apple Tree.

I'm weary with my former toil –  
here I will sit and rest awhile;  
under the shadow I will be  
of Jesus Christ the Apple Tree.

This fruit doth make my soul to thrive,  
it keeps my dying faith alive;  
which makes my soul in haste to be  
with Jesus Christ the Apple Tree.

*attrib. Richard Hutchins (18<sup>th</sup> century)*

*Elizabeth Poston (1905-1987)*

*Please stand.*

## CONGREGATIONAL CAROL



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 streets shineth  
the everlasting light;  
the hopes and fears of all the years  
are met in thee tonight.

O morning stars, together  
proclaim the holy birth,  
and praises sing to God the King,  
and peace to men on earth;  
for Christ is born of Mary;  
and, gathered all above,  
while mortals sleep, the angels keep  
their watch of wondering love.

*Please turn the page quietly*

*Choir*    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.

*All*        **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.**

*Phillips Brooks (1835-1893)*

*Forest Green*

*Traditional English melody harmonised  
by Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)*

*Verse 3 arr. Philip Ledger (1937-2012)*

*Descant: Thomas Armstrong (1898-1994)*

*Please sit.*



## THE THIRD READING

*Read by:*

*Peter Watts, a former Cathedral Chorister (Thursday)*

*A Lay Vicar of the Cathedral Choir (Friday)*

*Julia Grant, Winter's Moon and Chichester BID (Saturday)*

*Stephanie Gaunt, Chichester Cathedral Organ Scholar (Sunday)*

*The prophet foretells the coming of the Messiah's kingdom of peace.*

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness – on them light has shined. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onwards and for evermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Thanks be to God.

*Isaiah 9: 2, 6-7*

## CHOIR

Out of your sleep arise and wake,  
for God mankind now hath y-take.  
All of a maid without any make;  
of all women she beareth the bell.

And through a maidè fair and wise,  
now man is made of full great price;  
now angels knelen to man's service,  
and at this time all this befell.

Now man is brighter than the sun;  
now man in heav'n on high shall won;  
blessèd be God this game is begun  
and his mother the Empress of hell.

That ever was thrall now is he free;  
that ever was small now great is she;  
now shall God deem both thee and me  
unto his bliss if we do well.

Now man he may to heaven wend;  
now heav'n and earth to him they bend.  
He that was foe now is our friend.  
This is no nay that I you tell.

Now, blessèd Brother, grant us grace  
at doomès day to see thy face,  
and in thy court to have a place,  
that we may there sing thee nowell.

## THE FOURTH READING

*Read by:*

*Lesley Humphrey, The Four Streets Project (Thursday)*

*Anne Scicluna, Festival of Chichester (Friday)*

*Jess Brown-Fuller MP (Saturday)*

*David Millican, Cathedral volunteer (Sunday)*

*The prophet Isaiah describes the rule of the king who is to come.*

A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth.

Thanks be to God.

*Isaiah 11: 1-4a*

## CHOIR

Es ist ein Ros entsprungen  
aus einer Wurzel zart,  
wie uns die Alten sungen,  
von Jesse kam die Art;  
und hat ein Blümlein bracht  
mitten im kalten Winter,  
wohl zu der halben Nacht.

Das Röslein, das ich meine,  
davon Jesaja sagt,  
hat uns gebracht alleine  
Marie, die reine Magd.  
Aus Gottes ewgem Rat  
hat sie ein Kind geboren,  
welches uns selig macht.

Das Blümelein so kleine,  
das duftet uns so süß;  
mit seinem hellen Scheine  
vertreibt's die Finsternis:  
Wahr' Mensch und wahrer Gott  
hilft uns aus allem Leide,  
rettet von Sünd und Tod.

*A Spotless Rose is blowing,  
sprung from a tender root,  
of ancient seers' foreshowing,  
of Jesse promised fruit;  
its fairest bud unfolds to light  
amid the cold, cold winter,  
and in the dark midnight.*

*The Rose which I am singing,  
whereof Isaiah said,  
is from its sweet root springing  
in Mary, purest Maid;  
through God's great love and might,  
the Blessed Babe she bare us  
in a cold, cold winter's night.*

*This Flower, whose fragrance tender  
with sweetness fills the air,  
dispels with glorious splendour  
the darkness everywhere.  
True Man, yet very God;  
from sin and death he saves us  
and lightens every load.*

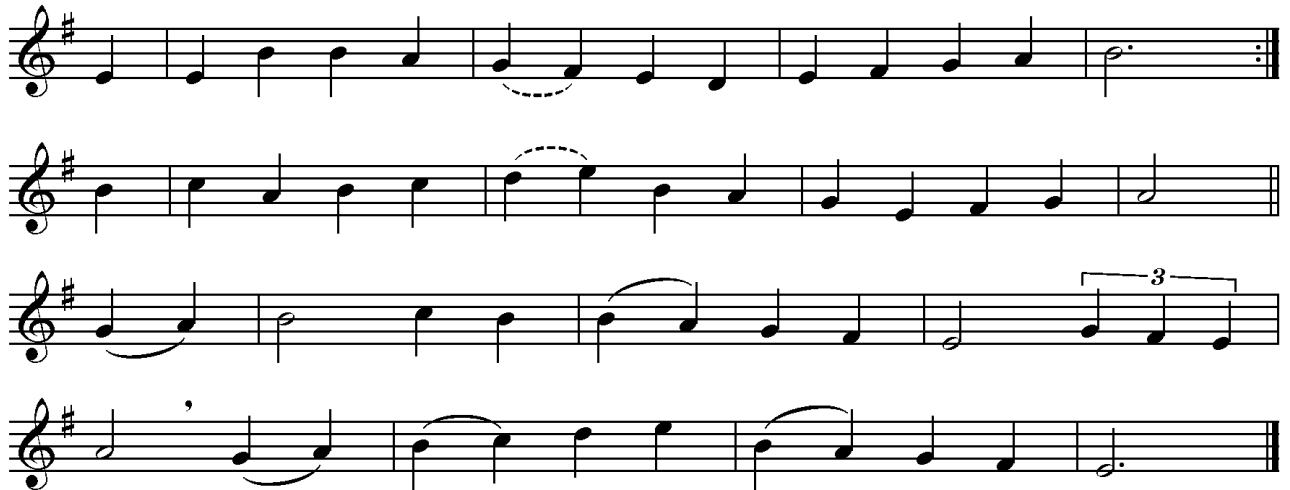
*14<sup>th</sup>-century German  
tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878)*

*Michael Praetorius (1571-1621)*

*Please stand.*

## CONGREGATIONAL CAROL

*During this carol, the procession moves into the Quire.*



**God rest you merry, gentlemen,  
let nothing you dismay,  
for Jesus Christ our Saviour  
was born on Christmas Day,  
to save us all from Satan's power  
when we were gone astray:  
*O tidings of comfort and joy,  
comfort and joy,  
O tidings of comfort and joy.***

**From God our heavenly Father  
a blessèd angel came,  
and unto certain shepherds  
brought tidings of the same,  
how that in Bethlehem was born  
the Son of God by name:  
*O tidings of comfort and joy...***

*Please turn the page quietly*

The shepherds at those tidings  
rejoicèd much in mind,  
and left their flocks a-feeding,  
in tempest, storm and wind,  
and went to Bethlehem straightway  
this blessèd babe to find:  
*O tidings of comfort and joy...*

But when to Bethlehem they came,  
whereat this infant lay,  
they found him in a manger,  
where oxen feed on hay;  
mother Mary kneeling  
unto the Lord did pray:  
*O tidings of comfort and joy...*

Now to the Lord sing praises,  
all you within this place,  
and with true love and brotherhood  
each other now embrace;  
this holy tide of Christmas  
all others doth deface:  
*O tidings of comfort and joy...*

*Traditional English carol arr. David Willcocks (1919-2015)*

*Please sit.*

## HOMILY

*The Dean (Thursday)*

*The Bishop of Lewes (Friday)*

*The Bishop of Horsham (Saturday)*

*The Lord Bishop of Chichester (Sunday)*

## CHOIR

*Long, long ago, O! so long ago  
Christ was born in Bethlehem  
to heal the world's woe.*

His Mother in the stable  
watched him where he lay  
and knew for all his frailty  
he was the world's stay.

*Long, long ago, O! so long ago ...*

While he lay there sleeping  
in the quiet night  
she listened to his breathing  
and O! her heart was light.

*Long, long ago, O! so long ago ...*

She tended him and nursed him,  
giving him her breast,  
and knew that it was God's son  
in her crook'd arm at rest.

*Long, long ago, O! so long ago ...*

Shepherds at the sheep folds  
knew him for their King;  
and gold and myrrh and frankincense  
three wise men did bring.

*Long, long ago, O! so long ago ...*

For he should be the Saviour,  
making wars to cease,  
who gives joy to all men,  
and brings to them peace.

*Long, long ago, O! so long ago  
Christ was born in Bethlehem  
to heal the world's woe.*

*John Buxton (1912-1989)*  
Text © Macmillan Publishers

*Herbert Howells (1892-1983)*



## THE FIFTH READING

*Read by:*

*Julia Sander, Transition Chichester (Thursday)*

*Sarah Songhurst, Pallant House Gallery (Friday)*

*The Chairman of Chichester District Council, Cllr Clare Apel (Saturday)*

*Ivan Western, St Mary's Hospital Almshouses (Sunday)*

*The angel Gabriel announces to Mary that she is to be bearer of God's Son.*

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.' But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I am a virgin?' The angel said to her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.' Then Mary said, 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.' Then the angel departed from her.

Thanks be to God.

*Luke 1: 26-38*

*Please turn the page quietly*

## CHOIR

Softly a light is stealing,  
sweetly a maiden sings,  
ever wakeful, ever wistful,  
watching faithfully, thankfully,  
tenderly her King of kings.

‘My soul doth magnify the Lord:  
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.’

Mary her song to Jesus  
softly, serenely sings:  
‘I will love you, I will serve you,  
may my lullaby glorify,  
magnify my King of kings.’

Lullaby, lullaby, lullaby.

*Words and music: Andrew Carter (b. 1939)*

## THE SIXTH READING

*Read by:*

*David Hanson, Chichester Cathedral American Patron (Thursday)*

*The Reverend Dr Alison Green, Chaplain to The University of Chichester  
(Friday)*

*The Mayor of Chichester, Cllr Sarah Quail (Saturday)*

*Lucy Cattermole, Cathedral Families Service congregation (Sunday)*

*St Luke relates the birth of the Messiah.*

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, ‘Do not be afraid; for see – I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.’

*Please turn the page quietly*

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!'

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Thanks be to God.

*Luke 2: 1-20*

*Please stand.*

## CONGREGATIONAL CAROL



It came upon the midnight clear,  
that glorious song of old,  
from angels bending near the earth  
to touch their harps of gold:  
'Peace on the earth, goodwill to men,  
from heaven's all-gracious King!'  
The world in solemn stillness lay  
to hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come,  
with peaceful wings unfurled;  
and still their heavenly music floats  
o'er all the weary world;  
above its sad and lowly plains  
they bend on hovering wing;  
and ever o'er its Babel sounds  
the blessed angels sing.

*Please turn the page quietly*

Yet with the woes of sin and strife  
the world has suffered long;  
beneath the angel-strain have rolled  
two thousand years of wrong;  
and man, at war with man, hears not  
the love-song which they bring:  
O hush the noise, ye men of strife,  
and hear the angels sing!

For lo! the days are hastening on,  
by prophet bards foretold,  
when, with the ever-circling years,  
comes round the age of gold;  
when peace shall over all the earth  
its ancient splendours fling,  
and the whole world give back the song  
which now the angels sing.

*NEH 29*  
*Edmund Sears (1810-1876)*

*Noel*  
*Traditional English melody*  
*Adapted by Arthur Sullivan (1842-1900)*

*Please sit.*

## CHOIR

Going through the hills on a night all starry  
on the way to Bethlehem,  
far away I heard a shepherd boy piping  
on the way to Bethlehem.

*Angels in the sky brought this message nigh:  
'Dance and sing for joy that Christ the newborn King  
is come to bring us peace on earth,  
and he's lying cradled there at Bethlehem.'*

'Tell me, shepherd boy piping tunes so merrily  
on the way to Bethlehem,  
who will hear your tunes on these hills so lonely  
on the way to Bethlehem?'

*Angels in the sky brought this message nigh:  
'Dance and sing for joy that Christ the newborn King  
is come to bring us peace on earth,  
and he's lying cradled there at Bethlehem.'*

'None my hear my pipes on these hills so lonely  
on the way to Bethlehem;  
but a King will hear me play sweet lullabies  
when I get to Bethlehem.'

*Angels in the sky came down from on high,  
hovered o'er the manger where the babe was lying  
cradled in the arms of his mother Mary,  
sleeping now at Bethlehem.*

‘Where is this new King, shepherd boy piping merrily,  
is he there at Bethlehem?’

‘I will find him soon by the star shining brightly  
in the sky o’er Bethlehem.’

*Angels in the sky brought this message nigh:*

*‘Dance and sing for joy that Christ the newborn King  
is come to bring us peace on earth,  
and he’s lying cradled there at Bethlehem.’*

‘May I come with you, shepherd boy piping merrily,  
come with you to Bethlehem?’

Pay my homage too at the new King’s cradle,  
is it far to Bethlehem?’

*Angels in the sky brought this message nigh:*

*‘Dance and sing for joy that Christ the infant King  
is born this night in lowly stable yonder,  
born for you at Bethlehem.’*

*Words and music: John Rutter (b. 1945)*



## THE SEVENTH READING

*Read by:*

*Sarah Adams, Chichester District Foodbank (Thursday)*

*Alison Napier, Head of The Prebendal School (Friday)*

*The High Sheriff of West Sussex, Mrs Philippa Gogarty (Saturday)*

*Rosie Bradberry, Cathedral Creative Learning Officer (Sunday)*

Love came down at Christmas,  
    love all lovely, Love divine;  
love was born at Christmas,  
    star and angels gave the sign.

Worship we the Godhead,  
    love incarnate, Love divine;  
worship we our Jesus:  
    but wherewith for sacred sign?

Love shall be our token,  
    love be yours and love be mine,  
Love to God and all men,  
    love for plea and gift and sign.

*Christina Rossetti (1830-1894)*

## CHOIR

*Lully, lulla,  
thou little tiny child,  
by, by, lully, lullay,  
lully, thou little tiny child,  
lully, lulla, lullay.*

O sisters too,  
how may we do  
for to preserve this day?  
This poor youngling,  
for whom we sing,  
by, by, lully, lullay!

Herod, the king,  
in his raging,  
charged he hath this day  
his men of might,  
in his own sight,  
all children young to slay.

That woe is me,  
poor child, for thee!  
and ever mourn and say,  
for thy parting  
nor say nor sing,  
by, by, lully, lullay.

*Please stand.*

## THE EIGHTH READING

*Read by:*

*A member of the Cathedral Chapter (Thursday and Friday)*

*HM Lord-Lieutenant of West Sussex, Lady Emma Barnard (Saturday)*

*The Dean, The Very Reverend Dr Edward Dowler (Sunday)*

*St John unfolds the mystery of the Incarnation.*

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

*John 1: 1-14*

*Please turn the page quietly*

## CONGREGATIONAL CAROL



O come, all ye faithful,  
joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
come and behold him  
born the King of Angels:  
*O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord!*

God of God,  
Light of Light,  
lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;  
very God,  
begotten, not created:  
*O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord!*

Child, for us sinners  
poor and in the manger,  
fain we embrace thee, with awe and love;  
who would not love thee,  
loving us so dearly?

*O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord!*

Sing, choirs of angels,  
sing in exultation,  
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;  
glory to God  
in the highest:

*O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord!*

*18<sup>th</sup>-century Latin  
tr. Frederick Oakeley (1802-1880)*

*Adeste Fideles  
18<sup>th</sup>-century English carol  
arr. David Willcocks (1919-2015)*

## THE COLLECT

*Please remain standing.*

The Lord be with you.

*All*    **And also with you.**

Let us pray.

O God,  
who makest us glad with the yearly remembrance  
of the birth of thy only son, Jesus Christ:  
grant that as we joyfully receive him for our redeemer,  
so we may with sure confidence behold him,  
when he shall come to be our judge;  
who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, world without end.

*All*    **Amen.**

## THE BLESSING

Christ, who by his incarnation  
gathered into one things earthly and heavenly,  
fill you with peace and goodwill,  
and make you partakers of the divine nature;  
and the blessing of God Almighty,  
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,  
be amongst you and remain with you always.

*All*    **Amen.**

## CONGREGATIONAL CAROL



Hark! the herald angels sing  
glory to the new-born King;  
peace on earth and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled:  
joyful all ye nations rise,  
join the triumph of the skies,  
with th' angelic host proclaim,  
Christ is born in Bethlehem:

*Hark! the herald angels sing  
glory to the new-born King.*

**Christ, by highest heaven adored,  
Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
late in time behold him come,  
offspring of a Virgin's womb!  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,  
hail th' incarnate Deity!  
pleased as man with man to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel:**

*Hark! the herald angels sing  
glory to the new-born King.*

**Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!  
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings,  
risen with healing in his wings;  
mild he lays his glory by,  
born that man no more may die,  
born to raise the sons of earth,  
born to give them second birth:**

*Hark! the herald angels sing  
glory to the new-born King.*

NEH 26

Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Mendelssohn

Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy (1809-1847)

Descant: David Willcocks (1919-2015)

## CLOSING MUSIC

FINAL *from* ORGAN SYMPHONY NO. 1

Louis Vierne (1870-1937)

*Please remain standing as the procession departs.*



# DONATIONS

*A retiring collection to support the mission and ministry of Chichester Cathedral will be taken as you leave.*

*To make a cashless donation, you can:*

- *scan this QR code*
- *use the card readers offered by the Stewards to make a fixed £10 donation\**
- *donate other amounts by card at one of the donation points located at the exit\**
- *visit **[chichestercathedral.org.uk/donate](https://chichestercathedral.org.uk/donate)***



*\* Please note that Gift Aid cannot be applied to contactless card payments.*



# SERVICES FOR CHRISTMAS AT CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL

## Services on Christmas Eve

- Children's Crib Service, at 11.00am and 2.00pm
  - Christmas Eve Evensong, 6.00pm (also livestreamed)
  - Midnight Mass, 11.00pm (also livestreamed)
- Celebrant and Preacher: The Lord Bishop of Chichester*

## Services on Christmas Day

- Said Holy Communion according to the Book of Common Prayer, 8.00am
  - Christmas Day Service for Children, Families & Caregivers, 9.15am
  - Christmas Day Choral Mattins, 10.15am
  - Christmas Day Eucharist, 11.15am (also livestreamed)
- Celebrant and Preacher: The Lord Bishop of Chichester*  
*The Cathedral will close to the public for the rest of the day at 1.00pm.*

## The Epiphany Procession

*A service celebrating the arrival of the Magi at Bethlehem*

- Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> January, 6.00pm

Full details are available on the Cathedral website, or available to collect as a hardcopy brochure in the Cathedral.

**No advance booking is required for our Christmas services.**

# Our choir needs your support

We hope that you have enjoyed the singing of the Cathedral Choir at this Carol Service.

Chichester Cathedral depends solely on generous donations to sustain and cultivate our priceless musical heritage for future generations.

Please consider making a gift to the **Chichester Cathedral Platinum Endowment Trust for Music** and play a vital role in preserving this cherished legacy.



To make a donation please scan the QR code above or request a brochure and giving form from one of our Vergers, or from the Visitors' Desk.

Alternatively, you could sponsor an individual choristership. By doing so, you'll not only support our choir but also provide a young person with a superb musical education.

Contact Alison George:

**01243 812480 | [alison.george@chichestercathedral.org.uk](mailto:alison.george@chichestercathedral.org.uk)**

Your contribution, big or small, will have a meaningful impact.

**Thank you for your support.**