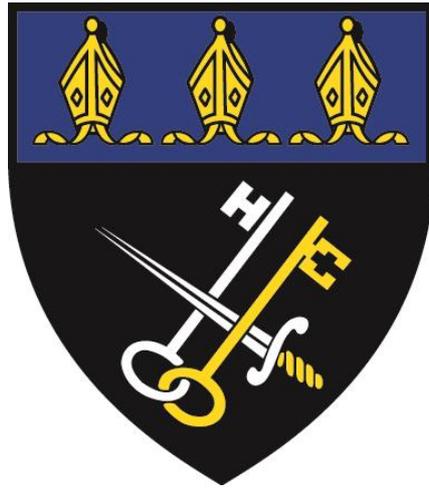


**LLANDAFF CATHEDRAL
EGLWYS GADEIRIOL
LLANDAF**



**A SERVICE of
LESSONS and MUSIC
for CHRISTMAS**

**Wednesday 23rd
and
Thursday 24th December 2020**



We warmly welcome you to Llandaff Cathedral for this service of Lessons and Music for Christmas. The Cathedral is served by a hearing loop. Users should turn their hearing aid to the setting marked T.

The service tells the story of Christmas through a series of readings from the Bible which begin with the Fall of Humanity and the earliest promises of Redemption through Jesus the Messiah. It then continues by tracing the story of the birth of Christ, as told in the Gospels. As the name of the service implies, the narrative is reinforced through the music sung by the choir.

Photography, filming and sound recording are not allowed in the Cathedral at any time. Please ensure that mobile telephones, pagers and other electronic devices are switched to silent mode.

You will find a Gift Aid envelope on your seat. We would be grateful if you wish to make a donation that you use this, fill in all of the information required and place in one of the baskets at the back of the Cathedral. You can also donate via Text as follows:

To donate £5 text LLANDAFF to 70970

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ORGAN MUSIC BEFORE THE SERVICE

Der Tag, der ist so freudenreich, BWV605

Vom Himmel hoch, BWV606

In dulci jubilo, BWV608

Lobt Gott, ihr Christen, BWV609

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

A Christmas Canon on 'Forest Green'

Andrew Carter (b.1939)

Three Interludes:

The Holly and the Ivy

Whence is that goodly fragrance?

Noël Nouvelet

William Lloyd Webber (1914-82)

Please stand as the Clergy Procession enters.

The choir sings:

A BABE IS BORN

A babe is born all of a may,
To bring salvation unto us.
To him we sing both night and day.
Veni creator Spiritus.

At Bethlehem, that blessed place,
The child of bliss now born he was;
And him to serve God give us grace,
O lux beata Trinitas.

There came three kings out of the East,
To worship the King that is so free,
With gold and myrrh and frankincense,
A solis ortus cardine.

The Angels came down with one cry,
A fair song that night sung they
In worship of that child:
Gloria tibi Domine.

A babe is born all of a may,
To bring salvation unto us.
To him we sing both night and day.
*Veni creator Spiritus,
O lux beata Trinitas,
A solis ortus cardine,
Gloria tibi Domine.
Noël!*

Words: Anon (15th century)

Music: William Mathias (1934–1992)

Please remain standing.

BIDDING PRAYER

My brothers and sisters: in the name of Christ I welcome you.

We have come together as Christmas draws near to prepare for our celebration of the birth of God's beloved Son. Through the days of Advent we have followed the light of Christ, and now we travel in spirit with Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem to acclaim with the multitude of the heavenly host the coming of the Prince of Peace. Through Scripture and silence, prayer and choral music, let us hear again the wonderful story of our redemption, and, hearing, let us rejoice and respond with lively faith.

Almighty God, you make us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of your Son Jesus Christ: grant that, as we joyfully receive him as our redeemer, we may with sure confidence behold him when he shall come to be our judge; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please sit. The choir sings:

I SAW THREE SHIPS

I saw three ships come sailing in
On Christmas day, on Christmas day;
I saw three ships come sailing in
On Christmas day in the morning.

O they sailed into Bethlehem,
On Christmas day, on Christmas day,
O they sailed into Bethlehem,
On Christmas day in the morning.

And what was in those ships all three,
On Christmas day, on Christmas day?
And what was in those ships all three,
On Christmas day in the morning?

And all the bells on earth shall ring,
On Christmas day, on Christmas day;
And all the bells on earth shall ring,
On Christmas day in the morning.

Our Saviour Christ and His lady,
On Christmas day, on Christmas day;
Our Saviour Christ and His lady,
On Christmas day in the morning.

And all the angels in Heav'n shall sing,
On Christmas day, on Christmas day;
And all the angels in Heav'n shall sing,
On Christmas day in the morning.

Pray whither sailed those ships all three,
On Christmas day, on Christmas day?
Pray whither sailed those ships all three,
On Christmas day in the morning?

And all the souls on Earth shall sing,
On Christmas day, on Christmas day;
And all the souls on Earth shall sing,
On Christmas day in the morning.

Then let us all rejoice amain,
On Christmas day, on Christmas day;
Then let us rejoice amain,
On Christmas day in the morning.

Words: Anon (19th century)

Music: Philip Marshall (1921–2005)

FIRST LESSON

(Genesis 3. 8 - 15, 17 - 19)

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

The choir sings:

ADAM LAY YBOUNDEN

Adam lay ybounden,
Bounden in a bond;
Four thousand winter
Thought he not too long.

And all was for an apple,
An apple that he took,
As clerkes finden
Written in their book.

Ne had the apple taken been,
The apple taken been,
Ne had never our lady
A-been heavené queen.

Blessed be the time
That apple taken was,
Therefore we moun singen,
Deo gracias!

Words: 15th century

Music: Boris Ord (1897–1961)

SECOND LESSON

(Isaiah 9. 2 - 7)

The Prophet foretells the coming of the Saviour.

Please remain seated as the choir sings:

IN THE STILLNESS

In the stillness of a church
Where candles glow,
In the softness of a fall
Of soft white snow,
In the brightness of the stars
That shine this night,
In the calmness of a pool
Of healing light,
In the clearness of a choir
That softly sings,
In the oneness of a hush
Of angels' wings,
In the mildness of a night by stable bare,
In the quietness of a lull near cradle fair
There's a patience as we wait
For a new morn,
And the presence of a child
Still to be born.

Words: Katrina Shepherd

Music: Sally Beamish (b.1956)

RESPONSORY

Blessed be the Lord who alone has worked wonders
Blessed be his glorious name for ever!

God reigns! Let the earth exult
And all the islands rejoice;

Darkness and cloud surround him,
His throne is justice and truth.

Light arises for the righteous,
And joy for the upright heart;

Rejoice you righteous in the Lord,
Praise the memory of his holiness

For us a child is born, to us the Son is given, Alleluia!
All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God, Alleluia!

THIRD LESSON

(Luke 1. 26 - 35, 38)

The Angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.

The choir sings:

THERE IS NO ROSE

Ther is no rose of swych vertu
As is the rose that bare Jhesu.

Alleluya.

For in this rose conteynyd was
Heuen and erthe in lytyl space,

Res miranda.

Be that rose we may weel see
That he is God in personys thre,

Pares forma.

Leue we all this wordly merthe,
And folwe we this joyful berthe;

Transeamus.

Words: 14th Century

Music: John Joubert (1927-2019)

FOURTH LESSON

(Luke 2. 1, 3 - 7)

Saint Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.

*Please stand as the Procession moves through the Nave to the Crib.
Please turn to face West as the Procession passes.*

*The **choir alone** sings:*

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.

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.

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.

Words: Cecil Francis Alexander (1818–95)

Music: IRBY
Henry John Gauntlett (1805–76)

The BLESSING of the CRIB

Hear the words of the book of Wisdom:

“When peaceful silence lay over all
and night was in the midst of her swift course,
from your royal throne, O God,
down from the heavens, leapt your almighty Word.”

Hear the words of Saint John:

“God’s love for us was revealed when God sent his only Son into the world so that we could have life through him.”

Thanks be to God.

In the faith of Christ,
and in your name, O God most holy,
we hallow ✠ this crib of Christmas,
to set before the eyes of your children
the great love and humility of Jesus Christ your only Son;
who for us, and for our salvation,
came down as at this time from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary his mother,
and was made man;
to whom with you and the same Spirit be all honour, majesty,
glory and worship, now and to the ages of ages. **Amen.**

May the grace of Christ our Saviour be with us all.

Amen.

Please remain standing as the Procession returns to the Pulpitum.

The choir sings:

IN DULCI JUBILO

In dulci jubilo
Let us our homage shew:
Our heart's joy reclineth
In praesepio;
And like a bright star shineth
Matris in gremio,
Alpha es et O!

O Jesu parvule,
I yearn for thee alway!
Hear me, I beseech Thee,
O puer optime;
My prayer let it reach Thee,
O princeps gloriae.
Trabe me post te.

O patris caritas!
O Nati lenitas!
Deeply were we stained.
Per nostra crimina:
But Thou for us hast gained
Coelorum gaudia,

Ubi sunt gaudia,
If that they be not there?
There are Angels singing
Nova cantica;
And there the bells are ringing
In Regis curia.
O that we were there!

In dulci jubilo
Let us our homage shew:
Our heart's joy reclineth
In praesepio;
And like a bright star shineth
Matris in gremio,
Alpha es et O!

Words: Heinrich Seuse (1295-1366)
Translated by Robert Pearsall (1795-1856)

Music: Melody from Klug's Geistliche Lieder (1533)
arranged by Philip Moore (b.1943)

FIFTH LESSON

(Luke 2. 8 - 16)

The shepherds go to the manger.

IN THE BLEAK MIDWINTER

In the bleak midwinter frosty winds made moan,
Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,
In the bleak midwinter long ago.

Our God, Heav'n cannot hold him nor earth sustain;
Heav'n and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign:
In the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed.
The Lord God Almighty Jesus Christ.

Enough for him, whom cherubim worship night and day,
A breastful of milk and a mangerful of hay:
Enough for him, whom angels fall down before,
The ox and ass and camel which adore.

What can I give him poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb,
If I were a Wise Man I would do my part,
Yet what I can I give him, give my heart.

Words: Christina Rossetti (1830-94)

Music: Harold Darke (1888-1976)

SIXTH LESSON

(Matthew 2. 1 - 11)

The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.

INTERCESSIONS

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Father, your Son our Saviour was born in human flesh.

Renew your Church as the Body of Christ.

Holy God

hear our prayer.

There was no room for your Son in the inn.
Protect with your love those who have no home and all who live in poverty.
Holy God
hear our prayer.

Mary, in the pain of labour, brought your Son to birth.
Hold in your hand all who are in pain or distress.
Holy God
hear our prayer.

Your Christ came as a light shining in the darkness.
Bring comfort to all who suffer in the sadness of our world.
Holy God
hear our prayer.

The angels sang, 'Peace to God's people on earth.'
Strengthen those who work for peace and justice in all the world.
Holy God
hear our prayer.

Shepherds in the field heard good tidings of joy.
Give us grace to preach the gospel of Christ's redemption.
Holy God
hear our prayer.

Strangers found the Holy Family, and saw the baby lying in the manger.
Bless our homes and all whom we love.
Holy God
hear our prayer.

Heaven is come down to earth, and earth is raised to heaven.
Hold in your hand all those who have passed through death
in the hope of your coming kingdom.
Holy God
hear our prayer.

As the Church across the world celebrates Christ's birth.
Open our hearts that he may be born in us today.
Holy God
hear our prayer.

Father, angels and shepherds worshipped at the manger throne. Receive the worship
we offer in fellowship with Mary, Joseph and the saints through him who is your
Word made flesh, our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

We pray as he taught us:

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 that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. Amen.

The choir sings:

BETHLEHEM DOWN

When he is King we will give him the King's gifts,
Myrrh for its sweetness, and gold for a crown,
"Beautiful robes," said the young girl to Joseph,
Fair with her first-born on Bethlehem Down.

Bethlehem Down is full of the starlight
Winds for the spices, and stars for the gold,
Mary for sleep, and for lullaby music
Songs of a shepherd by Bethlehem fold.

When he is King they will clothe him in grave-sheets,
Myrrh for embalming, and wood for a crown,
He that lies now in the white arms of Mary,
Sleeping so lightly on Bethlehem Down.

Here he has peace and a short while for dreaming,
Close-huddled oxen to keep him from cold,
Mary for love, and for lullaby music
Songs of a shepherd by Bethlehem fold.

Words: Bruce Blunt (1899–1957)

Music: Peter Warlock (1894–1930)

Please stand.

SEVENTH LESSON

(John 1. 1 - 14)

Saint John unfolds the mystery of the Incarnation.

Please remain standing as the choir sings:

O MAGNUM MYSTERIUM

O magnum mysterium,
et admirabile sacramentum,
ut animalia viderent Dominum natum,
jacentem in praeseptio!
Beata Virgo, cujus viscera
meruerunt portare
Dominum Christum.
Alleluia!

*O great mystery,
and wonderful sacrament,
that animals should see the newborn Lord,
lying in a manger!
Blessed is the virgin whose womb
was worthy to bear
Christ the Lord.
Alleluia!*

Words: Magnificat Antiphon for Christmas Day

Music: Morten Lauridsen (b.1943)

COLLECT

Glory to you, our Lord Jesus Christ; in love the Father begot you, and in love you make yourself known to all who celebrate you. In you is our beginning, and in you our hope and desires find their fulfilment. Deliver us from the sadness of doubt and fear; may the secret of your birth and the glory of your cross always remain in our minds; for your light shines in our darkness and nothing shall separate us from the power of your love; now or ever. **Amen.**

Please remain standing for:

THE BLESSING

Christ the Son of God, born of Mary,
fill you with his grace to trust his promises and obey his will;
A ✠ bendith Duw hollalluog,
y Tad, y Mab, a'r Ysbryd Glân
a fo yn eich plith
ac a drigo gyda chwi yn wastad.
Amen.

And the ✠ blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you
and remain with you now and always.
Amen.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY
Paean on 'Divinium Mysterium'
John Cook (1918–84)



CHRISTMAS EVE

Thursday 24th December

A Service of Lessons and Music for Christmas	3.30pm
Holy Eucharist with Organ*	7.00pm
Choral Eucharist*	9.30pm

CHRISTMAS DAY

Friday 25th December

Holy Eucharist*	8.00am
Parish Eucharist with Organ*	9.15am
Choral Eucharist*	11.15am

All Services marked * will be admission by Eventbrite ticket only.
Booking is now closed for these events and we regret that it will not be possible to admit those without a ticket. Thank you for your understanding.



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