LLANDAFF CATHEDRAL EGLWYS GADEIRIOL LLANDAF



A SEQUENCE of MUSIC, READINGS and PRAYERS for ADVENT

Sunday 3rd December 2023 5.30pm Readings centres around bringing light to the darkness, but the service also captures an idea that is central to our keeping of Advent: the recognition that the beautiful world in which we live is marred by our human wilfulness, greed and violence.

The light that shines in the darkness of the Church represents the light of Jesus Christ shining in our dark world. That light dispels the darkness, but not without showing up the dark places of our world, and of our lives. The light of Christ sees us as we are; it judges all, but it is also the illumination and the warmth, the guiding light, which leads us from darkness into light.

The service is punctuated by sung phrases, drawn from scripture, known as the Advent Antiphons. With one exception, all refer specifically to Jesus, who is regarded - by Christians at least - as the fulfilment of Jewish expectation and Old Testament prophecy. These 'O' Antiphons are addressed to God, calling him to come as teacher and deliverer.

A later addition, the antiphon *O Virgo Virginum*, clearly refers to the Blessed Virgin Mary. Mary is given prominence among the Advent Antiphons as the human agent called to bring forth God's own word and being. The readings have been chosen to reflect the theological imperatives contained in the antiphons.



Everything you need to follow the service is in this booklet. Please join in the singing of the hymns, as well as the text printed in **Bold**. The rubrics in this service indicating when to stand and sit are suggestions only. Please follow them as you are able. If you are more comfortable remaining seated throughout the service, please do so.

This service will be live streamed online. The stream will be available on the cathedral's YouTube channel after the service is finished. Please speak to a Steward if you are concerned about being visible on the stream.

A collection will be taken at this service. Please consider gift aiding your donation using the available envelopes. If you wish, you can also donate by using the contactless giving devices at the West door or via Text as follows:

To donate £5 text LLANDAFF to 70970
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The Cathedral is served by a hearing loop. Users should turn their hearing aid to the setting marked T.



Large print versions of this booklet are available. Please ask a steward for a copy.



Please ensure that all electronic devices are set to silent mode. We kindly request that you do not take photographs, or video or sound recording in the cathedral at any time during the service.



MUSIC BEFORE THE SERVICE

§ The Assistant Director of Music plays:

O Antiphon Sequence

Cecilia McDowall (b.1951)

- I. O Sapientia
- II. O Adonai
- III. O Radix Jesse
- IV. O Clavis David
- v. O Oriens
- VI. O Rex Gentium
- VII. O Emmanuel

Light in Darkness

Kerensa Briggs (b.1991)

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland BWV 659

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

ORDER OF SERVICE

- § Shortly before the service begins the Cathedral lights will be turned off. As the lights are switched on, please stand and turn to face the West Door.
- *§* The choir then sing from the West steps:

I look from afar: and lo, I see the power of God coming, and a cloud covering the whole earth.

Go ye out to meet him and say: Tell us, art thou he that should come to reign over thy people Israel?

High and low, rich and poor, one with another, Hear, O thou, Shepherd of Israel, thou that leadest Joseph like a sheep, Stir up thy strength, O Lord, and come to reign over thy people Israel.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

Words: Matin Responsory for Advent Sunday

Music: from a Magnificat by Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (1525-1594) adapted by David Willcocks (1919-2015)

§ Please remain standing.

Choir Come, thou Redeemer of the earth
And manifest thy virgin-birth
Let every age adoring fall,
Such birth befits the God of all.

Begotten of no human will, But of the Spirit, thou art still The Word of God, in flesh arrayed The Saviour, now to man displayed. § All join in singing the hymn, during which the Procession moves to the Pulpitum.



All From God the Father he proceeds
To God the Father back he speeds,
Runs out his course to death and hell,
Returns on God's high throne to dwell.

O equal to thy Father, thou! Gird on thy fleshly mantle now, The weakness of our mortal state With deathless might invigorate.

The cradle here shall glitter bright And darkness glow with new-born light, No more shall night extinguish day Where love's bright beams their power display.

O Jesu, Virgin-born, to thee Eternal praise and glory be, Whom with the Father we adore And Holy Spirit, evermore.



Words: St Ambrose (340-97)

Music: PUER NOBIS NASCITUR Michael Praetorius (1571-1621)

§ Please remain standing for the Bidding:

The grace and peace of God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you;

All And also with you.

My brothers and sisters, today we enter the solemn season of Advent in which the Church bids us prepare to celebrate the coming of Christ; a coming that we recall in the Child of Bethlehem; a coming that we experience in the gift of his Spirit, in the bread of the Eucharist, in the joy of human lives that are shared; a coming we wait for when God gathers up all things in Christ. Let us in this holy season reflect on the coming of Christ who brings light to the world. Let us leave behind the darkness of sin, walk in the light that shines on our path, and renew within ourselves the hope of glory to which he beckons us. And as we turn towards the light, let us have on our hearts all

those who see no light, for whom all is darkness and despair. Let us pray that they too may be illumined by Christ who is our light.

Let us then pray together in the words our Saviour taught us:

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. Amen.

May the Lord when he comes find us watching and waiting, now and at all times.

All Amen.

§ Please sit.

ANTIPHON

Choir



Wisdom, coming forth from the Most High, Filling all creation and reigning to the ends of the earth: Come and teach us the way of truth.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 9. 2-4 & 6-7

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. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

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.

ANTHEM

In the stillness of a church Choir Where candles glow, In the softness of a fall Of fresh 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 Soon to be born.

Words: Katrina Shepherd

Collect

Music: Sally Beamish (b.1956)

O God, the voice of your prophets, and their whole lives, announced the coming of your salvation; may we in our turn faithfully live Christ for others, until that Day when we shall see him face to face as he comes to save us all; grant this through Jesus, your Christ, our Lord.

All Amen.

ANTIPHON

Choir



Root of Jesse which standest as an ensign of the people, at whom kings shall shut their mouths, to whom the Gentiles shall seek: Come and deliver us and tarry not.

SECOND READING

Habbakuk 2. 1-3 & 20

I will stand at my watch-post, and station myself on the rampart; I will keep watch to see what he will say to me, and what he will answer concerning my complaint. Then the Lord answered me and said: Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so that a runner may read it. For there is still a vision for the appointed time; it speaks of the end, and does not lie. If it seems to tarry, wait for it; it will surely come, it will not delay.

But the Lord is in his holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before him!

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Choir A tender shoot has started up from a root of grace, as ancient seers imparted from Jesse's holy race:
It blooms without a blight, blooms in the cold bleak winter, turning our darkness into light.

Words: William Bartholomew (1793-1867)

This shoot Isaiah taught us, from Jesse's root should spring;
The Virgin Mary brought us the branch of which we sing;
Our God of endless might gave her this child to save us,
Thus turning darkness into light.

Music: Otto Goldschmidt (1829-1907)

COLLECT

Lord, may we live simply, justly and devoutly as we await the appearing in glory of our God and Saviour Jesus Christ; he gave himself for us, and so set us apart as a People of his own, for he reigns for ever.

All Amen.

§ Please stand to sing the hymn, during which the Procession moves to the Choir.



All Hark the glad sound! The Saviour comes,
The Saviour promised long!
Let every heart prepare a throne
And every voice a song.

He comes the prisoners to release In Satan's bondage held: The gates of brass before him burst, The iron fetters yield.

He comes the broken heart to bind, The bleeding soul to cure, And with the treasures of his grace Enrich the humble poor.

Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace, Thy welcome shall proclaim, And heaven's eternal arches ring With thy beloved name.

Words: Philip Doddridge (1702-51)

Music: BRISTOL Thomas Ravenscroft's *Psalmes* (1621)

§ Please sit.

ANTIPHON

Choir



Key of David and sceptre of the house of Israel, that openest and no one shutteth, and shuttest and no one openeth; Come and bring the prisoners out of the prison house and those that sitteth in darkness and the shadow of death.

THIRD READING

Isaiah 40. 1 – 8

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins.

A voice cries out: 'In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.'

A voice says, 'Cry out!' And I said, 'What shall I cry?' All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Choir Drop down, ye heavens, from above, and let the skies pour down righteousness.

Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, my salvation shall not tarry:
I have blotted out as a thick cloud thy transgressions: fear not for I will save thee:
for I am the Lord thy God, the holy one of Israel, thy Redeemer.

Words: from the Advent Prose

Music: Judith Weir (b.1954)

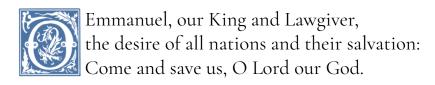
COLLECT

Lord, we give you thanks for revealing your power in the creation of the universe, and for your providence in the life of the world; for making us in your image to govern and to serve. On the mountains, in the cities, through the corridors of power and streets of despair, to help, to heal, to confront and to convert, O come, O come Emmanuel.

All Amen.

ANTIPHON

Choir



FOURTH READING

Malachi 3. 1 – 4 & 12 Read in Welsh

"Wele fi'n anfon fy nghennad i baratoi fy ffordd o'm blaen; ac yn sydyn fe ddaw'r Arglwydd yr ydych yn ei geisio i mewn i'w deml; y mae cennad y cyfamod yr ydych yn hoff ohono yn dod," medd Arglwydd y Lluoedd. Pwy a all ddal dydd ei ddyfodiad, a phwy a saif pan ymddengys? Y mae fel tân coethydd ac fel sebon golchydd. Fe eistedd i lawr fel un yn coethi a phuro arian, ac fe bura feibion Lefi a'u coethi fel aur ac arian, er mwyn iddynt fod yn addas i ddwyn offrymau i'r Arglwydd. Yna bydd offrwm Jwda a Jerwsalem yn hyfrydwch i'r Arglwydd, fel yn y dyddiau gynt a'r blynyddoedd a fu. Yna bydd yr holl genhedloedd yn dweud, 'Gwyn eich byd', oherwydd byddwch yn wlad o hyfrydwch," medd Arglwydd y Lluoedd.

Diolch a fo i Dduw.

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years. Then all nations will count you happy, for you will be a land of delight, says the Lord of hosts.

Thanks be to God.

Anthem

Choir We wait for thy loving kindness, O God: in the midst of Thy temple,
Alleluia O God, according to Thy name, so is Thy praise unto the world's end.
Thy right hand is full of righteousness A O Lord send us now prosperity. Amen

Words: Psalm 48. 9-10

Music: William McKie (1901-84)

COLLECT

O Lord our God, make us watchful and keep us faithful as we await the coming of your Son our Lord; that when he shall appear, he may find us active in his service and joyful in his praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

ANTIPHON

Choir



O Day-Spring, Brightness of Light Everlasting and Sun of Righteousness: Come and enlighten him that sitteth in darkness and the shadow of death.

FIFTH READING

Luke 1. 5-25

In the days of King Herod of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly order of Abijah. His wife was a descendant of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. Both of them were righteous before God, living blamelessly according to all the commandments and regulations of the Lord. But they had no children, because Elizabeth was barren, and both were getting on in years.

Once when he was serving as priest before God and his section was on duty, he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to enter the sanctuary of the Lord and offer incense. Now at the time of the incense-offering, the whole assembly of the people was praying outside. Then there appeared to him an angel of the Lord, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. When Zechariah saw him, he was terrified; and fear overwhelmed him. But the angel said to him, 'Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will name him John. You will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He must never drink wine or strong drink; even before his birth he will be filled with the Holy Spirit. He will turn many of

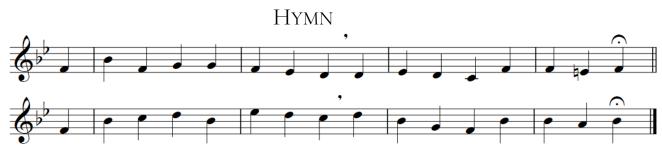
the people of Israel to the Lord their God. With the spirit and power of Elijah he will go before him, to turn the hearts of parents to their children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.' Zechariah said to the angel, 'How will I know that this is so? For I am an old man, and my wife is getting on in years.' The angel replied, 'I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. But now, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time, you will become mute, unable to speak, until the day these things occur.'

Meanwhile, the people were waiting for Zechariah, and wondered at his delay in the sanctuary. When he did come out, he could not speak to them, and they realized that he had seen a vision in the sanctuary. He kept motioning to them and remained unable to speak. When his time of service was ended, he went to his home.

After those days his wife Elizabeth conceived, and for five months she remained in seclusion. She said, 'This is what the Lord has done for me when he looked favourably on me and took away the disgrace I have endured among my people.'

Thanks be to God.

§ Please stand:



All On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
Announces that the Lord is nigh;
Come then and hearken, for he brings
Glad tidings from the King of kings.

Then cleansed be every Christian breast, And furnished for so great a guest! Yea, let us each our hearts prepare For Christ to come and enter there.

For thou art our salvation, Lord, Our refuge and our great reward; Without thy grace our souls must fade, And wither like a flower decayed.



Stretch forth thy hand to heal our sore, And make us rise to fall no more; Once more upon thy people shine, And fill the world with love divine.

All praise, eternal Son, to thee Whose advent sets thy people free Whom, with the Father, we adore, And Spirit blest, for ever more. Amen.

Words: George Coffin (1676-1749)

Music: WINCHESTER NEW adapted from a German Chorale

§ Please remain standing.

COLLECT

Almighty God, by whose providence your servant John the Baptist was wonderfully born and sent to prepare the way of your Son our Saviour by the preaching of repentance: lead us to repent according to his preaching and live according to his example, through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

All Amen.

§ Please sit.

ANTIPHON

Choir



King of the Nations, and their desire, the Corner-stone, who makest both one: Come and save mankind, whom thou formedst of clay.

SIXTH READING

1 Thess. 5. 2 − 9

You yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labour pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape!

But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Thanks be to God.

Anthem

Ι.

Choir Zion, at thy shining gates
Lo, the King of Glory waits,
Haste thy monarch's pomp to greet,
Strew thy palms before his feet.

Christ, for thee their triple light, Faith and hope and love unite; This the beacon we display To proclaim thine advent day.

3.
Come and give us peace within,
Loose us from the bands of sin,
Take away the galling weight
Laid on us by Satan's hate.

Words: Benjamin H. Kennedy (1804-89)

4. Give us grace thy yoke to wear, Give us strength thy cross to bear, Make us thine in deed and word, Thine in heart and life, O Lord.

So, when thou shalt come again, Judge of angels and of men. We with all thy saints shall sing Alleluias to our King.

> Music: Bohemian Brethren (16th Century) arr. George Guest (1924-2002)

COLLECT

O God, you disperse our fears by the light of your Word; strengthen our hearts in faith, that the fire of love kindled in them by your Holy Spirit may never be stifled by temptation; give us this through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

All Amen.

ANTIPHON

Choir



Virgin of virgins, how shall this be?
For neither before thee was any like thee, nor shall there be after.
Daughters of Jerusalem, why marvel ye at me?
The thing which ye behold is a divine mystery.

SEVENTH READING

Luke 1. 26 – 33

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 forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

Thanks be to God

ANTHEM

Choir Nova! Nova! 'Ave' fit ex 'Eva'.

Gabriel of high degree, he came down from Trinity to Nazareth in Galilee. Nova! Nova!

He met a maiden in a place, he kneeled down afore her face, and said: 'Hail, Mary, full of grace'. Nova! Nova!

When the maid heard tell of this she was full sore abashed I-wys,² and wened³ that she had done a wrong. Nova! Nova!

Words: 15th-century English

Then said the angel: 'Dread not you; you shall conceive in all virtue a child whose name shall be Jesu'.
Nova! Nova!

It is not yet but six months agone since Elizabeth conceived John, as it was prophesied before.
Nova! Nova!

Then said the maiden verily: 'I am your servant right truly; Ecce ancilla Domini'.⁴ Nova! Nova! 'Ave' fit ex 'Eva'.

Music: Bob Chilcott (b.1955)

¹ News! News!

 $^{^{\}scriptscriptstyle 2}$ indeed

³ thought

⁴ Behold the handmaid of the Lord

COLLECT

We beseech you, O Lord, pour your grace into our hearts, that as we have known the incarnation of your Son Jesus Christ by the message of an angel, so by his cross and passion we may be brought to the glory of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

All Amen.

§ Please stand to sing the hymn, during which the Procession moves to the Lady Chapel.



All O come, O come, Emmanuel!
Redeem thy captive Israel,
That into exile drear is gone
Far from the face of God's dear Son.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Wisdom from on high! Who madest all in earth and sky, Creating man from dust and clay: To us reveal salvation's way.

O come, thou Root of Jesse! draw The quarry from the lion's claw; From those dread caverns of the grave, From nether hell, thy people save.

O come, O come, thou Dayspring bright! Pour on our soul the healing light; Dispel the long night's lingering gloom, And pierce the shadows of the tomb.



O come, Desire of nations! show Thy kingly reign on earth below; Thou Corner-stone, uniting all, Restore the ruin of our fall. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel.

Words: Ancient Advent Antiphons

Music: VENI EMMANUEL Melody adapted by Thomas Helmore (1811-90)

§ Please remain standing.

THE ADVENT COLLECT

Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious Majesty, to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God now and ever.

All Amen.

Anthem

Choir O nata lux de lumine,
Jesu redemptor saeculi,
Dignare clemens supplicum
Laudes precesque sumere.

Qui carne quondam contegi Dignatus es pro perditis, Nos membra confer effici Tui beati corporis

Words: Edited from Cantiones Sacrae (1575)

O Light born of Light, Jesus, redeemer of the world, with loving-kindness deign to receive suppliant praise and prayer.

Thou who once deigned to be clothed in flesh for the sake of the lost, grant us to be members of thy blessed body.

Music: Morten Lauridsen (b.1943)

THE BLESSING

Christ the Sun of righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the ♣ blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be upon you and remain with you always.

All Amen.

VESPER RESPONSORY

Choir Judah and Jerusalem, fear not, nor be dismayed, Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, he will be with you.

Stand ye still, and ye shall see the salvation of the Lord. Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, he will be with you.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, he will be with you.

Words: Vesper Responsory

Music: from a Magnificat by Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (1525-1594) adapted by Philip Ledger (1937-2012)

HYMN



All Lo! He comes with clouds descending,
Once for favoured sinners slain;
Thousand thousand saints attending
Swell the triumph of his train;
Alleluia!

God appears, on earth to reign.

Every eye shall now behold him
Robed in dreadful majesty;
Those who set at naught and sold him,
Pierced and nailed him to the tree,
Deeply wailing
Shall the true Messiah see.



Those dear tokens of his passion Still his dazzling body bears, Cause of endless exultation To his ransomed worshippers; With what rapture Gaze we on those glorious scars!

Yea, Amen! Let all adore thee, High on thine eternal throne; Saviour, take the power and glory; Claim the kingdom for thine own: O come quickly! Alleluia! Come, Lord, come!

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-88)

Music: HELMSLEY melody noted by Thomas Olivers (1725-99) included in Wesley's Select Hymns (1765)

§ Please remain standing as the Procession leaves the Cathedral.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Fantasia in G minor BWV 542i

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

§ The Organ Voluntary at the end of each service is part of the offering of our worship. Please respect the stillness of those who wish to remain seated until it has ended.

Copyright Acknowledgements