

LLANDAFF CATHEDRAL
CADEIRLAN LLANDAF

A SERVICE OF
NINE LESSONS & CAROLS

Monday 23rd December 2024
&
Tuesday 24th December 2024

4.00pm

Order of Service

Croeso | Welcome

We warmly welcome you to LLANDAFF CATHEDRAL for this service of Nine Lessons and Carols. The service of Nine Lessons and Carols has humble beginnings. It is adapted from an order drawn up by E. W. Benson, who later became the Archbishop of Canterbury, for a Christmas Eve service in a wooden shed which was being used as the cathedral in Truro in 1880. The format has been made famous since it was first used at King's College, Cambridge, in 1918. The service then found the airwaves in 1928 and, with the exception of 1930, has been broadcast every year since.

The service tells the story of Christmas through a series of readings from the Bible. It begins with the Fall of Humanity and then the earliest promises of Redemption through Jesus the Messiah. It continues by exploring the hopes of the Old Testament prophets, which are fulfilled by the birth of Christ as told in the Gospels. As the name of the service implies, the narrative is reinforced through the singing of carols and hymns.



*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 broadcast live on the Cathedral's YouTube channel. We try to focus on those leading the liturgy of the service. If you are concerned about appearing on the live stream, please speak to one of the stewards.



Please take this booklet with you or recycle it.



A collection is taken during this service. If you are a UK tax payer, please consider using the Gift-Aid envelopes, as this enables us to claim an extra 25% on each donation. You can also donate by using the contactless giving devices located around the building, or via Text as follows:



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The Cathedral is served by a hearing loop.

Users should turn their hearing aid to the setting marked T.



Printed versions of this service sheet are available. Please ask a steward for a copy.

Large print versions are also available.



Toilets are located at the end of the Processional Way via the David Chapel, on the north side of the cathedral.



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 this service.

The service is sung by the Choir of Llandaff Cathedral, directed by Stephen Moore, Director of Music. The Organ is played by Aaron Shilson, Assistant Director of Music.

PRAYERS FOR THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

Almighty God,
born in David's town, Jesus your Son, the promised Messiah,
has come into the world to bring unity to the whole of creation
and gather the whole of humanity into your kingdom of light and peace.
As we worship with poor shepherds,
the song of angels echoes in our ears,
and fills our hearts with hymns of praise.
May our prayer for peace bear fruit in the lives of all people
that the whole world may resound with your love.
We make our prayer through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Glory to you Lord God,
almighty God and Father,
we give you thanks and praise you for your glory
and rejoice in the birth of your incarnate Son.
Cradled in a manger he sustains the world with his love
and nourishes us with the gift of himself,
for he is the Bread of Life, who has come down from heaven
to live in the midst of his people.
Open our hearts to his presence in our lives
and send us out to share the good news of salvation he brings.
We ask this through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Lord God,
you bless the world with the gift of your Son,
who fills the world with light and life.
As we rejoice in the mystery of his birth,
may the song of angels and the worship of the shepherds,
the love of Mary and the dedication of Joseph,
bring us closer to the knowledge of our Saviour's love
and help us discern his presence in our lives,
for he is Lord for ever and ever. Amen.

MUSIC BEFORE THE SERVICE

ON THE 22nd DECEMBER.

§ *The Assistant Director of Music plays:*

Prelude and Fugue in D major BWV 532

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

from La Nativité du Seigneur:

Les Bergers

Les Enfants de Dieu

Olivier Messiaen (1908-92)

from the Orgelbüchlein:

Puer natus in Bethlehem BWV 603

Der Tag, der ist so freudenreich BWV 605

Vom Himmel hoch, da komm ich her BWV 606

In dulci jubilo BWV 608

Jesu, meine Freude BWV 610

Johann Sebastian Bach

from La Nativité du Seigneur:

Desseins éternels

Olivier Messiaen

ON THE 24th DECEMBER.

§ *The Assistant Director of Music plays:*

Fantasia in G BWV 572 «*Piece d'Orgue*»

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Rorate Caeli

Jeanne Demessieux (1921-68)

A solis ortus cardine

Nicolas de Grigny (1672-1703)

(Plein Jeu)

Fugue á 5

Trio

Point d'Orgue sur les Grands Jeux

§ *A student plays:*

Grand Chœur

Théodore-César Salomé (1834-96)

§ *The Assistant Director of Music plays:*

Celtic Lullaby

Noel Rawsthorne (1929-2019)

Weihnachten, OP.145, NO.3

Max Reger (1873-1916)

In Dulci Jubilo BuxWV 197

Dieterich Buxtehude (1637-1707)

ORDER OF SERVICE

§ Please stand as the Clergy Procession enters. A period of silence will follow.

§ The choir begin the service in the Lady Chapel.

HYMN

Solo 1. 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 only 2. 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 3. 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.

4. 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.

5. 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.

6. 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)

My brothers and sisters, the feast of Christmas fills the world with joy and delight, with light and life, as we rejoice in the birth of Christ in Bethlehem. Gathered in his presence, let us listen to the words of Scripture and treasure these things in our heart, pondering upon all that God has done for us in Christ. May the message of the angels fill our hearts with joy and may the Spirit of God, who overshadowed Mary, strengthen our faith that we too, having journeyed in heart and mind to the city of David, may announce to all people the awe inspiring love of the Father and give glory to God in the highest!

Come now, in mind and spirit, to the humble home in Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened. Listen to the angels' message, their song filled with good news and peace for all on earth. Come and rejoice with the lowly shepherds and share in the joy of Mary as we gaze upon Christ who has been born into this world to bring salvation to all. As we rejoice, let us never forget the needs of others, for Jesus comes to the poor and downtrodden, the overlooked and undermined, the hungry and the homeless with peace and he ministers with grace and love. Let us pray for them and be resolved, through acts of charity and love, to bring them the good news of Jesus' birth and the assurance of his love.

Let us pray for reconciliation and peace throughout the world, for freedom from sin and the powers of darkness. Welcoming the light of Christ, let us open our hearts and lives to our heavenly Father, seeking his will in all things, praying as Jesus himself has 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
that 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.**

Choir 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.

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?

Our Saviour Christ and His Lady,
On Christmas day, on Christmas day;
Our Saviour Christ and His Lady,
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?

O they sailed into Bethlehem,
On Christmas day, on Christmas day;
O they sailed into Bethlehem,
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.

And all the Angels in Heaven shall sing,
On Christmas day, on Christmas day;
And all the Angels in Heaven shall sing,
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 all rejoice amain,
On Christmas day in the morning.

Words: English Traditional Carol
William Sandys (1792-1874)

Music: English Folk Tune
arranged by Philip Marshall (1921-2005)

FIRST LESSON

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

They 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."

And to the man he said, "Because you have listened to the voice of your wife, and have eaten of the tree about which I commanded you, 'You shall not eat of it,' cursed is the ground because of you; in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life; thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread until you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

Genesis 3. 8-15, 17-19

Thanks be to God

Choir 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 clerkës finden written
In their book.

Nor had one apple taken been,
The apple taken been,
Then had never Our Lady,
A-been heaven's queen.

Blessed be the time
That apple taken was!
Therefore we may singen
Deo gratias!

Words: Anon. 15th Century

Music: Philip Stopford (b. 1977)

SECOND LESSON

God promises to faithful Abraham that in his seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed.

The angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven, and said, "By myself I have sworn, says the Lord: Because you have done this, and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will indeed bless you, and I will make your offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of their enemies, and by your offspring shall all the nations of the earth gain blessing for themselves, because you have obeyed my voice."

Genesis 22. 15-18

Thanks be to God.

§ Please stand to sing:



All 1. Long ago, prophets knew
Christ would come, born a Jew,
come to make all things new;
bear his people's burden,
freely love and pardon.
Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring!
Sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!
When he comes,
when he comes,
who will make him welcome?

2. God in time, God in man,
this is God's timeless plan:
He will come, as a man,
born himself of woman,
God divinely human:
Refrain

Words: Fred Pratt Green (1903–2000)

3. Mary hail! Though afraid,
she believed, she obeyed.
In her womb, God is laid:
till the time expected,
nurtured and protected,
Refrain

4. Journey ends! Where afar
Bethlehem shines, like a star,
stable door stands ajar.
unborn Son of Mary,
Saviour, do not tarry!
Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring!
Sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!
Jesus comes!
Jesus comes!
We will make him welcome!

Music: PERSONENT HODIE
melody from Piaæ Cantiones,
arranged by Stephen Moore (b.1985)

§ Please sit.

The Prophet foretells the coming of the Saviour.

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 all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. 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 onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Isaiah 9. 2-7

Thanks be to God

CAROL

Choir Tomorrow shall be my dancing day;
I would my true love did so chance
To see the legend of my play,
To call my true love to my dance;

*Sing, oh! my love, oh! my love, my love, my love,
This have I done for my true love.*

Then was I born of a virgin pure,
Of her I took fleshly substance
Thus was I knit to man's nature
To call my true love to my dance.

In a manger laid, and wrapped I was
So very poor, this was my chance
Betwixt an ox and a silly poor ass
To call my true love to my dance.

Words: Traditional English

Music: No. 3 *from 3 Carols*
Carl Rütli (b. 1949)
Organ reduction by Anne Duarte & Carl Rütli

Mae'r Proffwyd Mica yn rhagweld gogoniant Bethlehem bach.

Ond ti, Bethlehem Effrata, sy'n fechan i fod ymhlith llwythau Jwda, ohonot ti y daw allan i mi un i fod yn llywodraethwr yn Israel, a'i darddiad yn y gorffennol, mewn dyddiau gynt.

Felly fe'u gedy hyd amser esgor yr un feichiog, ac yna fe ddychwel y rhai fydd yn weddill yn Israel at eu tylwyth.

Fe saif ac arwain y praidd yn nerth yr Arglwydd, ac ym mawredd enw'r ARGLWYDD ei Dduw. A byddant yn ddiogel, oherwydd bydd ef yn fawr hyd derfynau'r ddaear;

Micha 5. 2-4

Diolch a fo i Dduw

FOURTH LESSON

The Prophet Micah foretells the glory of little Bethlehem.

But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.

Therefore will he give them up, until the time that she which travaileth hath brought forth: then the remnant of his brethren shall return unto the children of Israel.

And he shall stand and feed in the strength of the lord, in the majesty of the name of the lord his God; and they shall abide: for now shall he be great unto the ends of the earth.

Micha 5. 2-4

Thanks be to God.

§ Please stand to sing:



All

1. 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 to-night.

2. 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.

3. 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.

4. 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.

Words: Phillips Brooks (1835-93)

Music: FOREST GREEN
Anonymous English

The Angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.

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.”

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.

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.

Luke 1. 26-35, 38

Thanks be to God

CAROL

*Choir As Joseph was a walking
He heard an angel sing,
This night shall be born
Our heavenly king.*

He neither shall be born
In housen nor in hall,
Nor in the place of Paradise,
But in an ox's stall.
Noel, noel, noel.

He neither shall be clothed
In purple nor in pall,
But all in fair linen,
As wear babies all.
Noel, noel, noel.

He neither shall be rocked
In silver nor in gold,
But in a wooden cradle
That rocks on the mold.
Noel, noel, noel.

He neither shall be christened
In white wine nor in red,
But in the fair spring water
As we were christened.
Noel, noel, noel

Words: *from the Sloan Manuscript (14th Century)*

Music: Hafliði Hallgrímsson

SIXTH LESSON

Saint Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.

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 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.

Luke 2. 1-7

Thanks be to God.

Choir Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head;
the stars in the sky looked down where He lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the poor baby wakes,
but little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes.
I love Thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky
and stay by my cradle 'till morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask Thee to stay
close by me forever, and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,
and fit us for heaven, to live with Thee there.

Words: Anonymous American (1882)

Music: James R. Murray (1841-1905)
arranged by Paul Edwards (b.1955), Op.479

SEVENTH LESSON

The shepherds go to the manger.

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." 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!"

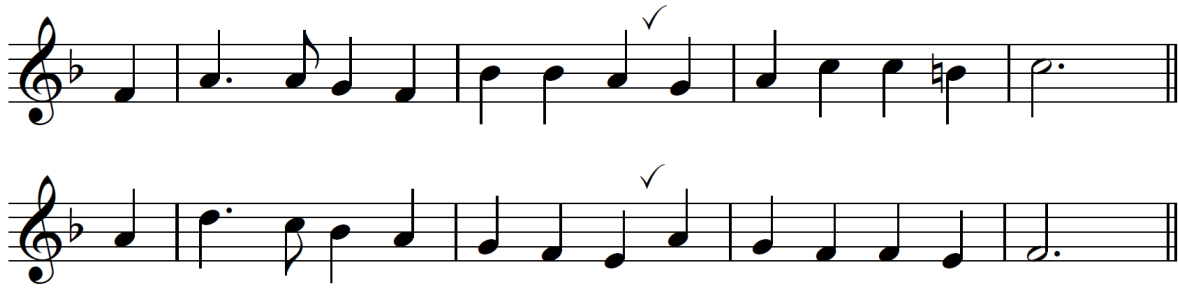
When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us."

So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

Luke 2. 8-16

Thanks be to God

§ Please stand to sing:



All

1. While shepherds watched their flocks by night,
All seated on the ground,
The angel of the Lord came down,
And glory shone around.

2. 'Fear not,' said he (for mighty dread
Had seized their troubled mind);
'Glad tidings of great joy I bring
To you and all mankind.

3. 'To you in David's town this day
Is born of David's line
A Saviour, who is Christ the Lord;
And this shall be the sign:

4. A dyma'r arwydd fydd i chwi:
Cewch faban yn ei grud
Mewn preseb llwm yn llety'r ych
A'r gwellt amdano'n glyd!'

5. Yn sydyn gyda'r seraff roedd
Llu mawr o engyl glân
Yn llenwi'r nef mewn moliant pur
I Dduw, ar lafar gân:

6. 'Gogoniant i'r Goruchaf Dduw,
Tangnefedd is y nef;
I ddynion bydd ewyllys da
Byth mwy, o'i eni Ef.'

Words: Nahum Tate (1652-1715)

Music: WINCHESTER OLD
from Este's Psalter (1592)

The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.” When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born.

They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

‘And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who is to shepherd my people Israel.’”

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.”

When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Matthew 2. 1-11

Thanks be to God

Choir Deep in the cold of winter,
Darkness and silence were everywhere;
Softly and clearly, there came through the stillness
a wonderful sound to hear:
All bells in paradise I heard them ring,
Sounding in majesty the news that they bring;
All bells in paradise I heard them ring,
Welcoming our Saviour, born on earth a heavenly King.
All bells in paradise I heard them ring:
'Glory to God on high' the angel voices sing.

Lost in awe and wonder,
Doubting I asked what this sign might be:
Christ our Messiah revealed in a stable,
A marvellous sight to see.
All bells in paradise I heard them ring,
Sounding in majesty the news that they bring;
All bells in paradise I heard them ring,
Welcoming our Saviour, born on earth a heavenly King.

He comes down in peace, a child in humility,
The keys to his kingdom belong to the poor;
Before him shall kneel the kings with their treasures,
gold incense and myrrh.
All bells in paradise I heard them ring,
Sounding in majesty the news that they bring;
All bells in paradise I heard them ring,
Welcoming our Saviour, born on earth a heavenly King.
All bells in paradise I heard them ring:
'Glory to God on high' the angel voices sweetly sing.

Words and Music: All bells in paradise
John Rutter (b.1945)

Saint 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

Thanks be to God

CAROL

Choir O magnum mysterium,
et admirabile sacramentum,
ut animalia viderent Dominum natum,
jacentem in praesepe!
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: Ivo Antognini (b.1963)

§ Please remain standing:

HYMN



All

1. 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!*

2. Gwir Dduw O wir Dduw,
Llewyrch yw o Lewyrch,
Gwir Ddyn a aned o Forwyn bŵr;
Duw cenedledig
Ac nid gwneuthuredig:
*O deuwch ac addolwn,
O deuwch ac addolwn,
O deuwch ac addolwn
Grist ein Duw.*

3. See how the Shepherds,
Summoned to his cradle,
Leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear;
We too will thither
Bend our joyful footsteps:
*O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!*

4. 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!*

Words: *Attributed to* John. F. Wade (c.1711-86)

Music: ADESTE FIDELES
John Francis Wade (c.1711-86)
descant by David Hill (b. 1957)

§ *Please remain standing.*

THE COLLECT & BLESSING

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

All **Amen.**

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.

All **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.



All

1. 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 the angelic hosts proclaim
 Christ is born in Bethlehem
*Hark! the herald angels sing
 Glory to the new-born King*

2. 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 the incarnate Deity!
 Pleased as man with man to dwell,
 Jesus our Emanuel:
*Hark! the herald angels sing
 Glory to the new-born King*

3. 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.*

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-88) and others

Music: MENDELSSOHN
 Felix Mendelssohn (1809-47)
arranged by David Willcocks

MUSIC AFTER THE SERVICE

§ *The Assistant Director of Music plays:*

In dulci jubilo, BWV 729

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

§ *Please remain standing as the Procession leaves the Cathedral.*

Toccata, Op. 104

Joseph Jongen (1873-1953)

'We ensure that treatment and outcomes for children can continue to improve by funding new and innovative medical equipment and facilities. We support children and families in the here and now through our emotional support service and the much loved play specialist team and we invest in the future by providing technology that helps train the bright clinicians of tomorrow. We also strive to make the hospital a less frightening and more familiar place for children by sprinkling a little fun and happiness into hospital days.'

CHORISTERSHIPS

The Cathedral Choir is the beating heart of the Cathedral's liturgical and musical output, and Choristerships continue to provide a unique and extraordinary opportunity for children. We offer new places to Choristers every year, so if you have a child in years 2, 3, or 4 who loves to sing and would like an informal conversation about Choristerships, please contact us at:

music@llandaffcathedral.org.uk

Our Chorister Experience Day and Voice Trials take place early in 2025. To sign up for the open day, please scan the QR code.



CHRISTMAS SERVICES

The Cathedral will close at 4.00pm each day from Wednesday 25th December until Sunday 5th January.

Tuesday 24th December <i>Christmas Eve</i>	9.30pm The First Eucharist of Christmas
Wednesday 25th December <i>The Nativity of our Lord</i>	8.00am Holy Eucharist [1984] 9.00am Holy Eucharist with Baptism 11.00am Solemn Eucharist
Thursday 26th December <i>Stephen, Deacon and First Martyr</i>	9.30am Cymun Bendigaid
Friday 27th December <i>John, Apostle and Evangelist</i>	9.30am Holy Eucharist
Saturday 28th December <i>The Innocents</i>	9.30am Holy Eucharist
Sunday 29th December <i>First Sunday of Christmas</i>	8.00am Holy Eucharist [1984] 10.00am Sung Eucharist
Monday 30th December	9.30am Holy Eucharist
Tuesday 31st December	9.30am Holy Eucharist
Wednesday 1st January 2025 <i>The Naming of Jesus</i>	9.30am Holy Eucharist
Thursday 2nd January	9.30am Cymun Bendigaid
Friday 3rd January	9.30am Holy Eucharist
Saturday 4th January	9.30am Holy Eucharist
Sunday 5th January <i>The Epiphany of our Lord</i>	8.00am Holy Eucharist [1984] 9.00am Holy Eucharist with Baptism 11.00am Solemn Eucharist

CADEIRLAN LLANDAF

THE DEAN

The Very Rev'd Dr Jason Bray

CANON PRECENTOR

The Rev'd Canon Ian Yemm

CANON CHANCELLOR

The Rev'd Canon Dr Jan van der Lely

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Stephen Moore

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Aaron Shilson

VERGER

Ian Cameron

CHURCH WARDENS

Ian MacDonald

Siân Roberts

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