

St John's College Chapel



A Service for Advent with Carols

Saturday 30 November 2019 at 6pm
& Sunday 1 December 2019 at 3pm

The congregation is requested to be as quiet as possible during the organ music.

ORGAN MUSIC BEFORE THE SERVICE

Played by George Herbert

Toccata in F (BuxWV 157)

Dieterich Buxtehude
(c. 1637–1707)

The Holy Boy

John Ireland
(1879–1962)

Trio Super

‘Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland’ (BWV 660)

Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685–1750)

Pastorale

César Franck
(1822–1890)

Chorale Prelude

Es ist ein’ Ros’ entsprungen

Johannes Brahms
(1833–1897)

Played by James Anderson-Besant

Toccata-Prelude

‘Wachet Auf’

Francis Jackson
(b.1917)

Prélude (Suite, op. 5)

Maurice Duruflé
(1902–1986)

Ricercare a 6 voci (Musikalisches Opfer) (BWV 1079)

Johann Sebastian Bach
Arr. *Hermann Keller*
(1885–1967)

Chorale Prelude

‘Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland’ (BWV 659)

Johann Sebastian Bach

ADVENT

Advent is the vocative season of the Church's year. Acknowledging that the human soul can only be healed from outside itself, by being loved and held, the prayers, hymns and anthems of Advent call out on God to come and save us from ourselves and our propensity to injure the world and each other.

You can hear this longing to be made complete in what are known as the 'O Antiphons'. These are ancient poetic invocations to God. They cry out to our Creator, praying that we might finally be seen for who we really are, full of shadow and light. This recognition is known as 'judgement' and it is, ultimately, a liberating theme of the Advent season. At the same time we ask that we be embraced with a mercy that will lead us into a fresh and hopeful future. Advent is therefore a time of attentiveness and patience, watching and waiting, as we try to tune our hearts to the harmonies of heaven, alert to God's presence amongst us.

For the Christian all things are as yet unfinished. The pattern of this Advent service in its four sections reflects faith's growing anticipation, both of the first coming of Christ and of that day when the prayer 'Thy Kingdom come' is finally and fully answered.

Sunday's Service is broadcast live on BBC Radio 3.

The cover illustrations are from a manuscript of Bede's Commentary on the Apocalypse and Other Texts, which was produced in England (probably at Ramsey Abbey) in the second half of the 12th century. The manuscript is held in the College library.

The picture of the Son of Man with the sword proceeding from his mouth is common in Apocalypse illustrations (Revelation 1 v. 16, 'and out of his mouth came a sharp two-edged sword').

ORDER OF SERVICE

The opening carol is sung in the Ante-Chapel:

¶ *Sit*

ES IST EIN ROS ENTSPRUNGEN

Es ist ein Ros entsprungen,
Aus einer Wurzel zart.
Als uns die Alten sungen,
Von Jesse kam die Art.
Und hat ein Blümlein bracht;
Mitten im kalten Winter,
Wohl zu der halben Nacht.

*A rose has sprung up
From a tender root.
As men of old have sung to us,
It came from Jesse's line.
And it has brought forth a little blossom;
In the midst of cold winter,
Right upon midnight.*

Words *Anonymous, 16th century*

Music *Hugo Distler
(1908–1942)*

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

¶ *Stand*

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, O come, Adonai,
 Who in thy glorious majesty
 From Sinai's mountain, clothed with awe,
 Gavest thy folk the ancient law.

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, Emmanuel!
 Redeem thy captive Israel,
 That into exile drear is gone
 Far from the face of God's dear Son.

Words *Cologne 1710, based on the
 ancient Advent Antiphons*
 Tr. *Thomas Alexander Lacey*
 (1853–1931)
 and others

Tune *VENI EMMANUEL*
 Melody 'adapted from a French Missal'
 by *Thomas Helmore*
 (1811–1890)
 Descant *David Hill*
 (b. 1957)

THE BIDDING PRAYER

¶*Remain Standing*

Beloved in Christ, the season of Advent bids us prepare ourselves both for the celebration of Christ's nativity as also for the day when he shall come to judge the hearts of us all. So, in sorrow and penitence, let us confess our failures and shortcomings, and renew in ourselves the vision of God's perfect kingdom, which is the end of all our strivings and the consummation of God's loving purposes for us.

In word and music we will give voice to the hope set forth in the scriptures, that God's kingdom will come; and, with John the Baptist and the Blessed Virgin Mary, we will prepare for its coming, celebrating its dawning in the birth, life and death of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

But first let us pray for those who, by reason of their adversity, yearn especially for its coming: the hungry and the homeless, the sick and the sorrowful, the lonely and the unloved; those who sit in the darkness of despair or who walk in the shadow of death. Let us pray for the leaders of the nations and for all who strive for the establishment of justice, righteousness and peace; and, that it may bear witness to this hope in a world divided by wrath and sorrow, let us pray for the well-being and unity of Christ's body, the Church.

Let us then pray for the coming of God's kingdom, in the words of our Lord Jesus Christ:

**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.**

May the Lord when he comes find us watching and waiting. **Amen.**

PEOPLE LOOK EAST

People, look east, the time is near
 Of the coming of the year.
 Make your house as you are able,
 Trim the hearth and set the table.
 People, look east and sing today:
 Love the guest is on the way.

Furrows be glad though earth is bare,
 One more seed is planted there
 Give up your strength the seed to nourish,
 That in course the flower may flourish.
 People, look east and sing today:
 Love, the rose, is on the way.

Birds, though long you've ceased to build,
 Guard the nest that must be filled.
 Even the hour when wings are frozen
 He for fledgling time has chosen.
 People, look east and sing today:
 Love, the bird, is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim
 One more light the bowl shall brim,
 Shining beyond the frosty weather,
 Bright as the sun and moon together.
 People, look east and sing today:
 Love, the star, is on the way.

Angels, announce to man and beast
 Him who cometh from the East.
 Set every peak and valley humming
 With the word, the Lord is coming.
 People, look east and sing today:
 Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Words *Eleanor Farjeon*
 (1881–1965)

Music *Peter Tranchell*
 (1922–1993)
 arr. *Peter Marchbank*
 (b.1943)

Please turn the page quietly

SENTENCE

Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of Man cometh.

Minister The glory of the Lord shall be revealed:

Response **And all flesh shall see it together.**

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 thy 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 quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, now and ever. **Amen.**

O SAPIENTIA

O Wisdom, which hast come out of the mouth of the Most High, and mightily orderest all things:

Come and teach us the way of wisdom.

O ADONAI

O Adonai, Deliverer of the house of Israel, who in Sinai did'st give the law to Moses:

Come and deliver us with an outstretched arm.

FIRST LESSON

¶ *Sit*

ISAIAH 11 verses 1–5

Read by a Chorister

The prophet speaks of the righteous Judge who will come from the line of David

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; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

Thanks be to God.

CAROL

A TENDER SHOOT

A tender shoot hath 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.

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.

Words *Anonymous, 16th century*
Tr. *William Bartholomew*
(1793–1867)

Music *Otto Goldschmidt*
(1829–1907)

SECOND LESSON

1 THESSALONIANS 5 verses 1–11

Read by an Undergraduate

The call to be vigilant in preparation for the coming of the Lord

Concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For 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, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Thanks be to God.

CAROL

OUT OF YOUR SLEEP

Out of your sleep arise and wake!
For God mankind now hath ytake
All of a maid without any make.
Of all women she beareth the bell.
Glory to God in the highest.

And through a maiden fair and wise
Now man is made of full great price;
Now angels kneelen to man's servyse,
And at this time all this befell.
Glory to God in the highest.

Now man is brighter than the sun;
Now man in heaven on high shall won;
Blessed be God this game is begun
And his mother that beareth the bell.
Glory to God in the highest.

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.
Glory to God in the highest.

Now, blessed Brother, grant us grace
At doomes day to see thy face,
And in thy court to have a place
That we may there sing thee 'Nowell'.
Glory to God in the highest.

SENTENCE

O people of Sion, behold the Lord is nigh at hand to redeem the nations, and in the gladness of your heart the Lord shall cause his glorious voice to be heard.

Minister Declare his honour unto the nations:

Response **And his wonders unto all people.**

COLLECT

Blessed Lord, who hast caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning; grant that we may in such wise hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that by patience, and comfort of thy holy word, we may embrace, and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which thou hast given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

O RADIX JESSE

O Root of Jesse, standing as a banner for the people, whom the nations shall seek:

Come and deliver us, and tarry not.

O CLAVIS DAVID

O Key of David, that openest and no man shutteth, and shuttest and no man openeth:

Come and bring the prisoner out of the prison house.

Please turn the page quietly

THIRD LESSON

¶*Sit*

Micah 4 vv. 1–4

Read by a Research Student

The prophet's vision of the last days, when the nations will be judged

In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised up above the hills. Peoples shall stream to it, and many nations shall come and say: 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.' For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between many peoples, and shall arbitrate between strong nations far away; they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more; but they shall all sit under their own vines and under their own fig trees, and no one shall make them afraid; for the mouth of the Lord of hosts has spoken.

Thanks be to God.

CAROL

I AM THE DAY

Soon to be born, I am the day soon to be born.
I am alpha and omega, I am the day soon to be born.
Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel, O come, O come, Emmanuel.
I am the sprig from the root of David
and the bright star of the morning.
Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel shall come to thee.
I am alpha and omega, I am the day soon to be born.
I am the first and the last, the beginning and the end.
I am the day soon to be born, I am the sprig from the root of David.
I am the alpha and the omega, I am the sprig from the root of David.
I am the first and the last, I am the sprig from the root of David
and the bright star of the morning.
Soon to be born.

Words *The legend of St Christopher*
& *Revelation 22 vv. 13, 16*

Music *Jonathan Dove*
(b. 1959)

FOURTH LESSON

SAINT LUKE 4 verses 14–21

Read by a member of the College Staff

The words of the Prophet Isaiah are fulfilled by Jesus Christ

Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

‘The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favour.’

And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, ‘Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.’

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

HARK, THE GLAD SOUND!

Hark, the glad sound! the Saviour comes—
Let every heart prepare a throne and every voice a song—
The treasures of his grace enrich the humble poor.

Words *Philip Doddridge*
(1702–1751)

Music *Judith Bingham*
(b.1952)

This work was commissioned by the Master and Fellows. It receives its first performances at these services. The Choir is joined by saxophonist, Ignacio Mañá Mesas, who is an undergraduate at St John’s.

¶*Please stand as soon as the organist begins the hymn playover*

HYMN

¶ *Stand*

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*
 (1702–1751)

Tune BRISTOL
 from *Thomas Ravenscroft's 'Psalmes' 1621*

III THE PROPHETIC CALL ¶*Remain Standing*

SENTENCE

Behold, I will send my Messenger and he shall prepare the way before me.

Minister Prepare ye the way of the Lord:

Response **Make his paths straight.**

COLLECT

O Lord Jesu Christ, who at thy first coming didst send thy messenger to prepare thy way before thee: grant that the ministers and stewards of thy mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready thy way, by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at thy second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in thy sight, who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end. **Amen.**

O ORIENS

O Day-Spring, Brightness of Light Everlasting, and Sun of Righteousness:

Come and enlighten him that sitteth in darkness and the shadow of death.

O REX GENTIUM

O King of the Nations, and their desire; the Corner-Stone who makest reconciliation:

Come and save mankind, whom thou hast formed of clay.

DEO GRACIAS

Deo gracias! Deo gracias!
 Adam lay ibounden, bounden in a bond;
 For thousand winter, thought he not to long.

Deo gracias! Deo gracias!
 And all was for an appil, an appil that he tok,
 As clerkès finden written in their book.

Deo gracias! Deo gracias!
 Ne had the appil takè ben, the appil takè ben,
 Ne haddè never our lady, a ben hevenè quene.

Blessèd be the time that appil takè was.
 Therefore we moun singen.
 Deo gracias! Deo gracias!

Words *Anonymous, 15th century*

Music *Benjamin Britten*
 (1913–1976)
 Arr. *Julius Harrison*
 (1885–1963)

The Choir is joined by harpist, Anne Denholm.

FIFTH LESSON

Malachi 3 verses 1–7

Read by a Beaufort Visiting Scholar

The day of God's appearing brings judgement and cleansing

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 I will draw near to you for judgement; I will be swift to bear witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired workers in their wages, the widow, and the orphan, against those who thrust aside the alien, and do not fear me, says the Lord of hosts.

For I the Lord do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, have not perished. Ever since the days of your ancestors you have turned aside from my statutes and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you, says the Lord of hosts.

Thanks be to God.

CAROL

JOHN THE BAPTIST

When I have, in the name of the Baptist,
The folk in water clear, then have I said that
After me shall he come that has more power
Than I to judge; he shall give baptism
More entire in fire and spirit.

Thus am I come in message right,
To be the forerunner in true witness bearing of that light.
The which shall light in every man that is come into this world.

My Lord Jesus shall come this day
From Galilee unto this flood ye Jourdane call.
I thank him ever, but am a-feared
I am not able to fulfil this deed.

The heavens shall be opened and the
Holy Ghost shall down be sent.
The Father's voice with great joy be heard full right.

What needest he, who hath no sin, without within,
To be baptised like mortal men?
What rich man goes from door to door
To beg from him that has nought?

Lord, thou art rich and I am full poor.
Thou may bless all, since all thou wrought.
Now help me, Lord, through godhead, to do this work,
And save mankind, body and soul, from endless pain.

Words adapted from *York Mystery Plays* [No.21: Barbour's]
Tr. Michael Finnissey
(b. 1946)

Music Michael Finnissey
(b. 1946)

This work was commissioned by the Master and Fellows for the 2014 Advent Carol Services.

SIXTH LESSON

SAINT MATTHEW 3 verses 1–11

Read by a Fellow

The proclamation of John the Baptist

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, ‘Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.’ This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

‘The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

“Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.”’

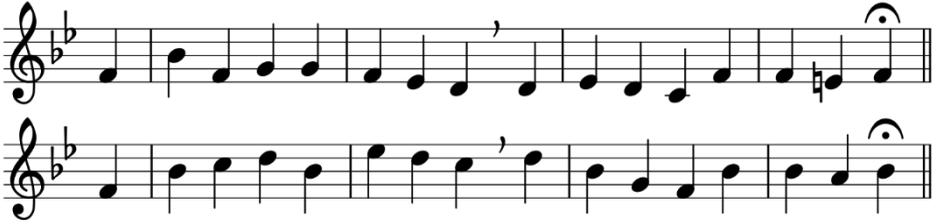
Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, ‘You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, “We have Abraham as our ancestor”; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

‘I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.’

Thanks be to God.

HYMN

¶ *Stand*

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 thine 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 evermore.

Words *Charles Coffin*
 (1676–1749)
 Tr. *John Chandler*
 (1808–1876)

Tune WINCHESTER NEW
Adapted from a chorale in
'Musicalisches Hand-Buch' Hamburg 1690
 Descant *Christopher Robinson*
 (b. 1936)

SENTENCE

Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a Son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, 'God with us.'

Minister Unto us a child is born:

Response **Unto us a Son is given.**

COLLECT

Almighty and everlasting God, who didst stoop to raise our fallen race by the child-bearing of blessed Mary: grant that we, who have seen thy glory manifested in our flesh, and thy love perfected in our weakness, may daily be renewed in thine image, and conformed to the likeness of thy Son, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end.
Amen.

O EMMANUEL

O Emmanuel, our King and Lawgiver, the desire of the nations:

Come and save us, O Lord our God.

THE ANGEL GABRIEL FROM HEAVEN CAME

The angel Gabriel from heaven came,
His wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame:
'All hail,' said he, 'thou lowly maiden Mary,
Most highly favoured lady!' Gloria!

'For known a blessed Mother thou shalt be;
All generations laud and honour thee:
Thy son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold.
Most highly favoured lady!' Gloria!

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head;
'To me be as it pleaseth God!' she said.
'My soul shall laud and magnify his holy name.'
Most highly favoured lady!' Gloria!

Of her Emmanuel, the Christ, was born,
In Bethlehem all on a Christmas morn,
And Christian folk throughout the world will ever say;
'Most highly favoured lady!' Gloria!

Words *Sabine Baring-Gould*
(1834–1924)

Music *Basque carol*
arr. *Edgar Pettman*
(c. 1866–1943)

Please turn the page quietly

SEVENTH LESSON

SAINT LUKE 1 verses 39–49

Read by the President

Mary shares her joyful news with Elizabeth

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leapt for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.'

And Mary said,

'My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me.'

Thanks be to God.

CAROL

THE ANNUNCIATION

The angel and the girl are met.
Earth was the only meeting place.
For the embodied never yet
Travelled beyond the shore of space.

The eternal spirits in freedom go.
See, they have come together, see,
While the destroying minutes flow,
Each reflects the other's face
Till heaven in hers and earth in his
Shine steady there. He's come to her
From far beyond the farthest star,
Feathered through time. Immediacy
Of strangest strangeness is the bliss
That from their limbs all movement takes.
Yet the increasing rapture brings
So great a wonder that it makes
Each feather tremble on his wings.

Outside the window footsteps fall
Into the ordinary day
And with the sun along the wall
Pursue their unreturning way.
Sound's perpetual roundabout
Rolls its numbered octaves out
And hoarsely grinds its battered tune.

But through the endless afternoon
These neither speak nor movement make,
But stare into their deepening trance
As if their gaze would never break.

Words *Edwin Muir*
(1887–1959)

Music *Jonathan Harvey*
(1939–2012)

This work was commissioned by the Master and Fellows for the 2011 Advent Carol Services.

Please turn the page quietly

MAGNIFICAT

¶ *Stand*

My soul doth magnify the Lord : and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.
For he hath regarded : the lowliness of his hand-maiden.

For behold, from henceforth : all generations shall call me blessed.

For he that is mighty hath magnified me : and holy is his Name.

And his mercy is on them that fear him : throughout all generations.

He hath shewed strength with his arm : he hath scattered the proud in the
imagination of their hearts.

He hath put down the mighty from their seat : and hath exalted the humble
and meek.

He hath filled the hungry with good things : and the rich he hath sent empty
away.

He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel : as he promised to
our forefathers, Abraham and his seed for ever.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son : and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be : world without end. Amen.

Words *Luke 1 vv. 46–55*

Music *Service in G*
Herbert Sumsion
(1899–1995)

SAINT JOHN 3 verses 1–8

Read by the Vice-Master

Jesus speaks with Nicodemus of the 'birth from above'

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, 'Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.' Jesus answered him, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.' Nicodemus said to him, 'How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?' Jesus answered, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, "You must be born from above." The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.'

Thanks be to God.

SENTENCE

¶*Stand*

Drop down, ye heavens, from above, and let the skies pour down righteousness; let the earth open and bring forth a Saviour.

Minister Blessed be the Lord God of Israel:

Response **For he hath visited and redeemed his people.**

THE CHRISTMAS COLLECT

Almighty God, who hast given us thy only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and to be born of a pure Virgin; Grant that we being regenerate, and made thy children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by thy Holy Spirit; through the same our Lord Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the same Spirit, ever one God, world without end. **Amen.**

TOMORROW SHALL BE MY DANCING DAY

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, O my love, O 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:

*Sing, O my love, O my love, my love, my love;
This have I done for my true love.*

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:

*Sing, O my love, O my love, my love, my love;
This have I done for my true love.*

Then afterwards baptized I was;
The Holy Ghost on me did glance,
My Father's voice heard from above,
To call my true love to my dance:

*Sing, O my love, O my love, my love, my love;
This have I done for my true love, for my true love.*

HYMN

¶ *Stand*

Lo! he comes with clouds descending,
 Once for favoured sinners slain;
 Thousand thousand saints attending
 Swell the triumph of his train:
 Alleluya!
 God appears, on earth to reign.

Every eye shall now behold him
 Robed in dreadful majesty;
 Those who set at nought 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!
 Alleluya! Come, Lord, come!

Words *Charles Wesley*
 (1707–1788)

Tune HELMSLEY
 Included in *Wesley's Select Hymns 1765*
 Descant *Christopher Robinson*
 (b. 1936)

THE COLLEGE PRAYER

Bless, O Lord, the work of this College which is called by the name of thy beloved disciple, and grant that love of the brethren and all sound learning may ever grow and prosper here, to thy honour and glory, and to the good of thy people, who with the Father and the Holy Spirit livest and reignest, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

THE BLESSING

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you, scatter the darkness from before your path, and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

ORGAN MUSIC AFTER THE SERVICE

Played by James Anderson-Besant

Chorale Prelude on
'Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland' (BWV 661)

Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685–1750)

Final (Symphonie III)

Louis Vierne
(1870–1937)

On Sunday 1 December the Congregation is asked to sit quietly during the Bach organ music following the service, as this is part of the BBC broadcast. Please stand when the Choir and Clergy leave the Chapel.

We ask those sitting in the main body of the Chapel to remain there until the Ante-Chapel is clear, and those sitting east of the Choir (i.e. towards the altar) to go out by the north door.

THE CHOIR OF ST JOHN'S COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE

The Director of Music, Andrew Nethsingha, is pleased to receive enquiries from people interested in joining the choir as chorister, choral scholar or organ scholar. He is always happy to meet them informally to offer advice.

Please contact him on

01223 338683

or by email – choir@joh.cam.ac.uk

CHORISTER VOICE TRIALS

Voice trials will be held for boys
aged 6–9 years old

on Thursday 16 January, Saturday 2 May 2020
or on earlier dates, by appointment.

For further details please contact the Registrar, Mary Robb,
at St John's College School on

01223 353652

or by email – admissions@sjcs.co.uk

EPIPHANY CAROL SERVICES 2020

**SATURDAY 18 & SUNDAY 19 JANUARY
6.00 P.M.**

Candlelit services of readings and music

**Apply for tickets online at
www.joh.cam.ac.uk/chapel-choir**

The retiring collection will be divided between Shelter and Emmaus.

Shelter

Shelter understands the damage that bad housing causes. Every day they deal with the effects it has on people's lives. This is why they are working hard to ensure that everyone has a suitable, decent and affordable home.

Shelter helps millions of people every year struggling with bad housing or homelessness through our advice, support and legal services. And they campaign to make sure that, one day, no one will have to turn to them for help.

In 1966, Shelter was set up to do what the Government, housing bodies, and local agencies were failing to do: prevent bad housing and homelessness from taking a terrible toll on people's lives.



*Giving people a bed...
and a reason to get out of it.*

Emmaus Communities offer homeless men and women a home, work and the chance to rebuild their self-respect in a supportive, community environment.

Companions, as residents are known, work full-time refurbishing donated furniture and household goods and selling them in the community shop. The community aims to become self-sufficient through this activity.

