

A FESTIVAL
OF NINE
LESSONS
& CAROLS

Christmas Eve, 2024

3.00 pm

King's College Chapel
Cambridge

WELCOME *from* THE DEAN

THANK YOU for joining us for this great occasion. It is a wonderful act of worship, both for us in Chapel and for the millions joining us by radio around the world. As a courtesy to BBC Radio 4, the service will start a few minutes after 3 pm. It will continue until almost 4.40 pm.

The initials KC in this booklet are used to designate membership of King's College.

The membership of King's College Choir changes every year. If you would like to know more about being a member of the Choir, or to hear about life as a Chorister, Choral Scholar or Organ Scholar, please contact us by email to begin an informal exploration.

choir@kings.cam.ac.uk
kings.cam.ac.uk/choir

I hope that you will be able to join us for other choral services in the future. Tomorrow we celebrate Christmas Day itself, with a Eucharist with carols at 11.00 am.

Finally, I wish you a very happy Christmas and a peaceful and healthy new year.

The Revd Dr Stephen Cherry *Dean*

§ *To help all who attend to find this a beautiful and meaningful experience we ask, please, that you:*

- ✦ *Ensure your phone is turned off, and that you refrain from photography, videography or any other form of recording;*
- ✦ *Follow the invitations to stand or sit as you are able, and that you always feel free to sit, if that is more comfortable for you;*
- ✦ *Place your offering, which goes to support the work of the Chapel, in the Gift Aid envelope which you will find in this order of service, adding it to the collection as you leave;*
- ✦ *In the event of an evacuation of the Chapel, listen carefully to any announcements and follow the stewards' directions calmly;*
- ✦ *Should you feel unwell, alert one of the stewards, who will engage one of the paramedics in attendance;*
- ✦ *Wait quietly for the service to start.*

ORGAN VOLUNTARIES

§ *Benjamin Sheen, Director of Music, Jesus College, plays:*

Prelude and Fugue in G, BWV 541 *Johann Sebastian Bach*
Bärenreiter Verlag

Weihnachten, Op. 145 No.3 *Max Reger*
Breitkopf & Härtel

Chorale-Improvisation on 'In dulci jubilo',
Op. 75 No.2 *Sigfrid Karg-Elert*
Novello & Co. Ltd

Weihnachten, Op.22 *Carl Sattler*
i Pastorale on 'Joseph lieber,
Joseph mein' and 'Stille Nacht' B-Note Musikverlag

§ *All stand for the Præposital Procession.*

Canonic Variations on 'Vom Himmel
hoch da komm' ich her', BWV 769 *Johann Sebastian Bach*
Bärenreiter Verlag

§ *All sit as the Assisting Organist plays:*

La Nativité du Seigneur *Olivier Messiaen*
iii Deseins éternels Éditions Alphonse Leduc

The Holy Boy *John Ireland, arr. Alec Rowley*
Boosey & Hawkes

In dulci jubilo BuxWV 197 *Dieterich Buxtehude*
Bärenreiter Verlag

TRAVAIL

THE YOUNG woman trembles.
Every inmost part of her is
shaken, all comfort broken.
Her hand gropes for something firm to grasp.
but all that was certain has become
obscure, all encompassing,
racked with pain.
Scarcely able to catch her breath,
she feels each wave larger, more
frightening than the last.
And the great wave breaks over her,
she is broken,
momentarily forgetting what she accepted,
what love she bears,
yet choosing to believe when all seems lost.

Suddenly and completely
she, still bathed in sweat,
enfolds love in her arms,
knows joy as one victorious,
sees clearly as one who has been
stretched and changed,
that peace is always
born of travail.

June M. Schulte
Morehouse Publishing

ORDER of SERVICE

§ *All stand.*

HYMN

§ *The Choir alone sings verses 1–2.*



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

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

please turn the page quietly

§ *All sing.*

AND THROUGH ALL his wondrous childhood
he would honour and obey,
love and watch the lowly maiden
in whose gentle arms he lay;
Christian children all must be
mild, obedient, good as he.

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

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

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

Cecil Frances Alexander

'Irby'

Henry Gauntlett, harm. Arthur Henry Mann κC

verse 6 arr. *Philip Ledger* κC

BIDDING PRAYER

§ *All remain standing.*

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

Let us read and mark in Holy Scripture the tale of the
 loving purposes of God from the first days of our
 disobedience unto the glorious Redemption brought
 us by this Holy Child;
and let us make this Chapel,
dedicated to Mary,
his most blessed Mother,
glad with our carols of praise:

But first let us pray for the needs of his whole world;
for peace and health over all the earth;
for unity and goodwill within the Church he
 came to build,
and especially in the dominions of our
 sovereign lord King Charles,
within this University and City of Cambridge,
and in the two royal and religious Foundations of
 King Henry VI,
here and at Eton:

please turn the page quietly

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

And let us hold in our hearts all those who,
even as we are gathered here,
endure the depredations and travails of war,
praying that the story of the Christ-child may draw
 them closer to the nearness of God's love,
and offer new hope in the gospel of peace
 and loving-kindness.

Lastly, let us remember before God all those
 who rejoice with us,
but upon another shore and in a greater light,
that multitude which no man can number,
whose hope was in the Word made flesh,
and with whom,
in this Lord Jesus,
we for evermore are one.

These prayers and praises let us humbly offer up to
 the throne of heaven,
in the words which Christ himself hath taught us:

Dean OUR FATHER
All OUR FATHER which art in heaven,
 Hallowed be thy Name,
 Thy kingdom come;
 Thy will be done,
 in earth as it is in heaven.
 Give us this day our daily bread;
 And forgive us our trespasses,
 As we forgive them 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.

Dean THE ALMIGHTY GOD bless us with his grace:
 Christ give us the joys of everlasting life:
 and unto the fellowship of the citizens above may
 the King of Angels bring us all.
All Amen.

§ *All sit.*

CAROL

ON CHRISTMAS night all Christians sing,
To hear the news the angels bring;
News of great joy, news of great mirth,
News of our merciful King's birth.

Then why should men on earth be sad,
Since our Redeemer made us glad,
When from our sin He set us free,
All for to gain our liberty?

When sin departs before Thy grace,
Then life and health come in its place;
Angels and men with joy may sing,
All for to see the new-born King.

All out of darkness we have light,
Which made the angels sing this night:
'Glory to God and peace to men,
Now and for evermore, Amen.'

English Traditional

English Traditional
arr. *Ralph Vaughan Williams*
Oxford University Press

FIRST LESSON

§ *A Chorister reads the lesson.*

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

AND they heard the voice of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God amongst the trees of the garden. And the Lord God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou? And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself. And he said, Who told thee that thou wast naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat?

And the man said, The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat. And the Lord God said unto the woman, What is this that thou hast done? And the woman said, The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat.

And the Lord God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life: and I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

please turn the page quietly

And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life; thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field; in the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken; for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.

Genesis 3.8–15, 17–19

Thanks be to God.

CAROL

ADAM lay ibowndyn
bowndyn in a bond
fowr' þowsand wynter
þowt he not to long

And al was for an appil
An appil þat he tok
as clerkis fyndyn
wretyn in her' book

Ne hadde þe appil take ben
þe appil taken ben
ne hadde neuer our lady
a ben heuene qwen

Blyssid be þe tyme
þat appil take was
þerfor' we mown syngyn
Deo gracias.

15th-century English
modernised, *Edith Rickert*

*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.*

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

*Blessed be the time
That apple taken was.
Therefore we may singen:
Thanks be to God!*

*Matthew Martin
Faber Music*

SECOND LESSON

§ *A student reads the lesson.*

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

AND the angel of the Lord called unto Abraham out of heaven the second time, and said, By myself have I sworn, saith the Lord, for because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine only son: that in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies; and in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice.

Genesis 22.15–18

Thanks be to God.

CAROL

*Nowell sing we now all and some,
For Rex pacificus is come.*

the king of peace

IN BETHLEHEM in that fair city,
A child was born of a maiden free;
That shall a lord and princè be;

A solis ortus cardine.

from the point of sunrise

Nowell sing we &c.

Children were slain in full great plenty,
Jesus, for the love of thee;
Wherefore their soulès savèd be;

Hostis Herodis impie.

Herod, ungodly enemy

Nowell sing we &c.

As the sunnè shineth through the glass,
So Jesu in his mother was;
Thee to servè now grant us grace;

O lux beata Trinitas.

O Trinity of blessed light

Nowell sing we &c.

Now God is comen to worshipen us;
Now of Mary is born Jesus;
Make we merry amongès us;

Exultet cœlum laudibus.

Let the sky exult with praises

Nowell sing we &c.

*anon., 15th-century English
trans. Rosanna Omitowaju KC*

Elizabeth Maconchy

please turn the page quietly

THIRD LESSON

§ *A member of College staff reads the lesson.*

The prophet foretells the coming of the Saviour.

THE people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined. For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.

Isaiah 9.2, 6–7

Thanks be to God.

CAROL

A GREAT and mighty wonder,
A full and holy cure!

The Virgin bears the Infant
With virgin-honour pure.

Repeat the hymn again!

*'To God on high be glory,
And peace on earth to men!'*

The Word becomes incarnate,
And yet remains on high!

And Cherubim sing anthems
To shepherds from the sky.

Repeat the hymn again! &c.

While thus they sing your Monarch,
Those bright angelic bands,
Rejoice, ye vales and mountains,
Ye oceans, clap your hands.

Repeat the hymn again! &c.

Since all he comes to ransom,
By all be he adored,
The Infant born in Bethl'em,
The Saviour and the Lord.

Repeat the hymn again! &c.

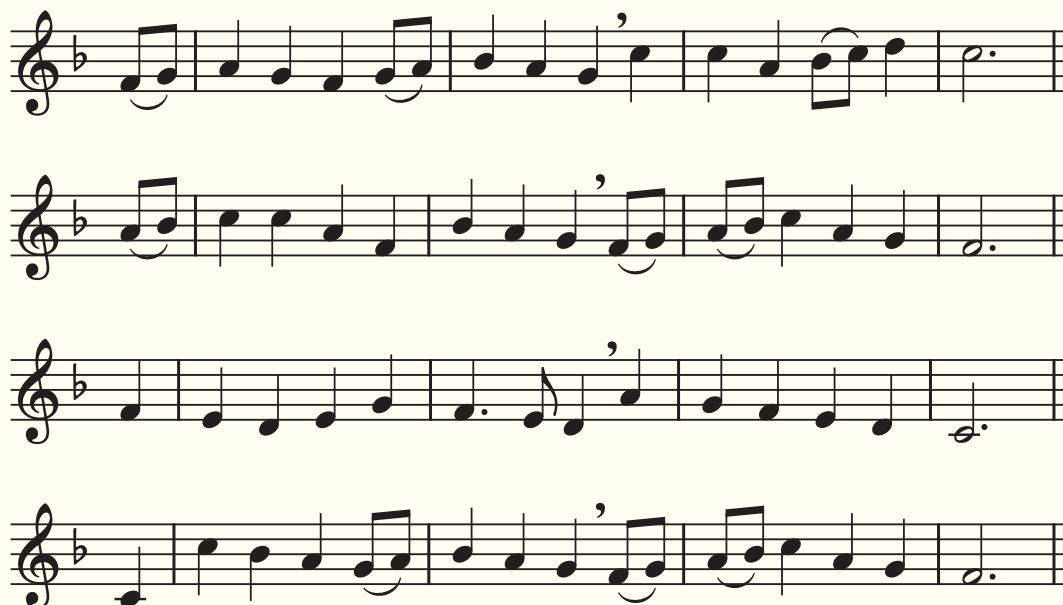
St Germanus
trans. *John Mason Neale*

arr. *James Whitbourn*
Chester Music Ltd

§ *All stand.*

please turn the page quietly

HYMN



IT CAME upon the midnight clear,
That glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth
To touch their harps of gold:
'Peace on the earth, good-will to men,
From heav'n's all-gracious King!'
The world in solemn stillness lay
To hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come,
With peaceful wings unfurled;
And still their heav'nly music floats
O'er all the weary world;
Above its sad and lowly plains
They bend on hov'ring wing;
And ever o'er its Babel sounds
The blessèd angels sing.

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

For lo! the days are hast'ning on,
By prophet bards foretold,
When, with the ever-circling years,
Comes round the age of gold;
When peace shall over all the earth
Its ancient splendours fling,
And the whole world give back the song
Which now the angels sing.

Edmund Hamilton Sears

'Noel'

adapt. *Arthur Sullivan*

verse 4 arr. *John Scott*

Oxford University Press

§ *All sit.*

please turn the page quietly

FOURTH LESSON

§ *The Master over the Choristers reads the lesson.*

The Prophet Isaiah foreshows the peace that Christ will bring.

AND there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots: and the spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord; and shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the Lord. With righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth.

The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them. And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together: and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice' den. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.

Isaiah 11.1-4a, 6-9

Thanks be to God.

CAROL

LITTLE Lamb, who made thee?
Dost thou know who made thee?
Gave thee life, and bid thee feed,
By the stream and o'er the mead;
Gave thee clothing of delight,
Softest clothing, woolly, bright;
Gave thee such a tender voice,
Making all the vales rejoice?
Little Lamb, who made thee?
Dost thou know who made thee?

Little Lamb, I'll tell thee,
Little Lamb, I'll tell thee:
He is callèd by thy name,
For he calls himself a Lamb.
He is meek, and he is mild,
He became a little child;
I, a child, and thou a lamb,
We are callèd by his name.
Little Lamb, God bless thee!
Little Lamb, God bless thee!

William Blake

John Tavener

please turn the page quietly

CAROL

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 all the world will ever say:
'Most highly favoured lady.' *Gloria!*

Sabine Baring-Gould

Basque Carol
arr. *David Willcocks* KC
Oxford University Press

FIFTH LESSON

§ *A Fellow reads the lesson.*

The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.

AND in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth, to a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women. And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be. And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God. And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name Jesus. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: and he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end. Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man? And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God. And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word. And the angel departed from her.

Luke 1.26–35, 38

Thanks be to God.

please turn the page quietly

CAROL

Ave Regina cœlorum,
Ave Domina Angelorum:
Salve radix, salve porta
Ex qua mundo lux
est orta:

Gaude Virgo gloriosa,
Super omnes speciosa,
Vale, o valde decora,
Et pro nobis Christum exora.

Breviarium Romanum

*Hail, O Queen of Heaven.
Hail, O Lady of Angels:
Hail! thou root, hail! thou gate
From whom unto the world a
light has arisen:*

*Rejoice, O glorious Virgin,
Lovely beyond all others,
Farewell, most beautiful maiden,
And pray for us to Christ.*

Orlande de Lassus

CAROL

BORN in a stable so bare,
Born so long ago;
Born 'neath light of star
He who loved us so.

*Far away silent He lay,
Born today, your homage pay,
For Christ is born for aye,
Born on Christmas Day.*

Cradled by mother so fair,
Tender her lullaby;
Over her son so dear
Angel hosts fill the sky.

Far away &c.

Wise men from distant far land,
Shepherds from starry hills
Worship this babe so rare,
Hearts with his warmth he fills.

Far away &c.

Love in that stable was born
Into our hearts to flow;
Innocent dreaming babe,
Make me thy love to know.

Far away &c.

John Rutter

John Rutter
Oxford University Press

please turn the page quietly

SIXTH LESSON

§ *The Deputy Mayor of Cambridge reads the lesson.*

St Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.

AND it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Cæsar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judæa, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) to be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

Luke 2.1–7

Thanks be to God.

CAROL

COME, all you faithful Christians
That dwell here on earth,
Come celebrate the morning
Of our dear Saviour's birth.
This is the happy morning,
This is the blessed morn:
To save our souls from ruin,
The Son of God was born.

Behold the angel Gabriel,
In Scripture it is said,
Did with his holy message
Come to the virgin maid:
'Hail, blest among all women!'
He thus did greet her then,
'Lo, thou shalt be the mother
Of the Saviour of all men.'

Her time being accomplished,
She came to Bethlehem,
And then was safe delivered
Of the Saviour of all men.
No princely pomp attended him,
His honours were but small;
A manger was his cradle,
His bed an ox's stall.

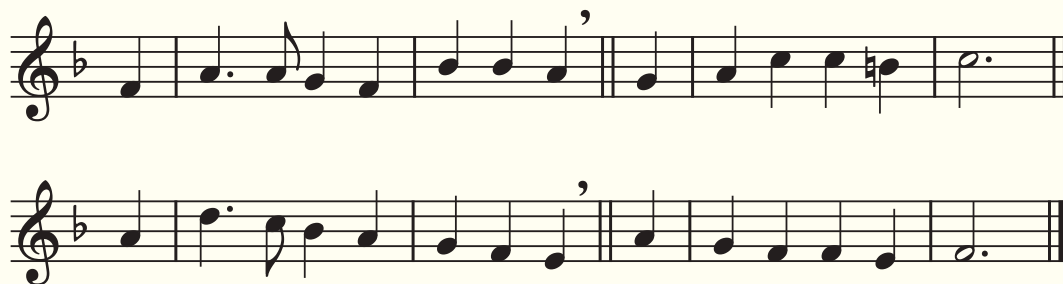
Now to him that is ascended
Let all our praises be;
May we his steps then follow,
And he our pattern be;
So when our lives are ended,
We all may hear him call—
'Come, souls, receive the kingdom,
Prepared for you all.'

English Traditional

English Traditional
arr. *Christopher Robinson*
Novello & Co. Ltd

§ *All stand.*

HYMN



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

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

‘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:

‘The heav’nly Babe you there shall find
To human view displayed,
All meanly wrapped in swathing bands,
And in a manger laid.’

Thus spake the seraph; and forthwith
 Appeared a shining throng
Of angels praising God, who thus
 Addressed their joyful song:

‘All glory be to God on high,
 And on the earth be peace;
Goodwill henceforth from heav’n to men
 Begin and never cease.’

Nahum Tate

‘Winchester Old’

arr. *George Kirbye*

verse 6 arr. *Nicholas Marston* KC

§ *All sit.*

SEVENTH LESSON

§ *The Director of Music reads the lesson.*

The shepherds go to the manger.

AND there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, 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, and on earth peace, good will toward men. And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us. And they came with haste, and found Mary and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.

Luke 2.8–16

Thanks be to God.

please turn the page quietly

CAROL

§ *The College commissioned this carol for today's service.*

THREE points of light

On one cold night:

High in the sky

A gleaming star;

The shepherds gaze

Into their fire;

The inn's glow shows

Where wonders are.

The gleaming star

Becomes a choir

Of angels praising

God, with Word

That at that hour,

In that same inn,

A King is born

Called Christ the Lord.

Amazed, the shepherds

Gaze at the inn,

They rush to the scene,

To the Babe in the Straw,

Where Mary and Joseph

Greet their guests

Whose humble gifts

Bedeck the floor.

Three points of light:
The gleaming star,
The shepherds' fire,
The glow from the inn:
All part of a scene
Which changed our lore,
And changed our lives
For evermore.

Peter Cairns KC

Grayston Ives
Carus-Verlag

please turn the page quietly

CAROL

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, (*Ding-dong! Ding-dong!*)
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 heav'n shall sing,
On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day,
And all the angels in heav'n shall sing,
On Christmas Day in the morning.

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.

Traditional English

Traditional English
arr. *Simon Preston* KC
Novello & Co. Ltd

please turn the page quietly

EIGHTH LESSON

§ *The Vice-Provost reads the lesson.*

The wise men follow the star to Jesus.

NOW when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judæa in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him.

When Herod the king had heard these things, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born. And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judæa: for thus it is written by the prophet, And thou Bethlehem, in the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel.

Then Herod, when he had privily called the wise men, inquired of them diligently what time the star appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, Go and search diligently for the young child; and when ye have found him, bring me word again, that I may come and worship him also.

When they had heard the king, they departed; and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.

And being warned of God in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed into their own country another way.

Matthew 2.1–12

Thanks be to God.

please turn the page quietly

CAROL

LULLAY, dear Jesus, my heart's only treasure;
Lullay, my darling, my life's sweetest pleasure.

*Lullay, dear Jesus, oh lullay, stop grieving,
Mother will comfort thee, thy pain relieving.*

Shut now thine eyelids, so weary from weeping;
I'll cool thy fevered lips while thou art sleeping.

Lullay, dear Jesus &c.

‘Lulajże, Jezuniu’
17th-century Polish
trans. *Jan Śliwiński*

Arnold Bax
Banks Publications

CAROL

Procedenti puero

Eya, nobis annus est!

Virginis ex utero

Gloria! Laudes!

Deus homo factus est

et immortalis.

To the boy who comes forth

Hurrah, this is our year!

From the Virgin's womb:

Glory! Praises!

God is become man

and immortal.

Sine viri semine

Eya, nobis annus est!

Natus est de virgine:

Gloria &c.

Without a man's seed

Hurrah, this is our year!

Is he born of a virgin:

Glory &c.

Sine viri copia

Eya, nobis annus est!

Natus est ex Maria:

Gloria &c.

Without a man's aid

Hurrah, this is our year!

Is he born of Mary:

Glory &c.

In hoc festo determino

Eya, nobis annus est!

Benedicamus Domino!

Gloria &c.

In this feast which has no end

Hurrah, this is our year!

Let us bless the Lord!

Glory &c.

15th-century English

*Peter Warlock
Boosey & Hawkes*

§ *All stand.*

please turn the page quietly

NINTH LESSON

§ *The Provost reads the lesson.*

St John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.

IN the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe. He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

John 1.1-14

Thanks be to God.

HYMN



O COME, all ye faithful,
Joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him,
Born the King of Angels.

O come, let us adore him,

O come, let us adore him,

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

God of God,
Light of Light,
Lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
Very God,
Begotten, not created.

O come, let us adore him &c.

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 &c.

Lo! star-led chieftains,
Magi, Christ adoring,
Offer him incense, gold, and myrrh;
We to the Christ Child
Bring our hearts' oblations:

O come, let us adore him &c.

Child, for us sinners
Poor and in the manger,
Fain we embrace thee, with awe and love;
Who would not love thee,
Loving us so dearly?

O come, let us adore him &c.

**Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;
Glory to God
In the highest:**

O come, let us adore him &c.

**Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
Born this happy morning,
Jesu, to thee be glory giv'n;
Word of the Father,
Now in flesh appearing:**

O come, let us adore him &c.

Adeste, fideles
trans. *Frederick Oakley,*
William Thomas Brooke et al.

'Adeste, fideles'
John Francis Wade
arr. *David Willcocks* κC
verse 7 refrain arr. *Daniel Hyde* κC
Oxford University Press & Daniel Hyde

please turn the page quietly

COLLECT & BLESSING

Dean THE LORD be with you.

All AND WITH **thy spirit.**

Dean Let us pray.

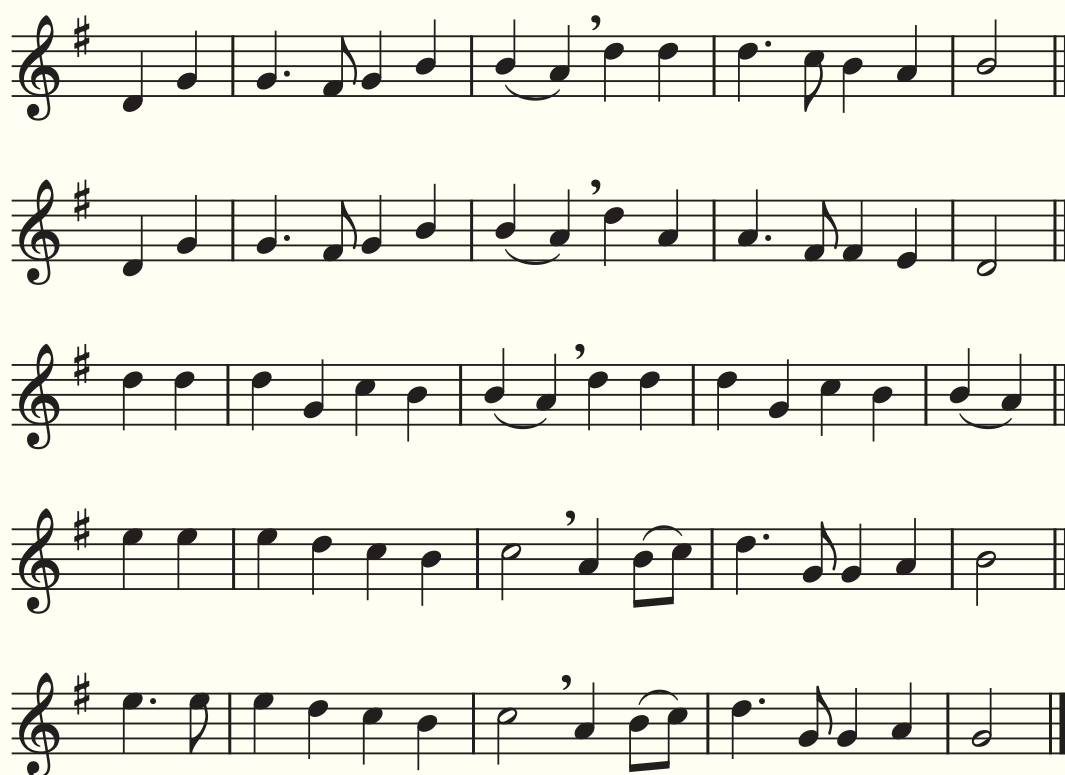
O GOD, who makest us glad with the yearly
remembrance of the birth of thy only son, Jesus Christ:
grant that as we joyfully receive him for our redeemer,
so we may with sure confidence behold him,
when he shall come to be our judge;
who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit,
one God,
world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

All **Amen.**

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

All **Amen.**

HYMN



HARK! the herald-angels sing
Glory to the new-born King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled:
Joyful, all ye nations rise,
Join the triumph of the skies,
With th'angelic host proclaim,
Christ is born in Bethlehem:
Hark! the herald-angels sing
Glory to the new-born King.

please turn the page quietly

Christ, by highest heav'n adored,
Christ the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold him come,
Offspring of a Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,
Hail th'incarnate Deity!
Pleased as man with man to dwell,
Jesus our Emmanuel.
*Hark! the herald-angels sing
Glory to the new-born King.*

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
Ris'n 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.*

Charles Wesley et al.
adapt. *William Hayman Cummings*

Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy
verse 3 arr. *David Willcocks* KC
Oxford University Press

ORGAN VOLUNTARIES

§ *As both organ voluntaries will be broadcast, please be as quiet as possible while they are played.*

In dulci júbilo BWV 729

Johann Sebastian Bach
Bärenreiter Verlag

Symphony No.6 in B minor, Op.59
v Final

Louis Vierne
Éditions Henry Lemoine

AT THE END *of* THE SERVICE

§ *All remain standing as the procession leaves the Chapel during the second organ voluntary.*

§ *Members of College and their guests follow the procession.*

§ *Please give generously to the retiring collection, which supports the life and work of the Chapel, using the Gift Aid envelope provided.*

§ *A contactless donation point is available in the Ante-Chapel.*

§ *Twenty per cent of all our collections is donated to charitable causes beyond the College.*

§ *Thank you for joining us for this service; please leave the College through the main gate onto King's Parade.*

* * *

from THE COMMISSIONED COMPOSER

BEING invited to write a new carol for *A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols* at King's College, Cambridge, is a huge honour—and a huge responsibility!

It was my good fortune to be directed to a poem, *Three Points of Light*, written by Peter Cairns, a Choral Scholar at King's in the 1960s.

The title refers to the light of the star, the light of the shepherds' fire, and the light in the stable. The poem conjures a compelling rural scene and we are drawn in to the story by these elements; lights which, together, form the Light of the World.

The music aims to reflect the atmosphere of that scene: the cold, the stillness, the drama, and the joy.

Grayston Ives

DEAN

The Revd Dr Stephen Cherry

DIRECTOR *of* MUSIC

Daniel Hyde

CHAPLAIN

The Revd Dr Mary Kells

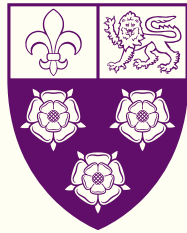
CHAPEL MANAGER

Emily Lyons

ASSISTING ORGANIST

Harrison Cole





KING'S COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE
MMXXIV