



# Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols

The Cathedral Church of St David  
*Proclaiming Jesus as Lord in the heart of Hobart*

24 December 2020, 7pm



Please be aware of the step when entering and exiting the pews

This service in word and song traces God's purposes from Creation to the birth of Jesus our Saviour. There are no announcements, please stand and sing the carols and be seated for the choral items. It is traditional to stand for the final reading of the Gospel of the Word from John 1.

## Introit: Matin Responsory

*Palestrina*

I look from afar:

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

Go ye out to meet him and say:

Tell us, art thou he that should come to reign over thy people Israel?

High and low, rich and poor, one with another,

Go ye out to meet him and say:

Hear, O thou Shepherd of Israel, thou that leadest Joseph like a sheep.

Tell us, art thou he that should come?

Stir up thy strength, O Lord, and come to reign over thy people Israel.

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

I look from afar:

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

Go ye out to meet him and say:

Tell us, art thou he that should come to reign over thy people Israel?

## Poem: Anthem for Christmas Day

*Bishop Joseph Hall (1574-1656) in 'The Shaking of the Olive Tree', London: Cadwel, 1660.*

Immortal babe, who this dear day  
didst change thine Heaven for our clay,  
and didst with flesh thy godhead veil,  
Eternal Son of God, all hail!

Worship, ye sages of east,  
The King of gods in meanness dress'd.  
O blessed maid, smile and adore  
The God thy womb and arms have bore.

Shine, happy star; ye angels, sing  
Glory on high to Heaven's King:  
Run, shepherds, leave your nightly watch,  
See Heaven come down to Bethlehem's  
cratch\*.

Star, angels, shepherds, and wild sages,  
Thou virgin glory of all ages,  
Restored frame of Heaven and Earth,  
Joy in your Redeemer's birth!

\* *cratch: a manger; trough for farm animal's food*

## Carol: Once in Royal David's City

*Words: Mrs C F Alexander (1818-95) Music: H J Gauntlett (1805-76), arr. David Willcocks (1919-2015)*

*Sopranos*

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.

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.

*Choir*

He came down to earth from heaven  
Who is God and Lord of all,  
And his shelter was a stable,  
And his cradle was a stall:  
With the poor and mean and lowly,  
Lived on earth our Saviour holy.

And our eyes at last shall see him,  
Through his own redeeming love,  
For that child so dear and gentle,  
Is our Lord in heaven above:  
And he leads his children on  
To the place where he is gone.

*All*

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.

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.

## Bidding Prayer and Lord's Prayer

*Please be seated*

Beloved in Christ, at this Christmas-tide let it be our care and delight to hear again the message of the angels, and in our heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, and the Babe lying in a manger.

Therefore 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 place glad with our carols of praise.

But first let us pray for the needs of the whole world; for peace and goodwill over all the earth; for unity and brotherhood within the Church he came to build, and especially in this our diocese.

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

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, saying:

**Our Father, which 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 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.**

## Musical Interlude

### First Lesson: Genesis 3:8-15

*God announces in the Garden of Eden that the seed of woman shall bruise the serpent's head.*

### Choir: Adam Lay Y-Bounden

*Words: Anon 15<sup>th</sup> Century      Music: Boris Ord*

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

Ne had the apple taken been  
The apple taken been,  
Ne had never our ladie,  
Abeen heav'ne queen.

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

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

## Second Lesson: Genesis 22:15-18

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

## Carol: O come, O come, Emmanuel

*Words: Latin 13th century, trans. J M Neale      Music: Veni Emmanuel, arr. David Willcocks (1919-2015)*

*All*

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

*Rejoice! rejoice!*

*Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

*Men*

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

*Women*

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

*Men*

O come, thou Lord of David's Key!  
The royal door fling wide and free;  
Safeguard for us the heav'nward road,  
And bar the way to death's abode.

*All*

O come, O come, Adonai,  
Who in thy glorious majesty  
From that high mountain clothed with awe  
Gavest thy folk the elder law.

## Third Lesson: Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

*Christ's birth and kingdom are foretold by Isaiah.*

## Choir: Sussex Carol

*English traditional carol arranged by David Willcocks*

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.

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

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

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!"

## Fourth Lesson: Micah 5:2-4

*The prophet Micah foretells the glory of little Bethlehem.*

## Hymn: O little town of Bethlehem

*Words: Bishop Phillips Brooks Music: English trad, arr. Vaughan Williams; Descant: Thomas Armstrong*

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 hope and fears of all the years  
Are met in thee tonight.

How silently, how silently,  
The wondrous gift is giv'n!  
So God imparts to human hearts  
The blessings of his heav'n.  
No ear may hear his coming;  
But in this world of sin,  
Where meek souls will receive him, still  
The dear Christ enters in.

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 wond'ring love.

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.

## Fifth Lesson: Luke 1:26-35, 38

*The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.*

## Choir: The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came

*Words: Rev S Baring-Gould    Music: Old Basque Carol, arr Edgar Pettman*

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 favored lady, Gloria!

For know a blessèd mother thou shalt be,  
All generations laud and honor thee,  
Thy Son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold,  
Most highly favored 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 favored 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 favored lady, Gloria!

## Sixth Lesson: Matthew 1:18-23

*St Matthew tells of the birth of Jesus.*

## Choir: What Sweeter Music

*Words: Robert Herrick (1591- 1674)    Music: John Rutter*

What sweeter music can we bring  
Than a carol, for to sing  
The birth of this our heavenly King?  
Awake the voice! Awake the string!  
Dark and dull night, fly hence away,  
And give the honour to this day,  
That sees December turned to May.

Why does the chilling winter's morn  
Smile, like a field beset with corn?  
Or smell like a meadow newly-shorn,  
Thus, on the sudden? Come and see  
The cause, why things thus fragrant be:  
'Tis He is born, whose quickening birth  
Gives life and lustre, public mirth,  
To heaven, and the under-earth.

We see him come, and know him ours,  
Who, with his sunshine and his showers,  
Turns all the patient ground to flowers.  
The darling of the world is come,  
And fit it is, we find a room  
To welcome him. The nobler part  
Of all the house here, is the heart.

Which we will give him; and bequeath  
This holly, and this ivy wreath,  
To do him honour, who's our King,  
And Lord of all this revelling.

What sweeter music can we bring,  
Than a carol for to sing  
The birth of this our heavenly King?

## Seventh Lesson: Luke 2:8-16

*The shepherds go to the manger.*

### Choir: Torches

*Tr. J.B. Trend (from the Galician) Music: John Joubert*

Torches, torches, run with torches  
All the way to Bethlehem!  
Christ is born and now lies sleeping;  
Come and sing your song to Him!  
Torches, torches, run with torches  
All the way to Bethlehem!  
Christ is born and now lies sleeping;  
Come and sing your song to Him!

Ah, Roro, Roro, my baby  
Ah, Roro, my love, Roro;  
Sleep you well, my heart's own darling  
While we sing you our Rorro  
Sing, my friends, and make you merry  
Joy and mirth and joy again;  
Lo, He lives, the King of heaven  
Now and evermore. Amen  
  
Lo, He lives, the King of heaven  
Now and ever, evermore. Amen

### Reflection: Dietrich Bonhoeffer - Advent 1933.

*Dietrich Bonhoeffer (1906-1945) a German theologian and pastor who as a Christian opposed Hitler. He was arrested in April 1943 and executed in April 1945, just days before the end of the war. This is an excerpt from a sermon delivered in London on the Third Sunday in Advent December 17, 1933.*

### Carol: Hark! the herald Angels sing

*Words: Charles Wesley et al. Music: Felix Mendelssohn, arr. Willcocks (1919-2015)*

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 host proclaim,  
Christ is born in Bethlehem.  
*Hark! The herald angels sing  
Glory to the new-born King.*

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 Emmanuel.  
  
Hail, the heav'n-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.

## Eighth Lesson: Matthew 2:1-11

*The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.*

### Choir: Coventry Carol (Lully Lulla)

*Second version, arr. Martin Shaw*

Lully, lulla, thou little tiny Child,  
By, by, lully, lullay.  
O sisters too, how may we do,  
For to preserve this day;  
This poor Youngling for whom we do sing,  
By, by, lully, lullay.  
Herod the King, in his raging,  
Charged he hath this day;  
His men of might, in his own sight,  
All young children to slay.  
That woe is me, poor Child, for Thee!  
And ever morn and day;  
For Thy parting, neither say nor sing,  
By, by, lully, lullay.

### Offertory Hymn: The First Nowell

*Words: Anon (17th century) Music: English traditional, arr. David Willcocks (1919-2015)  
during which a collection is taken for the work of the Cathedral.*

The first Nowell the angel did say  
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;  
In fields where they lay, keeping their sheep,  
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.  
*Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,  
Born is the King of Israel.*

They lookèd up and saw a star  
Shining in the east beyond them far,  
And to the earth it gave great light,  
And so it continued both day and night.  
And by the light of that same star,  
Three wise men came from country far;  
To seek for a king was their intent,  
And to follow the star wherever it went.

This star drew nigh to the northwest,  
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest,  
And there it did both stop and stay  
Right over the place where Jesus lay.

Then entered in those wise men three  
Full reverently upon their knee,  
And offered there in his presence  
Their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense.

Then let us all with one accord  
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord;  
That hath made heaven and earth of nought,  
And with his blood mankind hath bought

*Please stand for the reading of the Gospel of the Word.*

## Ninth Lesson: John 1:1-14

*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. 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.

## Choir: And the Word became flesh

*Text John 1:14,18      Music by Thomas Rimes*

And the Word became flesh and made its dwelling among us.  
We have seen the glory of the one and only son.  
Full of grace and full of truth.

## Prayers

*Please sit or kneel for the prayers.*

The Lord be with you  
**And also with you.**

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. **Amen.**

Lord Jesus, Redeemer and Saviour of humanity,  
Only Begotten of the Father, shining Morning Star,  
Sun of Righteousness,  
we thank thee that thou hast appeared in our darkness  
and that thy radiant splendour will never set.  
The patriarchs hoped in thee; Abraham rejoiced to see thy day;  
the sages awaited thee; the holy prophets foretold thy coming;  
sages from the east and the shepherds of Bethlehem appeared at thy manger;  
the heavenly hosts sang at thy birth;  
apostles, martyrs and saints repeated the song of the angels,  
and with them thy church glorifies and praises thee,  
in all languages and tongues, as her King and Lord.  
Thy compassion be praised.  
Thy mercy be praised.  
Thy grace be praised forever. **Amen.**

## Carol: O come, all ye faithful

*Words: Adeste fideles, trans. F Oakeley, WT Brooke et al Music: 18th century, arr Willcocks (1919-2015)*

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,  
Christ the Lord.*

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

See how the shepherds, summoned to his cradle,  
Leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear;  
We too will thither bend our joyful footsteps

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

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?

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

## Benediction

May Christ the Son of God gladden your hearts by his coming to dwell among us, and bring you his peace, and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be amongst you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Voluntary: 'Chorale Prelude' on 'In Dulci Jubilo' *J S Bach (1685-1750)*

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*Music Director: Thomas Rimes*

*Trumpets: Simon Cawthorn, Rob McEwan*

*Trombone: Les Johnston*

*Organist: Peter Warren*

*French horn: Maraika Smit*

*Tuba: Joe Cook*

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