



Pembroke College Oxford

Advent Carol Service

***led by
Pembroke College Chapel Choir***

17:30pm GMT

Director of Music: Mark Wilson

Organ Scholars: George Charman, Giles Hutchinson

Chaplain: The Revd Dr Andrew Teal

The Service begins in darkness following the entrance of the Choir. Please stand.

Choir:

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

Be not wroth very sore, O Lord, neither remember iniquity forever: thy holy cities are a wilderness, Sion is a wilderness, Jerusalem a desolation: Our holy and most beautiful house, where our fathers praised thee.

Antiphon

We have sinned, and are as an unclean thing, and we all do fade as a leaf: and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away; thou hast hid thy face from us: and hast consumed us, because of our iniquities

Antiphon

Ye are my witnesses, saith the Lord, and my servant whom I have chosen; that ye may know me and believe me: I even I, am the Lord, I and beside me there is no Saviour: and there is none that can deliver out of my hand

Antiphon

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

Antiphon

Rorate Caeli/Advent prose

Words: Anon.

Lights go back on, followed by the Introduction:

Beloved in Christ, be it this Christmastide our care and delight to hear again the message of the angels, and 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. 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. But first, let us pray for the needs of the whole world; for peace on earth and goodwill among all his people; for unity and brotherhood within the Church he came to build, and especially in this city of Oxford, the Collegiate University and the royal and religious foundation of Pembroke College. And because this of all things would rejoice his heart, let us remember, in his name, the poor and

helpless, the cold, the homeless, 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 the Lord Jesus we are for ever one. These prayers and praises let us humbly offer up to the Throne of Heaven, in the words which Christ himself hath taught us:

**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.**

May 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. **Amen**

Please sit for the First Lesson:

GOD ANNOUNCES IN THE GARDEN OF EDEN THAT THE SEED OF WOMAN SHALL 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.’

Genesis 3:8-15

Thanks be to God.

Please stand to sing:

Carol:

*(Solo) 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) 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.*

**(Full) And thro' 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.

Once in Royal David's City

Words: C.F. Alexander

Music: H.J. Gauntlett; Vv 1-5 harm. by A.H. Mann; V6 arr. by

David Willcocks

Please sit for the Second Lesson:

GOD PROMISES TO FAITHFUL ABRAHAM THAT IN HIS SEED SHALL 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.

The Choir sings:

Lux, Calida Gravisque Pura velut aurum
Et canunt angeli molliter
Canunt molliter modo natum.

Lux arumque

Words: poem attr. Edward Esch

Music: Eric Whitacre

Please remains seated for the Third Lesson:

**CHRIST’S BIRTH AND KINGDOM ARE FORETOLD BY
ISAIAH.**

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. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onwards and for evermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

Thanks be to God.

The choir sings:

In the bleak mid-winter
Frosty wind made moan,
Earth stood hard as iron,
Water like a stone;
Snow had fallen, snow on snow,
Snow on snow,
In the bleak mid-winter
Long ago.

Our God, Heaven cannot hold Him
Nor earth sustain;
Heaven and earth shall flee away
When He comes to reign:
In the bleak mid-winter
A stable-place sufficed
The Lord God Almighty,
Jesus Christ.

Enough for Him, whom cherubim
Worship night and day,
A breastful of milk
And a mangerful of hay;
Enough for Him, whom angels
Fall down before,
The ox and ass and camel
Which adore.

What can I give Him,
Poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd

I would bring a lamb,
If I were a wise man
I would do my part,
Yet what I can I give Him,
Give my heart.

Bleak Midwinter

Words: Rosetti

Music: Harold Darke

Please remain seated for the Fourth Lesson:

THE PROPHET MICAH FORETELLS THE GLORY OF LITTLE BETHLEHEM.

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labour has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace.

Micah 5:2-5

Thanks be to God.

Please stand to sing:

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.

Refrain:

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]

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
Bethlem 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!*

Personet Hodie

Music: Piae Cantones 1582

Please sit for the Fifth Lesson:

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 for ever, 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. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with 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: 26-38

Thanks be to God.

The Choir sings:

Ríu, ríu, chíu, la guarda ribera,
Dios guardó el lobo de nuestra cordera

El lobo rabioso la quiso morder
Mas Dios Poderoso la supo defender
Quísola hacer que no pudiese pecar
Ni aun original esta virgen no tuviera.

Éste que es nacido es el Gran Monarca
Cristo Patriarca de carne vestido
Ha nos redimido con se hacer chiquito
Aunque era infinito finito se hiciera.

Yo vi mil Garzones que andavan cantando
Por aqui volando haciendo mil sones
Diciendo a gascones Gloria sea en el Cielo
Y paz en el suelo pues Jesús nasciera.

Riu Riu Chiu

Words: Spanish Villancico

Music: Mateo Flecha

Please remain seated for the Sixth Lesson:

ST 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 also 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.

Please stand to sing the Congregational Carol:

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

(Tenors and Basses) O come, thou branch of jesse! Draw
The quarry from the lion's claw.
From the dread caverns of the grave,
From nether hell they people save.

Refrain

(Sopranos and Altos) 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.

Refrain

(Tenors and Basses) O come thou lord of David's Key,
The royal door fling wide and free;
Safeguard for us the heavn'ward road,
And bar the way to death's abode.

Refrain

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

Refrain

Veni Emmanuel

Words: O Antiphon, 8th or 9th Century

Music:

Please sit for the 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.

The Choir sings:

On Christmas night all Christians sing
To hear the news the angels bring
On Christmas night all Christians sing
To hear the news the angels bring

[Chorus:]

News of great joy news of great mirth
News of our merciful King's birth
When from our sin he set us free
All for to gain our liberty?

Then why should men on earth be so sad
Since our Redeemer made us glad
Then why should men on earth be so sad
Since our Redeemer made us glad [Chorus]

When sin departs before his grace
Then life and health come in its place
When in its place, angels and men with joy may sing
All for to see the new born King [Chorus]

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

Sussex carol

Music: arr. Willcocks

Please sit for the Eighth Lesson:

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; or 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

The Choir sings:

Ding dong merrily on high
In heav'n the bells are ringing
Ding dong! Verily the sky
Is riv'n with angel singing
Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!
Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!

E'en so here below, below
Let steeple bells be swungen
And "Io, io, io!"
By priest and people sungen

Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!
Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!

Pray you, dutifully prime
Your matten chime, ye ringers
May you beautifully rhyme
Your eve time song, ye singers
Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!
Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!

Ding Dong Merrily on High

Words: G. R. Woodward

Music: Mack Wilberg

Please stand and face the lectern for the Ninth 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. 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.

Please remain standing to sing the Congregational Carol:

Lo, he comes with clouds descending,
Once for favoured sinners slain;
Thousand thousand saints attending
Swell the triumph of his train.
allelujah (X3)
God appears on earth to reign.

Every eye shall now behold him,
Robed in dreadful majesty:
Those who set at naught and sold him,
Pierced and nailed him to the tree,
Deeply wailing (X3)
Shall the true Messiah see.

The dear tokens of his passion
Still his dazzling body bears,
Cause of endless exultation
To his ransom'd worshippers:
With what rapture (X3)
Gaze we on those glorious scars!

(Organ Interlude)

Yea! Amen, let all adore thee,
High on thy eternal throne;
Saviour, take the pow'r and glory,
Claim the kingdom for thine own!
O, come quickly! (X3)
Allelujah, Come Lord, Come.

Lo! He comes with clouds Descending

Words: 1758, Charles Wesley (1707-88) and John Cennick

Music: Vs 1 & 2 from New English Hymnal

Vs 3 & 4 arranged by Paul Plummer

Blessing by the Priest:

Christ, who by his holy incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with peace and goodwill and make you partakers of the divine nature. And may the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you all and remain with you always.
Amen.

Please remain standing as the Choir sings:

I look from afar and lo I see the pow'r of God coming and a
cloud, a cloud cov'ring 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 leadeth 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 pow'r of God coming and a
cloud, a cloud cov'ring 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?"

Matin Responsory

*Words: Translated from the First Responsory of Advent Sunday
in the office of Matins (Early Medieval Roman Rite)*

Music: Adapted from a Magnificat by Palestrina

Organ voluntary:

In Dulci Jubilo, BWV 729, J. S. Bach (Saturday)

Finale, Symphony no. 6, Charles Marie Widor (Sunday)

There will be a retiring collection in aid of College funds.

