

KING'S COLLEGE CHAPEL

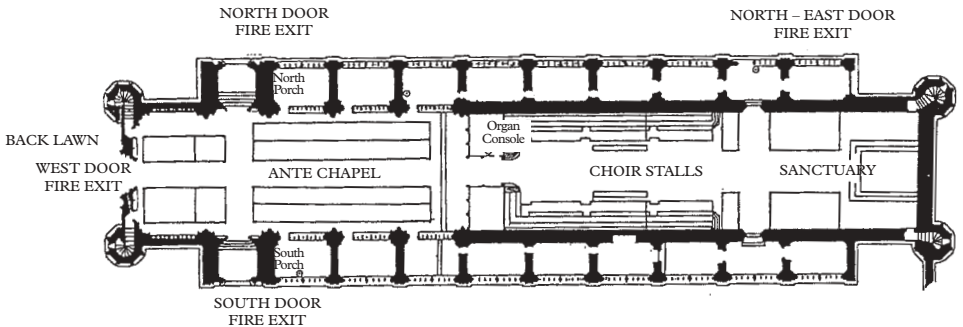


A FESTIVAL  
OF NINE LESSONS  
AND CAROLS

CHRISTMAS EVE

2007

## EVACUATION ROUTES AND PROCEDURES



In the unlikely event that an emergency evacuation of the Chapel becomes necessary, an announcement will be made by either the Dean or the Chaplain. Please follow his instructions and those of the Chapel stewards. Should there be anyone near you requiring assistance, please help, or draw the matter to the attention of the stewards. Please remain in your place until you are instructed by the stewards to leave the Chapel by one of the Fire Exits indicated above. Keep calm and quiet so that additional instructions can be heard. Once outside make your way to the muster area on the Back Lawn next to the river where further instructions will be given. Should you want any assistance please speak to one of the stewards. Please attend carefully to all announcements for your own safety and that of others.



THE Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols was first held on Christmas Eve 1918. It was planned by Eric Milner-White, who, at the age of thirty-four, had just been appointed Dean of King's after experience as an army chaplain which had convinced him that the Church of England needed more imaginative worship. (He devised the College's Advent Carol Service in 1934, and was a liturgical pioneer and authority during his twenty-two years as Dean of York.) The music was then directed by Arthur Henry Mann, Organist 1876–1929. The choir included sixteen trebles as laid down in King Henry VI's statutes, but until 1927 the men's voices were provided partly by Choral Scholars and partly by older Lay Clerks, and not, as now, by fourteen undergraduates.

A revision of the Order of Service was made in 1919, involving rearrangement of the lessons, and from that date the service has always begun with the hymn 'Once in royal David's city'. In almost every year the choice of carols has varied, and some new ones have been introduced by successive Organists: Arthur Henry Mann; Boris Ord, 1929–57; Harold Darke (his substitute during the war), 1940–45; Sir David Willcocks, 1957–73; Sir Philip Ledger, 1974–82 and, from 1982, Stephen Cleobury. The backbone of the service, the lessons and the prayers, has remained virtually unchanged. The original service was, in fact, adapted from an Order drawn up by E. W. Benson, later Archbishop of Canterbury, for use in the wooden shed, which then served as his cathedral in Truro, at 10 p.m. on Christmas Eve 1880.

A. C. Benson recalled: 'My father arranged from ancient sources a little service for Christmas Eve – nine carols and nine tiny lessons, which were read by various officers of the Church, beginning with a chorister, and ending, through the different grades, with the Bishop.' The idea had come from G. H. S. Walpole, later Bishop of Edinburgh. Almost immediately other churches adapted the service for their own use. A wider frame began to grow when the service was first

broadcast in 1928 and, with the exception of 1930, it has been broadcast annually, even during the Second World War, when the ancient glass (and also all heat) had been removed from the Chapel.

Sometime in the early 1930s the BBC began broadcasting the service on overseas programmes. It is estimated that there are millions of listeners worldwide, including those to Radio Four in the United Kingdom. In recent years it has become the practice to broadcast a recording of the service on Christmas Day on Radio Three, and since 1963 a shorter service has been filmed periodically for television. Recordings of carols by Decca and EMI have also served to spread its fame. In these and other ways the service has become public property.

From time to time the College receives copies of services held, for example, in the West Indies or the Far East and these show how widely the tradition has spread. The broadcasts, too, have become part of Christmas for many far from Cambridge. One correspondent writes that he heard the service in a tent on the foothills of Everest; another, in the desert. Many listen at home, busy about their own preparations for Christmas. Visitors from all over the world are heard to identify the Chapel as ‘the place where the Carols are sung’.

Wherever the service is heard and however it is adapted, whether the music is provided by choir or congregation, the pattern and strength of the service, as Dean Milner-White pointed out, derive from the lessons and not the music. ‘The main theme is the development of the loving purposes of God ...’ seen ‘through the windows and the words of the Bible’. Local interests appear, as they do here, in the Bidding Prayer; and personal circumstances give point to different parts of the service. Many of those who took part in the first service must have recalled those killed in the Great War when it came to the famous passage ‘all those who rejoice with us, but on another shore and in a greater light’. The centre of the service is still found by those who ‘go in heart and mind’ and who consent to follow where the story leads.

**B**EFORE the entry of the Kings,  
their horses, caparisoned and fettleed,  
the peacock got itself settled

on a crumbling wall,  
where the stones spout flowers  
through long Italian hours.

Much lather at the bit is slavered,  
and steam coils off the stallions' bared  
backs. We enter at the point where

discussion across the empty saddles  
is hushed, and one of the Kings unfurls,  
from beneath a golden band, a head of curls.

This gives an opportunity for drapery  
to swing in the direction of a baby,  
ruling from a crimson knee.

The peacock spreads its cards  
behind its back. The Kings unleash  
their homage. All the haberdashery is hushed.

This Medici Bethlehem is squaring up  
to its Christ, with the beautiful and shy  
Madonna, and the peacock preens the sky.

A BOTTICELLI NATIVITY  
DAVID SCOTT  
*Bloodaxe Books*

*Printed with the kind permission of the  
publisher on behalf of the author.*



At the request of the BBC  
the service starts a little after 3 p.m.

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**In order not to spoil the service for other members of the congregation and radio listeners, please do not talk or cough unless it is absolutely necessary. Please turn off chiming digital watches and mobile phones.**

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### KING'S COLLEGE CHOIR

The Director of Music, Stephen Cleobury, is always pleased to receive enquiries about membership of the Choir. Please telephone him (01223 331224) or write to him at the College for details: King's College, Cambridge CB2 1ST or e-mail: [choir@kings.cam.ac.uk](mailto:choir@kings.cam.ac.uk)

The next auditions for Choristerships  
are on 26 January 2008.

¶ **The congregation is silent during the organ music before the service.**

The chorale preludes by Bach are from *Das Orgelbüchlein*, and the Messiaen pieces are taken from *La Nativité du Seigneur*.

Canonic Variations on ‘Vom Himmel hoch’ BWV 769	J. S. BACH
La Vierge et l’Enfant	OLIVER MESSIAEN
Les Bergers	OLIVER MESSIAEN
Prelude and Fugue in C BWV 547	J. S. BACH
Lob sei dem allmächtigen Gott BWV 602	J. S. BACH
Puer natus in Bethlehem BWV 603	J. S. BACH
Gelobet seist du, Jesu Christ BWV 604	J. S. BACH
Der Tag, der ist so freudenreich BWV 605	J. S. BACH
Les enfants de Dieu	OLIVER MESSIAEN
Les Mages	OLIVER MESSIAEN
Desseins Éternels	OLIVER MESSIAEN



<b>ORDER OF SERVICE</b>
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## PROCESSIONAL HYMN

¶ The congregation in the Choir stands at the same time as the congregation in the Ante-chapel, so that all are silent when the hymn starts. All join in singing the last four verses.

**Solo**      **O**NCE 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.

**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.

**All**            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.

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**All**           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**           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.

Words, C. F. ALEXANDER  
Melody, H. J. GAUNTLETT  
Harmonised, H. J. GAUNTLETT  
                  and A. H. MANN  
Descant, STEPHEN CLEOBURY  
*Encore Publications*

## BIDDING PRAYER

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¶ Then, all standing, this bidding prayer is said.

### The 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 goodwill over all the earth; for unity and brotherhood within the Church he came to build, and especially in the dominions of our sovereign lady Queen Elizabeth, within this University and City of Cambridge, and in the two royal and religious Foundations of King Henry VI here and at Eton:

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, the hungry and the oppressed; the sick in body and in mind and them that mourn; the lonely and the unloved; the aged 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.

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.

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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 ...

**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. Amen.**

**The 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.**

**¶ The congregation sits.**

## CAROL

---

*Glory, alleluia to the Christ Child!*

OUT of the orient crystal skies  
A blazing star did shine,  
Showing the place where sleeping lies  
A blessèd babe divine.

This very star the kings did guide,  
E'en from the furthest East,  
To Bethlehem where it betide  
This blessèd babe did rest.

And for the joy of his great birth  
A thousand angels sing:  
'Glory and peace unto the earth  
Where born is this new King!'

*Glory, alleluia to the Christ Child!*  
*This blessèd babe divine.*

Words, 17TH CENTURY  
Music, ALAN BULLARD  
*Oxford University Press*

## FIRST LESSON

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READER: A CHORISTER

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

GENESIS 3

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. 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.

Thanks be to God.

## CAROL

---

**T**HIS is the truth sent from above,  
The truth of God, the God of love;  
Therefore don't turn me from your door,  
But hearken all both rich and poor.

The first thing which I do relate  
Is that God did man create;  
The next thing which to you I'll tell:  
Woman was made with man to dwell.

Then after this 'twas God's own choice  
To place them both in Paradise,  
There to remain from evil free,  
Except they ate of such a tree.

And they did eat, which was a sin,  
And thus their ruin did begin;  
Ruined themselves, both you and me,  
And all of their posterity.

Thus we were heirs to endless woes,  
Till God the Lord did interpose,  
And so a promise soon did run  
That he would redeem us by his Son.

HEREFORDSHIRE CAROL  
Arranged, RALPH VAUGHAN WILLIAMS  
*Stainer & Bell*

## CAROL

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A<sup>D</sup>AM 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 clerkès finden  
Written in their book.

Ne had the apple taken been,  
The apple taken been,  
Ne had never our lady  
Abeen heavenè queen.

Blessèd be the time  
That apple taken was,  
Therefore we moun singen,  
*Deo gracias!*

Words, 15<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY  
Music, BORIS ORD  
*Oxford University Press*

## SECOND LESSON

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READER: A CHORAL SCHOLAR

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

GENESIS 22

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.

Thanks be to God.

## CAROL

---

ŠAI svētā naktī zem' un debess zvīļo,  
Šai naktī sirds ar zvaigznēm sarunājas –  
Un ienaidis rimst, cits citu atkal mīļo,  
Par visu miera siltie spārni klājas.

Šai naktī ejot zaigo tavas pēdas;  
Šī nakts spēj šaubas cerības tev iedot;  
Šī nakts liek aizmirst visas, visas bēdas  
Un māca tevi mīlot visu piedot.

Šai svētā naktī, šai svētā naktī,  
Šai svētā naktī, cits citu atkal mīļo,  
Šai svētā naktī, šai svētā naktī,  
Šai svētā naktī, cits citu atkal mīļo.

Šī nakts ir debess vārtus atvērusi,  
Pār zemes tumsu dedz tā zvaigžņu loku  
Un naktī šai uz katra galvu klusi  
Dievs svētot uzliek savu mīļo roku.

[TRANSLATION

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**O**N this holy night earth and heaven shine,  
On this night the heart and stars commune,  
And enmity fades, each loves the other,  
And o'er the stillness warm wings hover.

On this night your footsteps glimmer;  
This night transfigures doubt to hope;  
This night must banish every sorrow,  
And teach you to forgive and love.

On this holy night, in this holy night,  
On this holy night, each loves the other;  
On this holy night, in this holy night,  
On this holy night, each loves the other.

On this night the gates of heaven open,  
Above earth's darkness arc the burning stars,  
And softly on each person's head this night  
The Lord in blessing lays His loving hand.

Words, VALDA MORA  
Translated, MĀRA KALNINS  
Music, ANONYMOUS  
Arranged, STEPHEN CLEOBURY

*This setting of a Latvian poem was composed by a woman prisoner in a Soviet prison camp and given secretly to Marta Zaļaiskalns (b.1925, Soviet prisoner 1945–54) on Christmas Day 1953. It was transcribed from the manuscript in the Museum of the Occupation in Rīga by Emma Disley during the King's College Choir tour, August 2007.*

## CAROL

---

**I**N *dulci jubilo*  
Let us our homage shew;  
Our heart's joy reclineth  
*In praesepio,*  
And like a bright star shineth  
*Matris in gremio.*  
*Alpha es et O!*

*O Jesu parvule,*  
I yearn for thee alway;  
Listen to my ditty,  
*O Puer optime,*  
Have pity on me, pity,  
*O princeps gloriae!*  
*Trahe me post te!*

*O Patris caritas,*  
*O Nati lenitas!*  
Deeply were we stainèd  
*Per nostra crimina;*  
But thou hast for us gainèd  
*Coelorum gaudia.*  
O that we were there!

*Ubi sunt gaudia,* where,  
If that they be not there?  
There are angels singing  
*Nova cantica,*  
There the bells are ringing  
*In Regis curia:*  
O that we were there!

14TH CENTURY GERMAN  
Arranged, R. L. DE PEARSALL  
Edited, R. JACQUES  
*Oxford University Press*

## THIRD LESSON

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READER: A REPRESENTATIVE OF CAMBRIDGE  
CHURCHES

*The prophet foretells the coming of the Saviour.*

ISAIAH 9

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.

Thanks be to God.

## CAROL

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**S**TARDUST and vaporous light,  
The mist of worlds born,  
A shuddering in the awful night  
Of winds that bring the morn.

Now comes the dawn: the circling earth;  
Creatures that fly and crawl;  
And Man, that last, imperial birth;  
And Christ, the flower of all.

NOËL

Words, RICHARD WATSON GILDER

Music, BRETT DEAN

*Boosey & Hawkes*

*This carol has been commissioned by the College for  
today's service.*

## HYMN

---

¶ **Sung by all, standing.**

**All**      **O**LITTLE town of Bethlehem,  
How still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
The silent stars go by.  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth  
The everlasting light;  
The hopes and fears of all the years  
Are met in thee to-night.

**All**      O morning stars, together  
Proclaim the holy Birth!  
And praises sing to God the King,  
And peace to men on earth;  
For Christ is born of Mary,  
And, gathered all above,  
While mortals sleep, the angels keep  
Their watch of wondering love.

**Choir**    How silently, how silently,  
The wondrous gift is given!  
So God imparts to human hearts  
The blessings of his heaven.  
No ear may hear his coming;  
But in this world of sin,  
Where meek souls will receive Him, still  
The dear Christ enters in.

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**All**      O holy Child of Bethlehem,  
              Descend to us, we pray;  
Cast out our sin, and enter in,  
              Be born in us to-day.  
We hear the Christmas Angels  
              The great glad tidings tell:  
O come to us, abide with us,  
              Our Lord Emmanuel!

Words, P. BROOKS  
Music, ENGLISH TRADITIONAL  
Arranged, RALPH VAUGHAN WILLIAMS  
Descant, THOMAS ARMSTRONG  
*Oxford University Press*

¶ **The congregation sits.**

## FOURTH LESSON

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READER: A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE CITY  
OF CAMBRIDGE

*The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown.*

ISAIAH II

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.

Thanks be to God.

## CAROL

---

**D**ET är en ros utsprungen av Jesse rotoch stam.  
Av fädren ren besjungen den står i tiden fram,  
En blomma skär och blid,  
Mitt i den kalla vinter i midnatts mörka tid.

*Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung!  
Of Jesse's lineage coming, as men of old have sung.  
It came a floweret bright amid the cold of winter,  
When half spent was the night.*

GERMAN TRADITIONAL  
Swedish words, THEKLA KNÖS  
English words, THEODORE BAKER  
Music, M.PRAETORIUS  
Arranged, JAN SANDSTRÖM  
*Gehrmans Musikförlag*

## CAROL

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A SPOTLESS Rose is blowing,  
Sprung from a tender root,  
Of ancient seers' foreshowing,  
Of Jesse promised fruit;  
Its fairest bud unfolds to light  
And in the dark midnight,  
Amid the winter cold,  
A spotless Rose unfolds.

The Rose which I am singing,  
Whereof Isaiah said,  
Is from its sweet root springing,  
In Mary, purest Maid;  
For, through our God's great love and might,  
And in the dark midnight,  
Amid the winter cold,  
The blessèd Babe she bare.

Words, 15TH CENTURY GERMAN  
Translated, C. WINKWORTH  
Music, PHILIP LEDGER  
*Encore Publications*

*This carol was composed for King's College Choir in  
2002.*

## FIFTH LESSON

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READER: A REPRESENTATIVE OF OUR SISTER  
COLLEGE AT ETON

*The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin  
Mary.* ST LUKE I

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.

Thanks be to God.

## CAROL

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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.'

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.'

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, S. BARING-GOULD  
Music, OLD BASQUE  
Arranged, EDGAR PETTMAN  
*University Carol Book: Freeman*

## CAROL

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**Б**огородице Дево, радуйся,  
Благодатная Марие, Господь с Тобою:  
благословена Ты в женах  
и благословен плод чрева Твоего,  
яко Спаса родила еси душ наших.

*Rejoice, O virgin Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee:  
blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy  
womb, for thou hast borne the Saviour of our souls.*

Words, THE ORTHODOX LITURGY  
Music, ARVO PART  
*Universal*

*This carol was commissioned by the College  
for A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols, 1990*

## SIXTH LESSON

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READER: THE CHAPLAIN

*St Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.*

ST LUKE 2

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.

Thanks be to God.

## CAROL

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*Alleluia!*

**I** SING the birth was born tonight,  
The author both of life and light;  
The angels so did sound it.  
And like the ravish'd shepherds said,  
Who saw the light, and were afraid,  
Yet search'd, and true they found it.

The Son of God, th'eternal King,  
That did us all salvation bring,  
And freed the soul from danger;  
He whom the whole world could not take,  
The Word, which heav'n and earth did make,  
Was now laid in a manger.

The Father's wisdom will'd it so,  
The Son's obedience knew no No,  
Both wills were in one stature;  
And as that wisdom had decreed,  
The Word was now made flesh indeed,  
And took on Him our nature.

What comfort by Him do we win,  
Who made Himself the price of sin,  
To make us heirs of glory!  
To see this Babe, all innocence,  
A martyr born in our defence;  
Can man forget this story?

Words, BEN JONSON  
Music, EDWARD ELGAR  
*Oxford University Press*

## CAROL

---

A BABE is born all of a may,  
To bring salvation unto us.  
To him we sing both night and day.  
*Veni Creator Spiritus.*

At Bethlehem, that blessèd place,  
The child of bliss now born he was;  
And him to serve God give us grace,  
*O lux beata Trinitas.*

There came three kings out of the East,  
To worship the King that is so free,  
With gold and myrrh and frankincense,  
*A solis ortus cardine.*

The angels came down with one cry,  
A fair song that night sung they  
In worship of that child:  
*Gloria tibi Domine.*

A babe is born all of a may,  
To bring salvation unto us.  
To him we sing both night and day.  
*Veni Creator Spiritus. Noel!*

Words, 15TH CENTURY  
Music, WILLIAM MATHIAS  
*Oxford University Press*

## SEVENTH LESSON

---

READER: THE DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

*The shepherds go to the manger.* ST LUKE 2

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.

Thanks be to God.

## CAROL

---

**D**ORMI, Jesu! Mater ridet  
Quae tam dulcem somnum videt,  
Dormi, Jesu! blandule!

Si non dormis, Mater plorat  
Inter fila cantans orat,  
Blande, veni, somnule!

*Sleep, sweet baby! My cares beguiling:  
Mother sits beside thee smiling;  
Sleep, my darling, tenderly!*

*If thou sleep not, mother mourneth,  
Singing as her wheel she turneth:  
Come, soft slumber, balmily!*

THE VIRGIN'S CRADLE-HYMN

Words, from a print of the Virgin and Child, Germany

Translated, S. T. COLERIDGE

Music, JOHN RUTTER

*Oxford University Press*

*This carol was written for 'Carols from King's' 1998*

## HYMN

---

¶ **Sung by all, standing.**

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 heavenly 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 to the earth be peace;  
Goodwill henceforth from heaven to men  
Begin and never cease.’

Words, NAHUM TATE  
Music, ESTE’S PSALTER, 1592  
Descant, STEPHEN CLEOBURY  
*Encore Publications*

¶ **The congregation sits.**

## EIGHTH LESSON

---

READER: A FELLOW

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

ST MATTHEW 2

**N**OW 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.

Thanks be to God.

## CAROL

---

**Solo** **T**HREE kings from Persian lands afar  
To Jordan follow the pointing star:  
And this the quest of the travellers three,  
Where the new-born King of the Jews may be.  
Full royal gifts they bear for the King;  
Gold, incense, myrrh are their offering.

The star shines out with a steadfast ray;  
The kings to Bethlehem make their way,  
And there in worship they bend the knee,  
As Mary's child in her lap they see;  
Their royal gifts they show to the King;  
Gold, incense, myrrh are their offering.

Thou child of man, lo, to Bethlehem  
The kings are travelling, travel with them!  
The star of mercy, the star of grace,  
Shall lead thy heart to its resting-place.  
Gold, incense, myrrh thou canst not bring;  
Offer thy heart to the infant King.

### **Chorale (sung at the same time as the above)**

How brightly shines the morning star!  
With grace and truth from heaven afar  
Our Jesse tree now bloweth.

Of Jacob's stem and David's line,  
For thee, my Bridegroom, King divine,  
My soul with love o'erfloweth.

Thy word, Jesu, inly feeds us,  
Rightly leads us, life bestowing.  
Praise, O praise, such love o'erflowing.

Words, P. CORNELIUS and P. NICOLAI  
Translated, H. N. BATE  
Music, P. CORNELIUS  
Arranged, I. ATKINS  
*Oxford University Press*

## CAROL

---

**D**ING! Dong! merrily on high  
In heav'n the bells are ringing!  
Ding! dong! verily the sky  
Is riv'n with angels singing!

*Gloria!*

*Hosanna in excelsis!*

E'en so here below, below,  
Let steeple bells be swungen,  
And "I-o, i-o, i-o!"  
By priest and people sungen!

Pray you, dutifully prime  
Your matin chime, ye ringers!  
May you beautifully rime  
Your evetime song, ye singers!

Words, G. R. WOODWARD  
Music, 16TH CENTURY FRENCH  
Arranged, MACK WILBERG  
*Oxford University Press*

¶ **The congregation stands.**

## NINTH LESSON

---

READER: THE PROVOST

*St John unfolds the great mystery of the  
Incarnation.* ST JOHN I

**I**N 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: who 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.

Thanks be to God.

## HYMN

---

¶ **Sung by all, standing. In verses 1 and 2 the first two lines of the refrain are sung by upper voices only.**

**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.

Sing, choirs of angels,  
Sing in exultation,  
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;  
'Glory to God  
In the highest'.

Yea, Lord, we greet thee,  
Born this happy morning,  
Jesu, to thee be glory given;  
Word of the Father,  
Now in flesh appearing.

ADESTE FIDELES  
18TH CENTURY LATIN  
Trans., F. OAKELEY  
Melody, J. F. WADE

Arranged, STEPHEN CLEOBURY

¶ **All remain standing.**

## COLLECT AND BLESSING

---

**The Dean**     The Lord be with you.

**All**             **And with thy spirit.**

**The 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.**

**The Dean**

CHRIST, who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, grant you the fullness of inward 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 upon you and remain with you always.

**All**             **Amen.**

## HYMN

---

¶ Sung by all, standing.

**H**ARK! 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 heaven-born Prince of Peace!  
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings,  
Risen with healing in his wings;  
Mild he lays his glory by,  
Born that man no more may die,  
Born to raise the sons of earth,  
Born to give them second birth.

Words, C. WESLEY and G. WHITEFIELD  
Music, J. L. F. MENDELSSOHN-BARTHOLDY  
Descant, STEPHEN CLEOBURY  
*Encore Publications*

¶ **The congregation is silent during the organ music after the service.**

In dulci jubilo BWV 729

J. S. BACH

Sortie on 'In dulci jubilo'

DAVID BRIGGS  
(first performance)

*The second voluntary has been composed for today's service.*

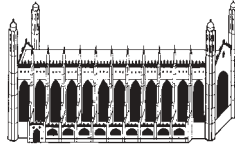
¶ **All remain standing during the first organ voluntary, which is being broadcast. After this the Choir and Clergy are followed out in order by the stewards, the Provost, the Mayoral party, the Vice-Provost, and Fellows of the College, with their guests.**

¶ **Members of the congregation who wish to leave at this point should do so silently. Those remaining are invited to be seated.**

¶ **Please do not talk during the second organ voluntary, which is being recorded for broadcast on Christmas Day.**

¶ **After the service a retiring collection is taken for the maintenance of the Chapel. If you prefer to contribute by cheque, please make it payable to King's College Chapel Foundation and send it to The Dean, King's College, Cambridge CB2 1ST. Gift aid envelopes are available.**

## KING'S COLLEGE



## CHAPEL FOUNDATION

---

KING'S COLLEGE CHAPEL. The building was begun by Henry VI in 1446 and is an important part of our national heritage. The architectural majesty of the Chapel and the extraordinary musical quality of the Choir are admired by millions of people every year. The College is solely responsible for the upkeep of the Chapel.

KING'S COLLEGE CHAPEL FOUNDATION was established in 1997 to safeguard and enhance the tradition of choral worship and musical excellence through long-term support of the Choir; to protect the Chapel through maintenance and conservation of this historic structure, its fabric and furnishings; and to enhance visitors' experience of the Chapel and its daily services.

Over 500 years of weathering have taken their toll on the building. The lead roof is nearing the end of its life, with leaks causing fungal problems in the timbers below; stonework is deteriorating, with some carved decoration already lost; and stained glass windows, that survived the Reformation, the Civil War and World War II, need urgent restoration work.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

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