

KING'S COLLEGE CHAPEL

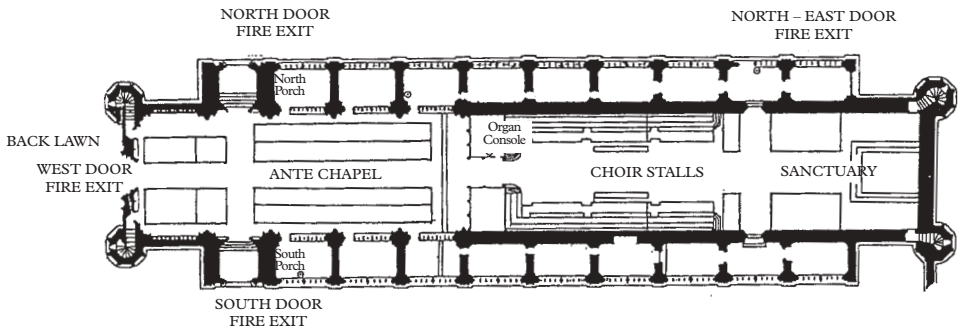


A FESTIVAL
OF NINE LESSONS
AND CAROLS

CHRISTMAS EVE

2006

EVACUATION ROUTES AND PROCEDURES



In the unlikely event that an emergency evacuation of the Chapel becomes necessary, an announcement will normally 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.



OUR 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 our 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 and the name of King's could not be broadcast for security reasons. 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 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.

Why do you give the baby gold?
The guiding star foretold a king...

MARY'S CAROL
© PETER DALE, 2006
Enitharmon Press

Text not given in full in this website version of the booklet due to copyright reasons.



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

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.

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

The next auditions for Choristerships
are on 10 February 2007.

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

Toccata, Adagio and Fugue BWV 564 J. S. BACH

La Vierge et L'Enfant OLIVIER MESSIAEN

Les Bergers OLIVIER MESSIAEN

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 OLIVIER MESSIAEN

Les Anges OLIVIER MESSIAEN

Scherzo LIONEL STEUART FOTHRINGHAM

Les Mages OLIVIER MESSIAEN

Desseins Eternels OLIVIER MESSIAEN

ORDER OF SERVICE

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.

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, S. J. CLEOBURY
Encore Publications

BIDDING PRAYER

¶ 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.

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

WELCOME, be Thou Heavenly King,
Welcome born on this morning,
Welcome for whom we shall sing,

Welcome, welcome Yule!

Welcome be ye, Stephen and John,
Welcome, Innocents ev'ry one,
Welcome, Thomas, Martyr one,

Welcome be ye, good New Year,
Welcome, Twelfth-day, both in fere,¹
Welcome, Saints loved and dear,

Welcome be ye, Candlemas,
Welcome be ye, Queen of Bliss,
Welcome, both to more and less,

Welcome be ye that are here,
Welcome all, and make good cheer,
Welcome all, another year,

WELCOME YULE
Words, 15TH CENTURY
Music, C. H. H. PARRY
Oxford University Press

¹ *in company*

FIRST LESSON

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

REMEMBER, O thou man,
 O thou man, O thou man,
Remember, O thou man,
 Thy time is spent:
Remember, O thou man,
 How thou art dead and gone,
And I did what I can:
 Therefore repent!

Remember Adam's fall,
 O thou man, O thou man,
Remember Adam's fall
 From heaven to hell!
Remember Adam's fall,
 How we were condemnèd all
In hell perpetual,
 There for to dwell.

Remember God's goodnesse,
 O thou man, O thou man,
Remember God's goodnesse,
 And his promise made!
Remember God's goodnesse,
 How he sent his Sonne, doubtlesse,
Our sinnes for to redresse:
 Be not afraid!

Words, 16TH CENTURY
Music, T. RAVENSCROFT
Oxford University Press

A^{DAM} 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, 15TH CENTURY
Music, P. WARLOCK
Oxford University Press

SECOND LESSON

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

ANGELS, from the realms of glory,
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Ye who sang Creation's story
Now proclaim Messiah's birth!

Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, in the field abiding,
Watching o'er your flocks by night;
God with man is now residing,
Yonder shines the Infant Light.

Sages, leave your contemplations;
Brighter visions beam afar.
Seek the Great Desire of Nations;
Ye have seen his natal star.

Saints, before the altar bending,
Watching long in hope and fear;
Suddenly the Lord, descending,
In his temple shall appear.

Words, J. MONTGOMERY
Music, OLD FRENCH TUNE
Arr., P. S. LEDGER
Oxford University Press

CAROL

I WONDER as I wander, out under the sky,
how Jesus the Saviour did come for to die
for poor on'ry people like you and like I.
I wonder as I wander out under the sky.

When Mary birthed Jesus, 'twas in a cow's stall,
with wise men and farmers and shepherds and all.
But high from the heavens a star's light did fall,
and promise of ages it then did recall.

If Jesus had wanted for any wee thing,
a star in the sky, or a bird on the wing,
or all of God's angels in heaven for to sing,
he surely could have it, 'cause he was the King.

APPALACHIAN TRADITIONAL

Music, C. RUTTI

Escorial Edition

THIRD LESSON

READER: A MEMBER OF STAFF

*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.

IN *dulci iubilo*
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 stained
Per nostra crimina;
But thou hast for us gained
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!

Words and Music, 14TH CENTURY GERMAN
Arr., R. L. DE PEARSALL
Ed., R. JACQUES
Oxford University Press

HYMN

¶ **Sung by all, standing.**

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 heaven’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 heavenly music floats
O’er all the weary world;
Above its sad and lowly plains
They bend on hovering wing;
And ever o’er its Babel sounds
The blessed 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 hastening 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.

Words, E. SEARS

ENGLISH TRADITIONAL MELODY

Arr., A. SULLIVAN

Descant, S. J. CLEOBURY

Oxford University Press

¶ **The congregation sits.**

FOURTH LESSON

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.

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

Das Röslein das ich meine,
Davon Esaias sagt,
Hat uns gebracht alleine
Marie die reine Magd,
Aus Gottes ew'gem Rat
Hat sie ein Kind geboren,
Wohl zu der halben Nacht.

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

*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,
The blessed Babe she bare us
In a cold, cold winter's night.*

Words & Melody, SPEIERSCHEN GESANGBUCH, COLOGNE
Trans., C. WINKWORTH
Arr., M. PRAETORIUS
Oxford University Press

CAROL

IT'S all under the leaves and the leaves of life,
Where I saw maidens seven,
And it's one of those as Mary mild,
Was our King's mother from heaven.

Then I asked them what they were looking for,
All under the leaves of life,
I am looking for sweet Jesus Christ,
To be our heavenly guide.

Go you down, go you down to yonder town,
As far as you can see,
And there you will find sweet Jesus Christ,
With his body nailed to a tree.

Dear mother, dear mother, do not weep for me,
Your weeping does me harm;
But John may be a comfort to you
When I am dead and gone.

There's a rose and a rose, a genteel rose,
The charm that grows so green,
God will give us grace in every mortal place
For to pray to our heavenly queen.

THE LEAVES OF LIFE
A SHROPSHIRE CAROL
Words, G. WALTERS

Music, ENGLISH TRADITIONAL
Arr., S. J. CLEOBURY

FIFTH LESSON

READER: THE MASTER OVER THE CHORISTERS

*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

ANGELUS ad virginem
Subintrans in conclave,
Virginis formidinem
Demulcens, inquit, Ave!
Ave Regina Virginum;
Coeli Terraeque Dominum
Concipies
Et paries
Intacta
Salutem hominum;
Tu porta coeli facta,
Medela Criminum.'

Quomodo conciperem
Quae virum non cognovi?
Qualiter infringerem
Quod firma mente vovi?
Spiritus Sancti gratia
Perficiet haec omnia;
Ne timeas,
Sed gaudeas,
Secura
Quod castimonia
Manebit in te pura
Dei potentia.'

Ad haec Virgo nobilis
Respondens inquit ei:
'Ancilla sum humilis
Omnipotentis Dei.
Tibi coelesti nuntio,
Tanti secreti conscio,
Consentiens,
Et cupiens
Videre
Factum quod audio;
Parata sum parere,
Dei consilio.'

Eia Mater Domini,
Quae pacem reddidisti
Angelis et homini,
Cum Christum genuisti;
Tuum exora Filium
Ut se nobis propitium
Exhibeat,
Et deleat
Peccata:
Praestans auxilium
Vita frui beata
Post hoc exilium.
Deo Gracias.

[TRANSLATION]

The angel softly entered the Virgin's chamber, and allaying her fear, said, 'Hail, queen of virgins; thou shalt conceive the Lord of heaven and earth and give virgin birth to mankind's Saviour; thou art made the portal of heaven, the balm of our sins.'

'How shall I conceive, who have known no man? How shall I break my mind's steady vow?' 'The grace of the Holy Spirit shall accomplish all; fear thou not, but rejoice and be sure that thy chaste purity will abide, through God's power.'

The noble Virgin said in answer to him, 'I am the lowly hand-maiden of the all-powerful God. My will is thine, heavenly messenger and keeper of such secrets: What I hear, I long to see completed, I am ready to give birth, according to God's plan.'

Ah, mother of our Lord, who restored peace to angels and man when thou conceivedst Christ, beseech thy Son, that he may show Himself merciful unto us and remove our sins. Thou providest help to enjoy the blessed life after this exile. Thanks be to God.

Words, 13TH CENTURY

Trans., C. BRUNELLE

Music, 14TH CENTURY

Oxford University Press

O TOUTE belle Vierge Marie,
Votre âme trouve en Dieu le parfait amour,
Il vous revêt du manteau de la Grâce
Comme une fiancée parée de ses bijoux.
Alleluia.

Je vais chanter ta louange, Seigneur,
Car tu as pris soin de moi,
Car tu m'as enveloppée du voile de l'innocence.

Vous êtes née avant les collines.
O sagesse de Dieu, Porte de Salut;
Heureux celui qui marche dans vos traces,
Qui apprête son coeur à la voix de vos conseils.
Alleluia.

Je vais chanter ta louange, Seigneur
Car tu m'as faite, avant le jour,
Car tu m'as fait précéder le jaillissement de sources.

Avant les astres, vous étiez présente
Mère du Créateur au profond du ciel;
Quand Dieu fixait les limites du monde
Vous partagiez son coeur étant à l'oeuvre avec lui.
Alleluia.

O toute belle Vierge Marie.

[TRANSLATION

*O most beautiful Virgin Mary,
Thy soul findeth in God the perfect love,
He clotheth thee in the mantle of Grace
Like a betrothed in her jewels.*

Alleluia.

*I will sing in praise of thee, Lord –
For thou hast taken care of me,
For thou hast enveloped me in the veil of innocence.*

*Thou wast born before the hills,
O wisdom of God, bring Salvation.
Happy he who walketh in thy steps,
Who attunes his heart to the voice of thy counsel.*

Alleluia.

*I will sing in praise of thee, Lord –
For thou madest me before the break of day,
Before the flowing of the rivers.*

*Before the stars thou wast present,
Mother of the Creator in the depths of the heavens,
When God fixed the limits of the world
Thou sharedst His heart and sharedst His work with Him.*

O most beautiful Virgin Mary.

HYMNE A LA VIERGE
Words, R. BOUHERET
Trans., ANONYMOUS
Music, P. VILLETTE
Durand

SIXTH LESSON

READER: A REPRESENTATIVE OF ETON COLLEGE

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

SLEEP little Jesus, my gentle dove,
Sleep dearest treasure and precious love.

Lulaj, lulaj, Lulajże Jezu.

Sleep little Lord Jesus, hush don't you cry,
Mary will comfort you with her lullaby.

Look down from Heaven all over this earth,
Bless us with happiness, goodwill and mirth.

Sleep little Lord Jesus, hush don't you cry,
Mary will comfort you with her lullaby.

SLEEP, LITTLE JESUS, SLEEP

POLISH TRADITIONAL

Words, trans., A. KASPSZCZAK

Arr., R. PANUFNIK

Alfred A. Kalmus

CAROL

JESU of a maiden Thou wast born
To save mankind that was forlorn
all for our sins.

Jesu fili virgine, misere' nobis.

Within a cradle he was laid;
Both ox and ass with him played
with joy and bliss.

Then for us he shed his blood,
And also died he on the rood.

And then to hell he took the way
To ransom them that there did lay
with joy and bliss.

MISERE' NOBIS
Words, A VERSION OF A MEDIAEVAL ENGLISH CAROL
Music, M-A. TURNAGE
Boosey & Hawkes

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

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

A WAY in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
I love thee Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay
Close by me for ever, and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
And fit us for heaven, to live with thee there.

Words, 19TH CENTURY
Music, W. J. KIRKPATRICK
Arr., D. V. WILLCOCKS
Oxford University Press

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, N. TATE

Music, ESTE’S PSALTER, 1592

Descant, S. J. CLEOBURY

Encore Publications

¶ **The congregation sits.**

EIGHTH LESSON

READER: A FELLOW

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

ST MATTHEW 2

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.

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

Trans., H. N. BATE

Music, P. CORNELIUS

Arr., I. A. ATKINS

Oxford University Press

CAROL

NOËL nouvelet, Noël chantons ici.
Dévotes gens, crions à Dieu merci!
Chantons Noël pour le roi nouvelet.
Noël nouvelet, Noël chantons ici.

L'ange disait: 'Pasteurs, partez d'ici,
L'âme en repos et le cœur réjouï;
En Bethléem trouverez l'agnelet.'
Noël nouvelet, Noël chantons ici.

En Bethléem, étant tous réunis,
Trouvent l'enfant, Joseph, Marie aussi.
La crèche était au lieu d'un bercelet,
Noël nouvelet, Noël chantons ici.

Bientôt les rois, par l'étoile éclaircis,
De l'Orient dont ils étaient sortis,
A Bethléem vinrent un matin.
Noël nouvelet, Noël chantons ici.

Voici mon Dieu, mon Sauveur Jésus Christ,
Par qui sera le prodige accompli
De nous sauver par son sang vermeillet!
Noël nouvelet, Noël chantons ici.

[TRANSLATION]

¶ The Congregation stands.

*Nowelling anew, this carol let us sing.
To all who pray may God His Mercy bring!
Sing we Nowell for our King newly-born.
Nowelling anew, this carol let us sing.*

*God's angel spoke: 'You shepherds, go and sing,
In joy and peace your heart and soul to bring
To Bethlehem, where God's own Lamb is born.'
Nowelling anew, this carol let us sing.*

*At Bethlehem, where all were gathering,
They stood around his manger worshipping,
And found the Babe of God and Mary born.
Nowelling anew, this carol let us sing.*

*Right soon the Kings, by starlight entering,
Came from the East to make their offering,
Reached Bethlehem one early winter's morn.
Nowelling anew, this carol let us sing.*

*Here lies my Lord, my Saviour Christ the King,
His promise now to us accomplishing,
With his red blood to save us he was born!
Nowelling anew, this carol let us sing.*

FRENCH TRADITIONAL
Trans., G. PEACOCKE
Arr., S. JACKSON
Novello

¶ 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
Arr., S. J. CLEOBURY

¶ **All remain standing.**

COLLECT & 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

May he who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, grant you the fullness of inward peace and goodwill; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

¶ **Sung by all, standing.**

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 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, S. J. CLEOBURY
Encore Publications

¶ 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.

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

In dulci jubilo BWV 729

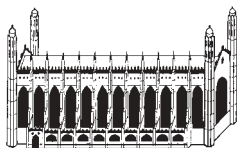
J. S. BACH

Recessional on 'In the Bleak Midwinter'

LIONEL STEUART FOTHRINGHAM

*This work has been commissioned by Oliver Brett
for today's service.*

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

For information about becoming a Supporter of King's College Chapel Foundation, or to make a donation, please contact:

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