

KING'S COLLEGE CHAPEL

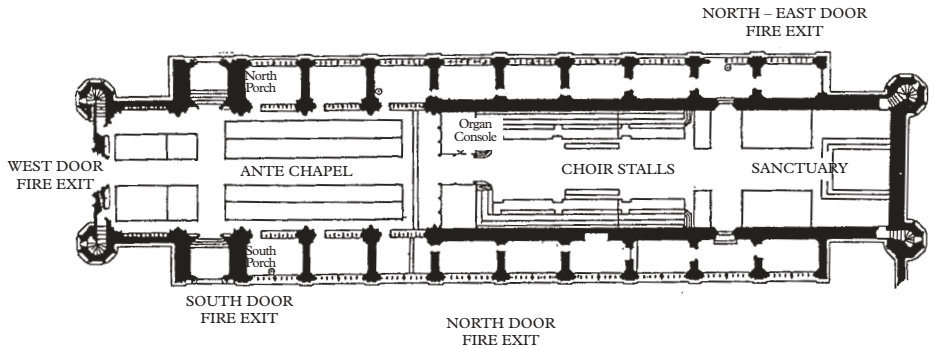


A FESTIVAL
OF NINE LESSONS
AND CAROLS

CHRISTMAS EVE

2008

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 need 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.

LIKE as the fountain of all light created
Doth pour out streams of brightness undefined
Through all the conduits of transparent kind
That heaven and air are both illuminated,
And yet his light is not thereby abated;
So God's eternal bounty ever shined
The beams of being, moving, life, sense, mind,
And to all things himself communicated.
But see the violent diffusive pleasure
Of goodness, that left not, till God had spent
Himself by giving us himself his treasure
In making man a God omnipotent.
How might this goodness draw our souls above
Which drew down God with such attractive Love.

INCARNATIO EST MAXIMUM DONUM DEI
WILLIAM ALABASTER



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 17 January 2009.

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

The Messiaen pieces are from *La Nativité du Seigneur*

Choral no. 1 in E FRANCK

Prelude and Fugue in C BWV 547 J. S. BACH

Vom Himmel hoch, da komm' ich her
BWV 738, 701 and 700 J. S. BACH

La Vierge et L'Enfant MESSIAEN

Sonata no. 4 in B flat MENDELSSOHN
Allegro con brio – Andante religioso –
Allegretto – Allegro maestoso e vivace

Les Mages MESSIAEN

Desseins Eternels 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

IF ye would hear the angels sing
'Peace on earth and mercy mild,'
Think of him who was once a child,
On Christmas Day in the morning.

If ye would hear the angels sing,
Rise, and spread your Christmas fare;
'Tis merrier still the more that share,
On Christmas Day in the morning.

Rise and bake your Christmas bread:
Christians rise! The world is bare,
And blank, and dark with want and care,
Yet Christmas comes in the morning.

If ye would hear the angels sing,
Christians! See ye let each door
Stand wider than it e'er stood before,
On Christmas Day in the morning.

Rise, and open wide the door;
Christians rise! The world is wide,
And many there be that stand outside,
Yet Christmas comes in the morning.

Words, D. GREENWELL
Music, P. TRANCHELL
Oxford University Press

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 the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee. 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

CAROL

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, B. ORD
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
Arranged, P. S. LEDGER
Oxford University Press

CAROL

IN *dulci júbilo,*
nun singet und seid froh!
Unsers Herzens Wonne liegt
in praesepio,
und leuchtet als die Sonne
matris in gremio.
Alpha es et O!

O Jesu parvule,
nach dir est mir so weh.
Tröst mir mein Gemüthe,
O Puer optime;
durch alle deine Güthe,
O Princeps Gloríae,
Trahe me post te!

O Patris caritas!
O Nati lenitas!
Wir wern all verlohren
per nostra crimina;
so hat er uns erworben
caelorum gaudia;
Eya, wern wir da!

Ubi sunt gaudia?
Nirgend mehr denn da,
da die Engel singen
nova cantica,
und die Schellen klingen
in Regis curia;
Eya, wern wir da!

[TRANSLATION]

*In sweet joy,
Now sing and be glad!
Our heart's delight lies
In the manger,
And shines like the sun
In the mother's lap.
Thou art Alpha and Omega!*

*O Jesus, little one,
My heart is sore for thee.
Console my spirit,
O Child so good;
Through all thy goodness,
O Prince of glory,
Lead me after thee!*

*O Father's goodness!
O new-born gentleness!
We would all be lost
Through our sins;
But He has gained for us
The joys of heaven:
O that we were there!*

*Where are these joys?
Nowhere but there,
Where the Angels sing
New songs,
And bells ring
In the court of the King;
O that we were there!*

Words, 14TH CENTURY GERMAN
Translators, VARIOUS
Music, H. PRAETORIUS
Mapa Mundi

THIRD LESSON

READER: A MEMBER OF COLLEGE 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.

CAROL

NOWELL sing ye now all and some,
For *Rex pacificus is come*.

In Bethlem in that fair city,
A child was born of a maiden free,
That shall a lord and prince be,
A solis ortus cardine.

Children were slain full great plenty,
Jesu, for love of thee;
Wherefore their soulës saved be,
Hostis Herodis impie.

As sunnë shineth through the glass,
So Jesu in his mother was;
Thee to serve now grant us grace,
O lux beata Trinitas.

Now God is comën to worshipën us;
Now of Mary is born Jesus;
Make we merry amongës us;
Exultet celum laudibus.

Words and Music, MEDIEVAL
Edited, J. STEVENS
Stainer & Bell

HYMN

¶ **Sung by all, standing.**

All **U**NTO us is born a Son,
King of quires supernal:
See on earth his life begun,
Of lords the Lord eternal.

All Christ, from heaven descending low,
Comes on earth a stranger;
Ox and ass their owner know,
Becradled in the manger.

All This did Herod sore affray,
And grievously bewilder
So he gave the word to slay,
And slew the little childer.

Choir Of his love and mercy mild
This the Christmas story;
And O that Mary's gentle child
Might lead us up to glory.

All O and A, and A and O,
Cum cantibus in choro,
Let our merry organ go,
Benedicamus Domino.

Words, 15TH CENTURY LATIN
Translated, G. R. WOODWARD
Music, PIAE CANTIONES
Arranged, D. V. WILLCOCKS
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.

CAROL

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

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

'THE LAMB'
Words, W. BLAKE
Music, J. TAVENER
Chester Music

CAROL

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 blessèd Babe she bare us
In a cold, cold winter's night.

¶ **The second verse is repeated.**

Words, 15TH CENTURY GERMAN

Translated, C. WINKWORTH

Music, H. HOWELLS

Stainer & Bell

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

ISING of a maiden
That is makéless¹
King of all kingés
To her son she ches.²

He came all so stillé
There his mother was,
As dew in Aprillé
That falleth on the grass.

He came all so stillé
To his mother's bowr,
As dew in Aprillé
That falleth on the flowr.

He came all so stillé
There his mother lay,
As dew in Aprillé
That falleth on the spray.

Mother and maiden
Was never none but she;
Well may such a lady
Godés mother be.

Words, XV CENTURY
Music, L. BERKELEY
Cambridge University Press

¹ matchless

² chose

CAROL

THE night when she first gave birth
Had been cold. But in later years
She quite forgot
The frost in the dingy beams and the smoking stove
And the spasms of the afterbirth at dawn.
But above all she forgot the bitter shame
Common among the poor
Of having no privacy.
That was why in later years it became a holiday for all.

The shepherds' coarse chatter fell silent.
Later they became the Kings of the story.
The wind, which was icy cold,
Turned into the song of angels.
Of the hole in the roof that let in the frost nothing was left
But the star that peeped through it.
All this was due to the vision of her son, who was very
Fond of singing.
He lived with the poor
And was in the habit of mixing with kings
And of seeing a star above his head at night-time.

'MARY'

Words, B. BRECHT

Translated, M. HAMBURGER

Music, D. MULDOWNEY

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

SIXTH LESSON

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

SWEET baby, sleep! What ails my dear?
What ails my darling thus to cry?
Be still, my child, and lend thine ear
To hear me sing thy lullaby.
My pretty lamb, forbear to weep;
Be still, my dear; sweet baby sleep.

When God with us was dwelling here,
In little babes he took delight:
Such innocents as thou, my dear,
Are ever precious in his sight.
Sweet baby, then, forbear to weep;
Be still, my babe; sweet baby, sleep.

A little infant once was he,
And strength in weakness then was laid
Upon his virgin mother's knee,
That power to thee might be conveyed.
Sweet baby, then, forbear to weep;
Be still, my babe; sweet baby, sleep.

The wants that he did then sustain
Have purchased wealth, my babe, for thee;
And by his torments and his pain
Thy rest and ease secured be.
My baby, then, forbear to weep;
Be still, my babe; sweet baby, sleep.

WITHER'S ROCKING HYMN
Words, G. WITHER
Music, R. VAUGHAN WILLIAMS
Oxford University Press

CAROL

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

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

We see him come, and know him ours,
Who, with his sunshine and his show'rs
Turns all the patient ground to flowers,
The darling of the world is come,
And fit it is, we find a room
To welcome him. The nobler part
Of all the house here, is the heart,
Which we will give him; and bequeath
This holly, and this ivy wreath,
To do him honour, who's our King,
And Lord of all this revelling.

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

Words, R. HERRICK

Music, J. RUTTER

Oxford University Press

*This carol was commissioned by the College for
the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols in 1987.*

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

INFANT holy, Infant lowly,
For his bed a cattle stall;
Oxen lowing, little knowing
Christ the Babe is Lord of all.
Swift are winging angels singing,
Nowells ringing, tidings bringing:
Christ the Babe is Lord of all.

Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping
Vigil till the morning new;
Saw the glory, heard the story,
Tidings of a gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow,
Praises voicing, greet the morrow:
Christ the babe was born for you.

POLISH TRADITIONAL
Words, translated E. M. G. REED
Music, arranged S. J. CLEOBURY

HYMN

¶ **Sung by all, standing.**

All **G**OD rest you merry, gentlemen,
 Let nothing you dismay,
 For Jesus Christ our Saviour
 Was born upon this day,
 To save us all from Satan's power
 When we were gone astray:
 O tidings of comfort and joy.

Choir From God our heavenly Father
 A blessèd angel came,
 And unto certain shepherds
 Brought tidings of the same,
 How that in Bethlehem was born:
 The Son of God by name:

All *O tidings of comfort and joy.*

All The shepherds at those tidings
 Rejoicèd much in mind,
 And left their flocks a-feeding
 In tempest, storm, and wind,
 And went to Bethlehem straightway
 This blessèd Babe to find:
 O tidings of comfort and joy.

Choir But when to Bethlehem they came,
 Whereat this infant lay,
 They found him in a manger,
 Where oxen feed on hay;
 His mother Mary kneeling
 Unto the Lord did pray:

All *O tidings of comfort and joy.*

All

Now to the Lord sing praises,
All you within this place,
And with true love and brotherhood
Each other now embrace;
This holy tide of Christmas
All others doth deface:
O tidings of comfort and joy.

ENGLISH TRADITIONAL
Arranged, D. V. WILLCOCKS
Oxford University Press

¶ **The congregation sits.**

EIGHTH LESSON

READER: THE VICE PROVOST

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

JERUSALEM rejos for joy:
Jesus, the sterne¹ of most bewte
in thee is rissin as richtous roy²,
fro dirkness to illumine thee.
With gloriis sound of angel gle
thy prince is borne in Baithlem
which sall thee mak of thraldome fre,
Illuminare Jerusalem.

With angellis licht in legionis
thou art illumynit all about.
Thre kingis of strenge regionis
to thee ar cumin with lusty rout,
all drest with dyamantis,
reverst with gold in every hem.
Sounding attonis³ with a schout,

The regeand tarrant that in thee rang,
Herod, is exilit and his offspring,
The land of Juda that josit⁴ wrang,
And rissin is now thy richtous king.
So he so mychtie is and ding⁵,
when men his gloriis name dois nem,
hevin erd and hell makis inclining.

ILLUMINARE JERUSALEM

Words, Bannatyne MS in

A Choice of Scottish Verse 1470–1570

Edited, MacQueen, *Faber*, adapted

Music, J. WEIR

Novello

***This carol was commissioned by the College for
the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols in 1985.***

¹ star

² king

³ at once, altogether

⁴ held, harboured

⁵ worthy

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 blessed babe divine.

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

Words, 17TH CENTURY
Music, A. BULLARD
Oxford University Press

¶ **The congregation stands.**

NINTH LESSON

READER: THE PROVOST

*St John unfolds the great mystery of the
Incarnation.*

ST JOHN I

IN the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the light, that all men through him might believe. He was not that light, but was sent to bear witness of that light. That was the true light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: 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.**

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
Translated, F. OAKELEY
Melody, J. F. WADE
Arranged, S. J. 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 things 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.**

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

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

In dulci jubilo BWV 729

J.S. BACH

Dieu parmi nous

MESSIAEN

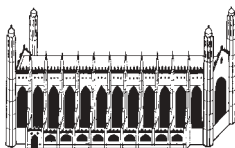
¶ All remain standing during the first organ voluntary, which is being broadcast. After this the Choir and Clergy are followed out in order by the stewards, the Provost, the Mayoral party, the Vice-Provost, and Fellows of the College, with their guests.

¶ 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

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

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Dean
THE REVD IAN THOMPSON

Director of Music
STEPHEN CLEOBURY

Chaplain
THE REVD RICHARD LLOYD MORGAN

Organ Scholar
PETER STEVENS



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