

*The Collegiate Church of the Holy Cross  
and the Mother of Him who hung thereon*

*A FESTIVAL of*  
**NINE LESSONS & CAROLS**



*Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2010*

# Introduction

*Welcome to the Collegiate Church of the Holy Cross. This festival service is based on the Service of Nine Lessons and Carols, first drawn up in 1880 by Edward Benson when Bishop of Truro, for use in that Cathedral. Later the Order was adapted for the Chapel of King's College, Cambridge in 1918 by the then Dean, Eric Milner-White, who wrote the bidding prayer which begins the service.*

*The service will proceed without announcement. Please stand to sing the congregational carols and sit for the choir carols and readings.*

*Organ music before the service:*

Introduction et variations sur un ancien Noël

*Alexandre Guilmant (1837–1911)*

Noël sur les Flûtes (Melodies Lorraines)

*Louis-Claude Daquin (1694–1772)*

# Order of Service

*The congregation stands as the choir and clergy process to the west end of the Church for the start of the service.*

**HYMN**                    **No. 34: Once in Royal David's City**  
(verses 1 and 2 sung by choir alone)

*The Rector leads the BIDDING PRAYER and the LORD'S PRAYER.*

**Our Father, which art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
Thy kingdom come; thy will be done;  
in earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive them that trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil;  
for thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Priest                    May the humility of the shepherds, the faith of the wise men, the joy of the angels, and the peace of the Christ Child, be God's gift to us and to all people, this Christmas and always.

**All**                        **Amen.**

1<sup>st</sup> LESSON            Genesis 3: 8–15 God announces that the seed of woman shall bruise the serpent's head.

**HYMN**

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:  
Come and worship,  
Come and worship,  
Worship Christ, the newborn King!

Shepherds, in the fields abiding,  
Watching o'er your flocks by night,  
God with man is now residing,  
Yonder shines the infant Light;  
Come and worship,  
Come and worship,  
Worship Christ, the newborn King!

Sages, leave your contemplations,  
Brighter visions beam afar;  
Seek the great desire of nations,  
Ye have seen His natal star;  
Come and worship,  
Come and worship,  
Worship Christ, the newborn King!

Saints before the altar bending,  
Watching long in hope and fear,  
Suddenly the Lord, descending,  
In His temple shall appear:  
Come and worship,  
Come and worship,  
Worship Christ, the newborn King!

*James Montgomery (1771–1854)*

**2<sup>nd</sup> LESSON**

Isaiah 9: 2–7 The prophet foretells the coming of the Saviour.

CHOIR

I saw a fair maiden  
Sitten and sing:  
She lulléd a little child,  
A sweeté lording.

*Lullay my liking,  
My dear son, my sweeting;  
Lullay my dear heart,  
Mine own dear darling*

That eternal lord is he  
That made allé thing;  
Of allé lordés he is Lord  
Of allé kinges King.

There was mickle melody  
At that childés birth:  
Though the songsters were heavenly  
They madé mickle mirth.

Angels bright they sang that night  
And saiden to that child,  
'Blessed be thou and so be she  
That is both meek and mild.'

Pray we now to that child,  
And to his mother dear,  
God grant them all his blessing  
That now maken cheer.

Traditional (15<sup>th</sup> Century)  
*Gustav Holst (1874–1934)*

3<sup>rd</sup> LESSON

Isaiah 11: 1– 9 Christ's peace is foreshown.

CHOIR

*There is a flow'r sprung of a tree, The root there of is callèd Jesse,  
A flow'r of price; There is none such in paradise.*

This flow'r is fair and fresh of hue.  
It fadeth never, but ever is new;  
The blessed branch this flow'r on grew  
Was Mary mild that bare Jesu;  
A flow'r of grace;  
Against all sorrow it is solace.

The seed here of was Goddes sand,  
That God himself sowed with his hand,  
In Nazareth that holy land,  
Amidst her arbour a maiden found;  
This blessed flow'r  
Sprang never but in Mary's bower.

When Gabriel this maid did meet,  
With 'Ave Maria' he did her greet;  
Between them two this flow'r was set  
And safe was kept, no man should wit,  
Till on a day In Bethlehem  
it could spread and spray.

When that fair flow'r began to spread  
And his sweet blossom began to bed (bud),  
Then rich and poor of ev'ry land  
Marvelled how this flow'r might spread.  
Till kinges three  
That blessed flower came to see.  
Alleluia.

*There is a flow'r sprung of a tree, The root there of is callèd Jesse,  
A flow'r of price; There is none such in paradise.*

John Audelay (15<sup>th</sup> Century)  
*John Rutter (b. 1945)*

4<sup>th</sup> LESSON

Micah 5: 2–4 The prophet foretells the glory of Bethlehem.

CHOIR

Girls and boys—leave your toys—make no noise,  
Kneel at His crib and worship Him.  
At thy shrine—child divine—we are thine,  
Our Savior's here.

*'Hallelujah' the church bells ring,  
'Hallelujah' the angels sing,  
'Hallelujah' from everything,*

All must draw near.

On that day—far away —Jesus lay,  
Angels were watching 'round his head,  
Holy Child—Mother mild—Undefined,  
We sing thy praise. *Chorus*  
Our hearts we raise.

Shepherds came—at the fame—of thy name,  
Angels their guide to Bethlehem,  
In that place —Filled with grace—Saw thy face,  
Stood at they door. *Chorus*  
Love evermore.

Wise men too—haste to do—homage new,  
Gold, myrrh and frankincense they bring,  
As 'twas said—Starlight led—To thy bed,  
Bending their knee. *Chorus*  
Worshipping thee.

Oh, that we—all might be—good as He,  
Spotless, with God in unity,  
Savior dear—ever near—with us here,  
Since life began. *Chorus*  
God head made man.

Cherubim—Seraphim—worship Him  
Sun, moon and stars proclaim His power  
Every day—on our way—we shall say, Hallelujah!

Traditional Czech Carol  
*Arranged by Malcolm Sargent (1895–1967)*

**HYMN No. 32 O Little Town of Bethlehem**  
(verse 3 Choir only, omit verse 4)

5<sup>th</sup> LESSON Luke 1: 26–38. The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.

CHOIR In dulci júbilo  
Let us our homage show;  
Our heart' joy reclineth  
In praesepio,  
And like a bright star shineth  
Matris in gremio;  
Alpha es et O.

O Jesu parvule,  
My heart is sore for Thee;  
Hear me, I beseech Thee,  
O Puer optime;  
My prayer let it reach Thee,  
O Princeps gloriae;  
Trahe me post te.

O Patris caritas!  
O Nati lenitas!  
Deeply we were stained  
Per nostra crimina;  
But Thou for us hast gained  
Caelorum gaudia:  
Oh, that we were there!

Old German Carol

*Arranged by Robert Lucas de Pearsall (1795–1856)*

6<sup>th</sup> LESSON Luke 2: 1–7 St. Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.

CHOIR

*Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell.*

Who is there that singeth so, Nowell, nowell, nowell?

‘I am here, Sir Christèmas.’

Welcome, my lord Sir Christèmas!

Welcome to all, both more and less,

Come near, *Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell.*

*Dieu vous garde, beaux sieurs,* tidings I you bring:

A maid hath borne a child full young,

The which causeth you to sing,

*Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell.*

Christ is now born of a pure maid,

In an ox-stall he is laid,

Whereof sing we alle at a brayde,

*Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell.*

Buvez bien, par toute la compagnie.

Make good cheer and be right merry,

And sing with us now joyfully,

*Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell.*

Words anon. (c. 1500)

*William Matthias (1934–1992)*

**HYMN 29**

**It came upon a midnight clear**

7<sup>th</sup> LESSON

Luke 2: 8–20 The shepherds go to the manger.

CHOIR

Away in a manger,

No crib for His 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.

Be near me, Lord Jesus,

I ask Thee to stay

Close by me forever

And love me I pray

Bless all the dear children

In Thy tender care

And take us to heaven

To live with Thee there

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,  
'Til morning is nigh.

Traditional Normandy tune  
*arranged by Reginald Jacques (1894 –1969)*

HYMN 36            The First Nowel

8<sup>th</sup> LESSON        Matthew 2: 1–11    The wise men are led by the star to Jesus

CHOIR              Shepherds, rise look up and see  
New light yonder breaking,  
Brighter than the noonday sun,  
All your sheep awaking.  
Wonder, whisper, 'Ah, Noe!'  
Christ is born this holy day!

*He is come to you, Lowly shepherds, true!*  
*He is come unto you,*  
*Morning Star and New Day!*  
*Wonder, whisper, 'Ah, Noe!'*

Shepherds, turn your eyes and see,  
In the manger sleeping,  
Prince of Peace and Heav'nly King,  
In His mother's keeping.  
Worship Him who brings Noe,  
He who turns the night to day!

Shepherds, look about and see  
In the darkness pining  
All God's children long to hear  
Of the new Light shining.  
Witness of the true Noe!

Share glad tidings of this day!  
Witness of the true Noe!  
Shepherds, run to us and see,  
Here we are awaiting thee.  
Let your voices ring for 'aye  
Christ is born! Noe! Noe! Noe!

French carol from *Les Noëls Bressans*  
*Translated by David Warner and arranged by Mack Wilberg (b. 1955)*

*Please stand.*

9<sup>th</sup> LESSON      John 1: 1–14. St. John unfolds the mystery of the Incarnation

**HYMN 30**      **O come, all ye faithful** (omit verse 7) *The collection is taken.*

*THE PRAYERS*      *(Please remain standing)*

Priest              The Lord be with you  
**All**                    **and with thy spirit.**

Priest              Let us pray.  
Holy Jesus, to deliver us from the power of darkness  
you humbled yourself to be born among us  
and laid in a manger.  
Let the light of your love always shine in our hearts,  
and bring us at last to the joyful vision of your beauty;  
for you are now alive and reign  
with the Father and the Holy Spirit,  
one God for ever and ever.

**All**                    **Amen.**

Priest              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 Ghost, one God, world without end.

**All**                    **Amen.**

## *THE BLESSING*

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

All                **Amen.**

**HYMN 26        Hark! The herald angels sing** (omit verse 4)

## *ORGAN VOLUNTARY*

Toccata in G  
*Théodore Dubois (1837–1924)*

## HOLY CROSS CHOIR

The Director of Music, Steven Martin is always pleased to receive enquiries from potential members of the choir. We take both boys and girls aged 7 upwards, as well as adults.

Choral and organ scholarships are also available.

Please telephone 01884 257881

or email: [Stevenemartin@gmail.com](mailto:Stevenemartin@gmail.com), for further information.