

Christ Church  North Adelaide



**A FESTIVAL
OF NINE LESSONS
AND CAROLS**

Sunday 18 December 2016

Celebrant: The Reverend Keith Brice

Organist: Andrew Georg

Trumpet: David Khafagi

Choristers of Christ Church

HEARING AID USERS

This church is fitted with a hearing aid loop (Tele coil system). If your hearing aid is fitted with a tele coil setting you may wish to try this feature.

ORDER OF SERVICE

All stand as the hymn begins

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Once in Royal David's City

Treble Solo:

Once in royal David's city
stood a lowly cattle shed,
where a mother laid her baby
in a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little child.

Choir:

2. 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:

3. 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:

4. 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:

5. 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:

6. 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;
where like stars his children crowned
all in white shall wait around.

Music: IRBY Melody Henry J. Gauntlett (1805-1876), harmonised Arthur H. Mann (1850-1929),
last verse David Willcocks (1919-2015)
Text: Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-1895)

THE BIDDING PRAYER

BELOVED IN CHRIST, be it this coming Christmas-tide 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 Church 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 Church and City of Adelaide:

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, 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.

All sit

CAROL
Choir: In dulci jubilo

In dulci jubilo [In sweet jubilation]
Now sing with hearts aglow!
Our delight and pleasure
Lies in praesepio, [in a manger]
Like sunshine is our treasure
Matris in gremio. [in his mother's lap]
Alpha es et O! [Thou art Alpha and Omega]

O Jesu, parvule, [O tiny Jesus]
For thee I long alway;
Comfort my heart's blindness,
O puer optime, [O best of boys]
With all thy loving-kindness,
O princeps gloriae. [O prince of glory]
Trahe me post te! [Draw me after thee]

Ubi sunt gaudia [Where are joys]
In any place but there?
There are angels singing
Nova cantica, [new songs]
And there the bells are ringing
In Regis curia. [in the King's court]
O that we were there!

*Music: German, 14th century. Harmonised Bartholomew Gesius
(b.1555-62, d.1613) and Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)
Text: 14th century German/Latin macaronic carol, attrib. to
Heinrich Suso (c.1295-1366). Trans. S.P.*

THE FIRST LESSON
Genesis 3, vv 8-15, 17-19

CAROL
A Virgin Most Pure

A virgin most pure, as the prophets do tell,
Hath brought forth a baby, as it hath befell,
To be our Redeemer, from death, hell, and sin,
Which Adam's transgression hath wrapped us in.

*Aye and therefore be merry, rejoice and be you merry,
Set sorrow aside;
Christ Jesus our Saviour was born on this tide.*

At Bethlem in Jewry a city there was,
Where Joseph and Mary together did pass,
And there to be taxed with many one more,
For Caesar commanded the same should be so. *[Refrain]*

But when they had entered the city so fair,
A number of people so mighty was there
That Joseph and Mary, whose substance was small,
Could find in the inn no lodging at all. *[Refrain]*

Then were they constrained in a stable to lie,
Where horses and asses they used for to tie;
Their lodging so simple they took it no scorn,
But against the next morning our Saviour was born. *[Refrain]*

Music: *English traditional*, arr. *Martin Shaw (1875-1958)*
Text: *English traditional*

THE SECOND LESSON
Genesis 22, vv 15-18

All stand

HYMN

Ding dong! Merrily on high

Ding dong! Merrily on high
In heav'n the bells are ringing:
Ding dong! Verily the sky
Is riv'n with angel-singing.

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

E'en so here below, below,
Let steeple bells be swungen,
And i-o, i-o, i-o,
By priest and people sungen.
[Refrain]

Pray ye dutifully prime
Your matin chime, ye ringers;
May ye beautifully rime
Your eve-time song, ye singers.
[Refrain]

Music: Branle de l'official 16th century French, harm. Edward Stauff
Text: George Ratcliffe Woodward (1848-1934)

All sit

THE THIRD LESSON

Isaiah 9, vv 2, 6, 7

CAROL

In splendoribus sanctorum

In splendoribus sanctorum, ex utero, ante luciferum, genui te.

Amidst the splendours of the heavenly sanctuary, from the womb, before the morning star, I have begotten you.

Music: James MacMillan (b.1959) from 'The Strathclyde Motets'
Text: Psalm 110:3 (Trans: Gregorian Missal)

THE FOURTH LESSON

Isaiah II, vv 1-3a, 4a, 6-9

All stand

HYMN

It came upon the midnight clear

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 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.

Music: NOEL *English traditional*,
adapted Arthur Sullivan (1842-1900)
Text: Edmund Sears (1810-1876)

All sit

THE FIFTH LESSON

Luke 1, vv 26-35, 38

CAROL

Resonemus laudibus

Resonemus laudibus cum jocunditatibus ecclesiam fidelibus.
Let us make the church resound with the joyful praises of the faithful.

[Refrain:] Apparuit quem genuit Maria.
He whom Mary bore has appeared.

Deus fecit hominem ad suam imaginem et similitudinem.
God made man in his own image and likeness. [Refrain]

Deus fecit omnia caelum, terram, maria cunctaque nascentia.
God made all things, heaven, earth, the seas and all creation. [Refrain]

Ergo nostra concio in chordis et organo benedicat Domino.
Therefore let our congregation praise God with strings and organ. [Refrain]

Et Deo qui venias donat et laetities nos eidem gratias.
And to God, who gives favours and happiness, we give thanks. [Refrain]

Music: 14th century carol, arr. David Willcocks
Text: 14th century carol, transcribed Frank Harrison (1905-1987)

THE SIXTH LESSON

Luke 2, vv 1, 3-7

All stand

HYMN

O little town of Bethlehem

O little town of Bethlehem
how still we see thee lie!
above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by:
yet in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting Light;
the hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee to-night.

O morning stars, together
proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the King,
and peace to men on earth.
For Christ is born of Mary;
and, gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wondering love.

How silently, how silently,
the wondrous gift is given!
so God imparts to human hearts
the blessings of his heaven.
No ear may hear his coming;
but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him, still
the dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem,
descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin, and enter in:
be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
the great glad tidings tell:
O come to us, abide with us,
our Lord Emmanuel.

Music: FOREST GREEN *English traditional*,
harm. *Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)*
Text: *Phillips Brooks (1835-1893)*

All sit

THE SEVENTH LESSON

Luke 2, vv 8-16

CAROL

Lullaby

O little baby, mild and meek,
Lord Jesus Christ for whom we seek:
Here in the manger now we find
Our God enfleshed in humankind.

Though very God of very God,
As human in our footsteps trod,
And grasping not that life divine,
Emptied himself, our souls, our lives to find.

And humble now in human form,
Became a slave with mortal term,
Bowed low beneath the sting of death
And was entombed in the earth.

The cross through him its shame has lost,
His blood, salvation without cost,
And he was raised to take his throne:
A Name above all names and crowns.

So little baby, meek and mild,
We bend the knee to you, God's Child,
We take you in our arms, and pray
Your grace within our hearts to stay.

Music: *Keren Terpstra (b.1978)*

Text: *Keren Terpstra, based on Philippians 2:5-11*

THE EIGHTH LESSON

Matthew 2, vv 1-12

All stand

HYMN

We three kings of Orient are

We three kings of Orient are,
bearing gifts we traverse afar
field and fountain,
moor and mountain,
following yonder star:

(Refrain:)

*O star of wonder, star of night,
star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding,
guide us to thy perfect light.*

Born a king on Bethlehem plain,
gold I bring to crown him again,
king for ever,
ceasing never
over us all to reign: *Refrain*

Frankincense to offer have I,
incense owns a deity nigh;
prayer and praising,
all men raising,
worship him, God most High: *Refrain*

Myrrh is mine, its bitter perfume
breathes a life of gathering gloom;
sorrowing, sighing,
bleeding, dying,
sealed in the stone-cold tomb. *Refrain*

Glorious now behold him arise,
King and God and sacrifice.

Heaven sings:

“Alleluia”;

“Alleluia,” the earth replies. *Refrain*

Music: THREE KINGS OF ORIENT J. H. Hopkins (1820-1891)

Text: J. H. Hopkins

All sit

THE NINTH LESSON

John 1, vv 1-14

All stand

HYMN

O Come, All Ye Faithful

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.

Refrain

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

Refrain

Music: ADESTE FIDELES Melody probably by John F. Ward (1711-1786)

Text: 18th century Latin, trans. Frederick Oakeley (1802-1880) and others

COLLECT AND BLESSING

The Priest

The Lord be with you.

All

And with thy spirit.

The Priest

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 Ghost, one God, world without end.

Amen.

The Priest

May he who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with the sweetness 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.

Amen.

All stand

HYMN

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

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.

Hark, the herald angels sing
glory to the new-born King.

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.

Hark, the herald angels sing
glory to the new-born King.

Music: MENDELSSOHN *Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)*, arr. *David Willcocks*
Text: *Charles Wesley (1707-1788)* and others

Remain standing as the Choir and Clergy depart in procession.

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