

All Saints Margaret Street

Nine Lessons and Carols, 6pm

Please do take this leaflet away with you.

There will a collection during the final hymn.

*Alternatively you can tap your debit or credit card
on the machine near the door.*

*Candles are lit during the Chorale Prelude
and are extinguished after the final Gospel reading.*

CHORALE PRELUDE

Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme, BWV 645

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Please stand when the bell rings.

ENTRANCE HYMN

(v6 descant—Willcocks)

Choir only

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.

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.**

**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.**

**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.**

**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.**

INTRODUCTION

My brothers and sisters: in the name of Christ I welcome you. We have come together as Christmas draws near to prepare for our celebration of the birth of God's beloved Son. Through the days of Advent we have followed the light of Christ, and now we travel in spirit with Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem to acclaim with the multitude of the heavenly host the coming of the Prince of Peace. Through Scripture and silence, prayer and song, let us hear again the wonderful story of our redemption, and, hearing, let us rejoice and respond with lively faith.

CHOIR

Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

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

The first thing which I do relate,
Is That God did man create
The next thing which to you I tell,
Woman was made with man to dwell.

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

But they did eat, which was a sin,
And thus their ruin did begin –
Ruin'd themselves, both you and me,
And all of their posterity.

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

FIRST LESSON: *Genesis 3.8-14* The Fall

CHOIR:

Ord (1897-1961)

Adam 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 clerkes finden
Written in their book.

Ne had the apple taken been,
The apple taken been,
Ne had never Our Lady,
A-been heavené queen.

Blessed be the time
That apple taken was!
Therefore we moun singen
Deo gratias!

SECOND LESSON: *Genesis 22.15-18* The Promise to Abraham

CHOIR: *Susanni*

Traditional German

A little child there is yborn, *Eia, Eia, susanni, susanni, susanni,*
And he sprang out of Jesse's thorn *Alleluia, Alleluia,*
To save all us that were forlore.

Jesus is the childes name, *Eia, Eia, susanni, susanni, susanni,*
Mary mild she is his dame, *Alleluia, Alleluia,*
And so our sorrow is turned to game.

It fell upon the high midnight, *Eia, Eia, susanni, susanni, susanni,*
The stars they shone both fair and bright, *Alleluia, Alleluia,*
The angels sang with all their might.

Now sit we down upon our knee, *Eia, Eia, susanni, susanni, susanni,*
And pray we to the Trinity *Alleluia, Alleluia,*
Our help, our succour for to be.

THIRD LESSON: *Isaiah 9.2, 6-7*
The Prophecy of the Messiah's birth

HYMN

(v5 descant - Willcocks)

**God 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, comfort and joy!
*O tidings of comfort and joy!***

From God our heavenly Father
A blessed angel came,
And unto certain shepherds
Brought tidings of the same,
How that in Bethlehem was born
The Son of God by name:
O tidings of comfort and joy...

The Shepherds at those tidings
Rejoiced much in mind,
And left their flocks a-feeding
In tempest, storm and wind,
And went to Bethlehem straightway
This blessed babe to find:
O tidings of comfort and joy....

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:
O tidings of comfort and joy....

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,
Comfort and joy!
O tidings of comfort and joy!*

FOURTH LESSON: *Isaiah 11.1-9*
The Prophecy of the Messiah's kingdom of peace

CHOIR

Bennett (1936-2012)

Out of your sleep arise and wake,
For God mankind now hath ytake.
All of a maid without any make:
Of all women she beareth the bell.

And through a maide fair and wise,
Now man is made of full great price:
Now angels knelen to man's service,
An at this time all this befell.

Now man is brighter than the sun:
Now man in heav'n on high shall won:
Blessed be God this game is begun
And his mother the Empress of hell.

That ever was thrall now is he free:
That ever was small now great is she:
Now shall God deem be thee and me
Unto this bliss if we do well.

Now man he may to heaven wend:
Now heav'n and earth to him they bend.
He that was foe now is our friend.
This is no nay that I you tell.

Now blessed Brother grant us grace,
At doomes day to see the face,
And in thy court to have a place,
That we may there sing thee nowell.

FIFTH LESSON: *Luke 1.26-38* The Annunciation to Mary

CHOIR

Philip Moore (b 1943)

Lo! That is a marvellous change in the life of men.
Since the mild creator of all mankind
From the virgin received flesh undefiled
Never had she known the love of man
Nor came the Saviour by any seed of seed on earth
That was greater marvel than men may know in its mystery
How the splendour of heaven, high Lord of the skies
Gave help to man
Through his mother's womb.

SIXTH LESSON: *Matthew 1.18-23*

The birth of Emmanuel

CHOIR

Gardner (1917-2011)

Tomorrow shall be my dancing day:
I would my true love did so chance
to see the legend of my play,
to call my true love to my dance:
Sing, O my love, O my love, my love, my love;
this have I done for my true love.

Then I was born of a virgin pure,
of her I took fleshly substance;
thus was I knit to man's nature,
to call my true love to my dance:
Sing, O my love...

In a manger laid and wrapped I was,
so very poor this was my chance,
betwixt an ox and a silly poor ass,
to call my true love to my dance:
Sing, O my love...

Then afterwards baptized I was;
the Holy Ghost on me did glance,
my Father's voice heard from above,
to call my true love to my dance:
Sing, O my love...

SEVENTH LESSON: *Luke 2.8 - 16*
The shepherds go to the manger

HYMN:

(v3 descant - Willcocks)

**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.*

EIGHTH LESSON: *Matthew 2.1-11*
The Magi are led by the star to Jesus

HYMN

A great and mighty wonder,
A full and holy cure!
The Virgin bears the Infant
With virgin-honour pure:
*Repeat the hymn again:
'To God on high be glory,
and peace on earth to men.'*

The Word becomes incarnate,
And yet remains on high!
And Cherubim sing anthems
To shepherds from the sky. *Repeat the hymn again...*

While thus they sing your Monarch,
Those bright angelic bands,
Rejoice, ye vales and mountains,
Ye oceans, clap your hands. *Repeat the hymn again...*

Since all he comes to ransom,
By all be he adored,
The Infant born in Bethl'em,
The Saviour and the Lord. *Repeat the hymn again...*

And idol forms shall perish,
And error shall decay,
And Christ shall wield his sceptre,
Our Lord and God for ay. *Repeat the hymn again...*

NINTH LESSON: *John 1.1-14*

The Incarnation of the Word of God

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

Glory be to thee, O Lord.

At the end of the Gospel:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to thee, O Christ.

Please extinguish candles.

A collection will be taken during the following hymn.

HYMN:

(v5 descant -Willcocks)

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: *O come...*

See how the Shepherds
Summoned to his cradle,
Leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear;
We too will thither
Bend our joyful footsteps: *O come...*

Child, for us sinners
Poor and in the manger,
Fain we embrace thee, with awe and love,
Who would not love thee,
Loving us so dearly? *O come...*

Sing, choirs of Angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
Glory to God
In the Highest: *O come...*

COLLECT

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 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.
Amen.

BLESSING

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Christ, who by his incarnation
gathered into one things earthly and heavenly,
fill you with 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 among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

THE DISMISSAL

Go in the peace of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

VOLUNTARY *Carillon-Sortie*

Mulet (1878-1967)

Please join us for mulled wine and mince pies after the service.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES 2021



Friday 24 December

11pm **MIDNIGHT MASS**

Haydn Missa Sancti Nicolai

Saturday 25 December

11am **CHRISTMAS DAY HIGH MASS**

Mozart Missa Brevis in D K194

Thursday 6 January 2022

6pm **EPIPHANY HIGH MASS**

Sunday 9 January

6pm **EPIPHANY CAROL SERVICE and
BENEDICTION**