



Choir Choir Here is the little door

Howells

Here is the little door,
lift up the latch, oh lift!
We need not wander more,
but enter with our gift;
Our gift of finest gold.
Gold that was never bought or sold;
Myrrh to be strewn about his bed;
Incense in clouds about his head;
All for the child that stirs not in his sleep,
But holy slumber hold with ass and sheep.

Bend low about his bed,
For each he has a gift;
See how his eyes awake,
Lift up your hands, O lift!
For gold, he gives a keen-edged sword.
(Defend with it thy little Lord!)
For incense, smoke of battle red,
Myrrh for the honored happy dead;
Gifts for his children, terrible and sweet;
Touched by such tiny hands,
and Oh such tiny feet.

Please stand

Carol Brightest and best

**Brightest and best of the suns of the morning,
dawn on our darkness and lend us thine aid;
star of the east, the horizon adorning,
guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.**

**Cold on his cradle the dew-drops are shining;
low lies his head with the beasts of the stall;
angels adore him in slumber reclining,
Maker and Monarch and Saviour of all.**

**Say, shall we yield him, in costly devotion,
odours of Edom, and off'rings divine,
gems of the mountain, and pearls of the ocean,
myrrh from the forest, or gold from the mine?**

**Vainly we offer each humble oblation,
vainly with gifts would his favour secure:
richer by far is the heart's adoration,
dearer to God are the prayers of the poor.**

Please remain standing

Bidding Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come; thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who 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.**

Please sit

Choir Nunc dimittis

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant
depart in peace:
according to thy word.
For mine eyes have seen thy salvation,
which thou hast prepared:
before the face of all people;
to be a light to lighten the Gentiles:
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son:
and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now,
and ever shall be:
world without end. Amen.

First Reading

Isaiah prophesies salvation for the whole world

Please stand

Carol Hail to the Lord's anointed

**Hail to the Lord's anointed,
great David's greater son!
Hail, in the time appointed,
his reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression,
to set the captive free;
to take away transgression,
and rule in equity.**

**He comes, with succour speedy,
to those who suffer wrong;
to help the poor and needy,
and bid the weak be strong;
to give them songs for sighing,
their darkness turn to light,
whose souls, condemned and dying,
were precious in his sight.**

Noble in B Minor

Isaiah 49: 1-7

Bron Ferland

**He shall come down like showers
upon the fruitful earth,
and love, joy, hope, like flowers,
spring in his path to birth:
before him on the mountains
shall peace the herald go;
and righteousness, in fountains
from hill to valley flow.**

**Kings shall fall down before him,
and gold and incense bring;
all nations shall adore him,
his praise all people sing;
to him shall prayer unceasing
and daily vows ascend;
his kingdom still increasing,
a kingdom without end.**

**O'er ev'ry foe victorious,
he on his throne shall rest,
from age to age more glorious,
all-blessing and all-blest;
the tide of time shall never
his covenant remove;
his name shall stand for ever;
that name to us is love.**

Please sit

Second Reading

The wise men visit the new-born king

Matthew 2: 1-12

Rufus Barnes

Choir Choir Lo! Star-Led Chiefs

Crotch

Lo! star-led chiefs Assyrian odours bring,
And bending Magi seek their infant King!
Mark'd ye, where, hovering o'er His radiant head,
The dove's white wings celestial glory shed?

Please stand

Carol We three kings

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

***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.**

O star of wonder, star of night...

**Frankincense to offer have I,
incense owns a Deity nigh,
prayer and praising, gladly raising,
worship him, God most high.**

O star of wonder, star of night...

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

O star of wonder, star of night....

**Glorious now behold him arise,
King and God and sacrifice;
alleluia, alleluia,
earth to heav'n replies.**

O star of wonder, star of night....

Please sit

Third Reading

John baptises Jesus in the River Jordan

Matthew 3:13-17

Bill Rose

Choir Tribus miraculis

Moles

*Tribus miraculis ornatum
diem sanctum colimus.*

Hodie stella Magos duxit ad praesepe:
Tribus miraculis ...

Hodie vinum ex aqua factum est ad nuptias.
Tribus miraculis ...

Hodie ad Joanne Christus baptizare voluit,
ut salvaret nos,
Tribus miraculis ...

Alleluia.

*[We honour (this) holy day,
adorned with three miracles:*

today the star led the Magi to the manger;

*today water was turned into wine
for the wedding;*

*today Christ desired
to be baptized in the Jordan,
that he might save us all.*

Alleluia.]

Fourth Reading

Jesus changes water into wine

John 2: 1-11

Patrick Li

Please stand

Carol Let all mortal flesh keep silence

Let all mortal flesh keep silence
and with fear and trembling stand;
ponder nothing earthly-minded,
for with blessing in his hand
Christ our God on earth descendeth,
our full homage to demand.

King of kings, yet born of Mary,
as of old on earth he stood,
Lord of lords, in human vesture,
in the body and the blood.
He will give to all the faithful
his own self for heav'nly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven
spreads its vanguard on the way,
as the Light of light descendeth
from the realms of endless day,
that the pow'rs of hell may vanish
as the darkness clears away.

At his feet the six-winged seraph;
cherubim, with sleepless eye,
veil their faces to the Presence,
as with ceaseless voice they cry,
alleluia, alleluia,
alleluia, Lord most high.

Please sit

Fifth Reading

St Paul tells us how the mysteries of
Christ's birth are revealed for everyone

Ephesians 3: 1-12

Gill Caswell

Choir O magnum mysterium

Lauridsen

O magnum mysterium
et admirabile sacramentum,
ut animalia viderent Dominum,
jacentem in praesepio.

Beata virgo, cuius viscera (meruerunt)
portare Dominum Christum.

Ave Maria gratia plena,
Dominus tecum.

*[O great mystery and wonderful sacrament,
that beasts should see the birth of our Lord,
lying in a manger.*

*O blessed virgin, whose womb was worthy
to bear Christ our Lord.*

*Hail, Mary, full of grace,
the Lord is with thee.]
Please stand*

Carol O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness

**O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;
bow down before him, his glory proclaim;
with gold of obedience and incense of lowliness,
kneel and adore him: the Lord is his name.**

**Low at his feet lay thy burden of carefulness:
high on his heart he will bear it for thee,
comfort thy sorrows, and answer thy prayerfulness,
guiding thy steps as may best for thee be.**

**Fear not to enter his courts in the slenderness
of the poor wealth thou wouldst reckon as thine:
truth in its beauty, and love in its tenderness,
these are the off'rings to lay on his shrine.**

These, though we bring them in trembling
and fearfulness,
he will accept for the name that is dear;
mornings of joy give for evenings of tearfulness,
trust for our trembling and hope for our fear.

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;
bow down before him, his glory proclaim;
with gold of obedience and incense of lowliness,
kneel and adore him: the Lord is his name

Please sit

Sixth Reading

St John's vision of the new
Jerusalem

Revelation 21:22 - 22.5

Rev'd Ella Harris

Choir How lovely are the messengers Mendelssohn

How lovely are the messengers that preach us the gospel
of peace.

To all the nations is gone forth the sound of their
words, throughout all the lands their glad tidings.

Please stand

Blessing

Carol As with gladness men of old

As with gladness men of old
did the guiding star behold;
as with joy they hailed its light,
leading onward, beaming bright;
So, most gracious Lord, may we
evermore be led to thee.

As with joyful steps they sped,
to that lowly manger-bed,
there to bend the knee before
him whom heav'n and earth adore,
so may we with willing feet
ever seek thy mercy-seat.

As their precious gifts they laid,
at the manger roughly made,
so may we with holy joy,
pure, and free from sin's alloy,
all our costliest treasures bring,
Christ to thee our heavn'ly King.

Holy Jesu, ev'ry day
keep us in the narrow way;
and, when earthly things are past,
bring our ransomed souls at last
where they need no star to guide
where no clouds thy glory hide.

In the heavn'ly country right
need they no created light,
thou its light its joy, its crown
thou its sun which goes not down
there for ever may we sing
alleluias to our King.

Recessional Organ Voluntary:

Light, Revealing

Grace-Evangeline Mason

Please remain standing while the clergy leave.

There will be a retiring collection in aid of church funds.

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