

A Service of Carols for Epiphany 28th January 2024 at 6.30pm

Choir Tribus miraculis Moles

Tribus miraculis ornatum diem sanctum colimus.

Hodie stella Magos duxit ad praesepium: 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.]

Please stand

Carol Brightest and best

Brightest and best of the sons 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.

Brightest and best of the sons 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.

Reginald Heber (1783-1826)

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.

Please sit

Choir Nunc dimittis

Beach

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen, have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast openly prepared before, before the face, the face of all people. To be a light to lighten the Gentiles, and a glory for Thy people Israel. Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace.

First Reading

Isaiah prophesies salvation for the whole world

Isaiah 49: 1-7
Bron Ferland

Please stand

Carol

Hail to the Lord's anointed Songs of thankfulness and praise, Jesus, Lord to thee we raise, manifested by the star to the sages from afar; branch of royal David's stem, in thy birth at Bethlehem; anthems be to thee addressed: God in man made manifest.

Manifest at Jordan's stream, prophet, priest and King supreme, and at Cana wedding-guest, in thy Godhead manifest, manifest in pow'r divine, changing water into wine; anthems be to thee addressed: God in man made manifest.

Manifest in making whole, palsied limbs and fainting soul, manifest in valiant fight, quelling all the devil's might, manifest in gracious will, ever bringing good from ill; anthems be to thee addressed: God in man made manifest.

Sun and moon shall darkened be, stars shall fall, the heav'ns shall flee; Christ will then like lightning shine, all will see his glorious sign. All will then the trumpet hear, all will see the judge appear; thou by all wilt be confessed: God in man made manifest.

Grant us grace to see thee, Lord, mirrored in thy holy word; may we imitate thee now, and be pure, as pure art thou; that we like to thee may be at thy great Epiphany, and may praise thee, ever blest, God in man made manifest.

Christopher Wordsworth (1807-1885)

Please sit

Second Reading

The wise men visit the new-born king

Matthew 2: 1-12
Rufus Barnes

Choir Epiphany

Pike

O'er Bethlehem one moonless night A single star shone, fierce and bright. It bathed the land in radiant light To greet a newborn King.

The shepherds on a hillside near Were startled with a sudden fear By angels singing, sweet and clear, To greet their newborn King.

There came wise travellers from the east, Each riding on a splendid beast And richly dressed, as for a feast To greet a newborn King.

Sweet frankincense and myrrh they brought And golden treasures, finely wrought, For with these costly gifts they thought To greet a newborn King.

But when they found the stable bare And saw the Christchild lying there, They bowed their heads and knelt in prayer To worship Heaven's King.

Please stand

Carol Bethlehem, of noblest cities

Bethlehem, of noblest cities None can once with thee compare; Thou alone the Lord from heaven Didst for us incarnate bear.

Fairer than the sun at morning Was the star that told his birth; To the lands their God announcing, Seen in fleshly form on earth.

By its lambent beauty guided See the eastern kings appear; See them bend, their gifts to offer, Gifts of incense, gold, and myrrh.

Solemn things of mystic meaning: Incense doth the God disclose, Gold a royal child proclaimeth, Myrrh a future tomb foreshows.

Holy Jesu, in thy brightness To the Gentile world displayed, With the Father and the Spirit Endless praise to thee be paid.

Edward Casswall (1814-1878)

Please sit

Third Reading John baptises Jesus in the River Jordan

Matthew 3:13-17

Bill Rose

Choir Away in a manger

trad French

Away in a manger, no crib for a 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.

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 until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay close by me for ever, and love thee, I pray. Bless all the dear children in thy tender care, and fit us for heaven, to live with thee there.

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.

Liturgy of St James trans. G Moultrie (1826-1885)

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 thou the central Orb Wood

O thou the central orb of righteous love, Pure beam of the most high, Eternal light of this our wintry world, Thy radiance bright awakes new joy in faith, Hope soars above, above.

Come, quickly come, and let thy glory shine, Gilding our darksome heaven with rays divine. Thy saints with holy lustre round thee move, As stars about thy throne, set in the height Of God's ordaining counsel, As thy sight gives measur'd grace to each, Thy power to prove.

Let thy bright beams disperse the gloom of sin, Our nature all shall feel eternal day, In fellowship with Thee, Transforming day to souls erewhile unclean, Now pure within, now pure within. Amen

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

John Samuel Bewley Monsell (1811-1875)

Please sit

Sixth ReadingSt John's vision of the new Jerusalem

Revelation 21:22 - 22.5

Simon Potter

Choir A babe is born

Mathias

A babe is born all of a may, to bring salvation unto us. To him we sing both night and day, Veni Creator Spiritus.

At Bethlehem that blessed place, the child of bliss now born he was. And him to serve God give us grace, O lux beata trinitas.

There came three kings out of the east, to worship the king that is so free. With gold and myrrh and frankincense, A solis ortus cardine.

The angels came down with one cry, a fair song that night sung they, In worship of that child, Gloria tibi Domine.

A babe is born all of a may, to bring salvation unto us. To him we sing both night and day, Veni Creator Spiritus.

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.

William Chatterton Dix (1837-1898)

Recessional Organ Voluntary: Perpetuum Mobile

Arakelyan

Please remain standing while the clergy leave.

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

Please stay for refreshments following the service.

If you would prefer to give to today's collection electronically, please use this QR code. Many thanks.



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