



GUILDFORD
CATHEDRAL

10am
25 December 2024

CHRISTMAS DAY CATHEDRAL EUCHARIST



WELCOME

CHRISTMAS

The 12-day season of Christmas begins today. Contemporary use has sought to express an alternative tradition, in which Christmas lasts for a full forty days, ending with the Feast of the Presentation on 2 February. The twelve short days trace the first two years of Jesus' life. We celebrate the birth of a baby who grew to be a man who was to give up everything out of love for everyone. We wish you all a very peaceful Christmas.

COLLECTION

A collection will be taken during the service. Your support makes a real difference to the ministry and mission of Guildford Cathedral. One-off donations can be made using the Gift Aid envelopes or a contactless donation by using the contactless box (by the West Doors of the Cathedral), or our QR code. If you would like to support this work on a regular basis it's very simple to set up a direct debit via the Parish Giving Scheme. The phone number is 0333 002 1271, and the Cathedral reference code is 170617001. On behalf of all at Guildford Cathedral, thank you.



THANK YOU

We are very grateful to the Friends of Guildford Cathedral for providing the funds to allow us to hire screens for use at our main Christmas services.

PARTICIPATION IN THE SERVICE

We sing the carols and the response during the psalm and say together the words in **bold** type. Although posture is suggested please do whatever is most comfortable for you.

MASS SETTING

Missa Brevis *Jonathan Dove (b.1959)*

PRESIDENT AND PREACHER

The president this morning is The Bishop of Guildford, The Right Reverend Andrew Watson and the preacher is The Venerable Stuart Beake, Interim Dean.

Stand

THE GATHERING

HYMN



Christians, awake! salute the happy morn,
whereon the Saviour of the world was born;
rise to adore the mystery of love,
which hosts of angels chanted from above:
with them the joyful tidings first begun
of God Incarnate and the Virgin's Son.

Then to the watchful shepherds it was told,
who heard the angelic herald's voice, 'Behold,
I bring you tidings of a Saviour's birth
to you and all the nations on the earth:
this day hath God fulfilled his promised word,
this day is born a Saviour, Christ the Lord.'



To Beth' em straight the enlightened shepherds ran,
to see the wonder God had wrought for man,
and found, with Joseph and the blessèd Maid,
her Son, the Saviour, in a manger laid:
then to their flocks, still praising God, return,
and their glad hearts with holy rapture burn.

O may we keep and ponder in our mind
God's wondrous love in saving lost mankind;
trace we the babe, who hath retrieved our loss,
from his poor manger to his bitter cross;
tread in his steps, assisted by his grace,
till man's first heavenly state again takes place.

Then may we hope, the angelic hosts among,
to sing, redeemed, a glad triumphal song:
he that was born upon this joyful day
around us all his glory shall display;
saved by his love, incessant we shall sing
eternal praise to heaven's almighty King.

Words: John Byrom (1692-1763)

Music: CP 48 omit v.3 Yorkshire, John Wainwright (1723-1768)

In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

THE GREETING

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

PRAYERS OF PENITENCE

Hear the words of the angel to Joseph:
'You shall call his name Jesus,
For he will save his people from their sins.'
Therefore let us seek the forgiveness of God
Through Jesus the Saviour of the world.

God our Father,
you sent your Son full of grace and truth:
forgive our failure to receive him.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Jesus our Saviour,
you were born in poverty and laid in a manger:
forgive our greed and rejection of your ways.
Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

Spirit of love,
your servant Mary responded joyfully to your call:
forgive the hardness of our hearts.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Almighty God,
who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Gloria in excelsis Deo
et in terra pax hominibus
bonae voluntatis.
Laudamus te, benedicimus te,
adoramus te, glorificamus te.
Gratias agimus tibi propter
magnam gloriam tuam.
Domine Deus, Rex coelestis.
Deus Pater omnipotens.

*Glory to God in the highest
and on earth peace to people
of good will.
We praise you, we bless you,
we worship you, we glorify you.
We give thanks to you for your
great glory.
Lord God, heavenly King.
God the Father almighty.*

Domine Fili unigenite, Jesu
Christe. Domine Deus, Agnus
Dei, Filius Patris: qui tollis
peccata mundi, miserere
nobis; qui tollis peccata
mundi, suscipe deprecationem
nostrum; qui sedes ad
dexteram Patris:
miserere nobis.
Quoniam tu solus sanctus;
tu solus Dominus;
tu solus Altissimus,
Jesu Christe,
cum Sancto Spiritu,
in Gloria Dei Patris. Amen.

*Only Son of the Father, Jesus
Christ. Lord God, Lamb of God,
Son of the Father: who takes
away the sin of the world, have
mercy upon us; who takes away
the sin of the world, receive our
prayer; who sits at
the right hand of the Father:
have mercy upon us.
For you alone are holy;
you alone are the Lord;
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.*

THE COLLECT OF CHRISTMAS

Let us pray in the peace of this Christmas celebration
that our joy in the birth of Christ will last for ever.

Silence

Almighty God,
you have given us your only-begotten Son
to take our nature upon him
and as at this time to be born of a pure virgin:
grant that we, who have been born again
and made your children by adoption and grace,
may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Isaiah 62.6-12 read by Marion Roberts

Thus says the Lord:

Upon your walls, O Jerusalem,

I have posted sentinels;
all day and all night
they shall never be silent.

You who remind the Lord,

take no rest,
and give him no rest
until he establishes Jerusalem
and makes it renowned throughout the earth.

The Lord has sworn by his right hand

and by his mighty arm:
I will not again give your grain
to be food for your enemies,
and foreigners shall not drink the wine
for which you have laboured;
but those who garner it shall eat it
and praise the Lord,
and those who gather it shall drink it
in my holy courts.

Go through, go through the gates,
prepare the way for the people;
build up, build up the highway,
clear it of stones,
lift up an ensign over the peoples.

The Lord has proclaimed
to the end of the earth:

Say to daughter Zion,
‘See, your salvation comes;
his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.’
They shall be called, ‘The Holy People,
The Redeemed of the Lord’;
and you shall be called, ‘Sought Out,
A City Not Forsaken.’

For the word of the Lord,
thanks be to God.

PSALM 97

The choir sings the response through once, which the congregation then repeats. All join in the response during the psalm, as indicated.



The Lord is king: let the earth rejoice;
let the multitude of the isles be glad.
Clouds and darkness are round about him;
righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne.
Fire goes before him
and burns up his enemies on every side. **Response**

His lightnings lit up the world;
the earth saw it and trembled.
The mountains melted like wax at the presence of the Lord,
at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth.
The heavens declared his righteousness,
and all the peoples have seen his glory. **Response**

Confounded be all who worship carved images
and delight in mere idols.
Bow down before him, all you gods.
Zion heard and was glad, and the daughters of Judah rejoiced,
because of your judgements, O Lord.
For you, Lord, are most high over all the earth;
you are exalted far above all gods. **Response**

The Lord loves those who hate evil;
he preserves the lives of his faithful
and delivers them from the hand of the wicked.
Light has sprung up for the righteous
and joy for the true of heart.
Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous,
and give thanks to his holy name. **Response**

Chant: George Cooper (1820 – 1876)

Refrain: Katherine Dienes-Williams (b.1970)

SECOND READING Titus 3.4-7 read by Berrie Norton

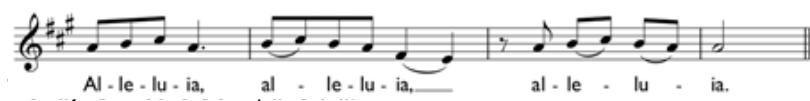
When the goodness and loving-kindness of God our Saviour appeared, he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Saviour, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

For the word of the Lord,
thanks be to God.

Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

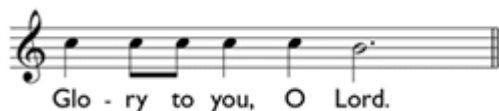
The Gospel Acclamation is played by the organist, sung by the choir, and then sung by everybody. As the procession passes, please turn to face the proclamation of the Gospel.



Today the Saviour has come, alleluia!
Today the angels sing on earth, alleluia!
Glory to God in the highest!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL READING Luke 2.8-20

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



In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see - I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.' And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

'Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favours!'

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.





Sit **SERMON** The Venerable Stuart Beake

Stand **THE CREED**

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is
worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

President Let us pray to our incarnate Lord, who has brought us out of darkness
and into his own marvellous light.

Sit or

Kneel *The prayers are led by Trish Lambert*

Christ born for us, Son of God given for us:
help us to know you,
to worship and to serve you.
Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Wonderful counsellor, you order all things with your wisdom:
help the Church to reveal the mystery of your love
and fill her with the Spirit of truth.
Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Mighty God, the government is on your shoulders:
guide the leaders of the nations
and bring in your kingdom of justice and righteousness.
Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Everlasting Father, you call us to live together in unity:
protect by your mercy all your children,
bless our families and renew our communities.
Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Prince of peace, you bring reconciliation through the cross:
by your healing power, give to all who suffer
your gift of wholeness and peace.
Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

President Lord Jesus Christ,
Son of the Father,
full of the Spirit,
**hear our prayer,
receive our praises,
fill our lives. Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

Stand **THE PEACE**

Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given,
and his name shall be called the Prince of Peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may exchange a sign of peace.

PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

HYMN

During the hymn a collection will be taken.



○ come, all ye faithful,
joyful and triumphant,
○ come ye, ○ 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:

See how the shepherds,
summoned to his cradle,
leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear;
we too will thither
bend our joyful footsteps:

Lo! Star-led chieftains,
Magi, Christ adoring,
Offer him incense, gold and myrrh;
we to the Christ child
bring our heart's oblations:

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?

Sing, choirs of angels,
sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;
Glory to God
in the highest:

Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
born this happy morning,
Jesu, to thee be glory giv'n;
Word of the Father,
now in flesh appearing:

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

Music: CP 62 Adeste Fideles, John Francis Wade (1711-1786)

Descant and last verse arrangement: David Willcocks (1919-2015)

THE TAKING OF THE BREAD AND WINE

Word made flesh, life of the world,
in your incarnation you embraced our poverty:
by your Spirit may we share in your riches.

Amen.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

President: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

President: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

President: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give thanks and praise.

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere,
mighty creator, ever-living God.

We give you thanks and praise for your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who for love of our fallen race humbled himself,
and was born of the Virgin Mary
by the power of your Spirit,
and lived as one of us.

In this mystery of the Word made flesh
you have caused his light to shine in our hearts,
to give knowledge of your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.
In him we see our God made visible
and so are caught up in the love of the God we cannot see.

Therefore with all the angels of heaven
we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name
and sing our joyful hymn of praise:

Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus, Dominus Deus Sabaoth. Pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua. Hosanna in excelsis.	<i>Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.</i>
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Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini Hosanna in excelsis.	<i>Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.</i>
--	---

Accept our praises, heavenly Father,
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us his body and his blood;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:
Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.

Therefore, heavenly Father,
 we remember his offering of himself
 made once for all upon the cross;
 we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;
 we look for the coming of your kingdom,
 and with this bread and this cup
 we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.



Great is the mys - te - ry of faith:



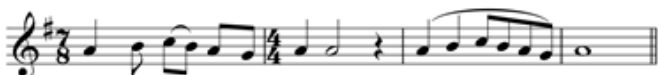
Christ has died, Christ is ri-sen, Christ will come... a-gain.

Accept through him, our great high priest,
 this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,
 and as we eat and drink these holy gifts
 in the presence of your divine majesty,
 renew us by your Spirit, inspire us with your love
 and unite us in the body of your Son,
 Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him,
 in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
 with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,
 we worship you, Father almighty,
 in songs of everlasting praise:



Bless-ing and hon-our and glo - ry and pow'r be



yours for ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

*Sit or
kneel*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rejoicing in the presence of God here among us,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**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 for ever. Amen.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

We break the bread of life,
and that life is the light of the world.
**God here among us, light in the midst of us,
bring us to light and life.**

GIVING OF COMMUNION

God's holy gifts
for God's holy people.
**Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

All who are communicants are welcome to receive the bread and wine. There is no obligation to drink from the common cup. However, please do not dip your wafer in the wine. If you would prefer to receive a blessing, please keep your hands at your sides. Gluten-free bread is available.

AGNUS DEI

Agnus Dei,
qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.

*Lamb of God,
who takes away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.*

Agnus Dei,
qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.

*Lamb of God,
who takes away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.*

Agnus Dei,
qui tollis peccata mundi,
dona nobis pacem.

*Lamb of God,
who takes away the sin of the world,
grant us peace.*

CHOIR CAROLS

I saw three ships come sailing in,
on Christmas Day, on Christmas Day;
I saw three ships come sailing in,
on Christmas Day in the morning.

And what was in those ships all three?
On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day;
and what was in those ships all three?
On Christmas Day in the morning.

Our Saviour Christ and his lady,
on Christmas Day, on Christmas Day;
our Saviour Christ and his lady,
on Christmas Day in the morning.

Pray, whither sailed those ships all three?
On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day,
pray whither sailed those ships all three?
On Christmas Day in the morning.

O, they sailed into Bethlehem,
on Christmas Day, on Christmas Day;
O, they sailed into Bethlehem,
on Christmas Day in the morning.

And all the bells on earth shall ring,
on Christmas Day, on Christmas Day;
and all the bells on earth shall ring,
on Christmas Day in the morning.

And all the angels in heav'n shall sing,
on Christmas Day, on Christmas Day;
and all the angels in heav'n shall sing,
on Christmas Day in the morning.

All the souls on earth shall sing,
on Christmas Day, on Christmas Day;
and all the souls on earth shall sing,
on Christmas Day in the morning;

Then let us all rejoice amain!
On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day;
then let us all rejoice amain!
On Christmas Day in the morning.

Words: English Carol, anonymous, c. 17th century
Music: arranged John Rutter (b. 1945)

Into this world this day did come,
Jesus Christ both God and man,
Lord and Servant in one person
born of the blessed Virgin Mary.

*I pray you be merry and sing with me,
in worship of Christ's nativity.*

*I pray you be merry and sing with me,
in worship of Christ's nativity.*

He that was rich, without any need,
appeared in this world in right poor weed.
to make us that were poor indeed,
rich without any need truly.

A stable his chamber, a cratch was his bed,
he had not a pillow to lay under his head;
with maiden's milk that babe was fed,
in poor clothes was lapped the Lord Almighty.

A noble lesson here is us taught,
to set all worldly riches at naught,
but pray we that we may be thither brought,
where riches is everlastingly.

Words: Early 16th century

Music: Bob Chilcott (b. 1955)

Stand

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The president introduces a moment of silent prayer, saying

Let us pray

God our Father,
whose Word has come among us
in the Holy Child of Bethlehem:
may the light of faith illumine our hearts
and shine in our words and deeds;
through him who is Christ the Lord.

Amen.

**Father of all,
we give you thanks and praise,
that when we were still far off
you met us in your Son and brought us home.
Dying and living, he declared your love,
gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.
May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;
we who drink his cup bring life to others;
we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,
so we and all your children shall be free,
and the whole earth live to praise your name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE SENDING OUT

THE BLESSING

Bishop May the Father,
who has loved the eternal Son
from before the foundation of the world,
shed that love upon you his children.
Amen.

May Christ,
who by his incarnation gathered into one
things earthly and heavenly,
fill you with joy and peace.

Amen.

May the Holy Spirit,
by whose overshadowing Mary
became the God-bearer,
give you grace to carry the good news of Christ.

Amen.

And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

HYMN

During the hymn the clergy and Bishop process to the west end of the Cathedral. As the procession passes you, please turn and face west. This movement signals the turn of our attention to Christ in the world as the offering of our lives continues there.



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 th'angelic host proclaim,
Christ is born in Bethlehem!

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

Christ, by highest heav'n adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come,
offspring of a Virgin's womb:
veiled in flesh the Godhead see:
hail, th'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 heav'n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
ris'n 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.*

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788) and others

Music: CP 53 Mendelssohn, Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy (1809-1847)

Descant and last verse arrangement: David Willcocks (1919-2015)

DISMISSAL

The Deacon says

Go in peace. Proclaim the Word made flesh.
Glory, thanks and praise to God.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Vom Himmel hoch, da komm' ich her (BWV 606)

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Toccatà-Prelude on 'Vom Himmel hoch'

Garth Edmundson (1892-1971)

We wish you and all your family and friends

a very holy and happy Christmas.

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