



**DURHAM
CATHEDRAL**

THE SHRINE OF ST CUTHBERT

**The Festival of
Nine Lessons and Carols
2020**

Tuesday 22 December at 6.00 p.m.

Welcome

A warm welcome to the Service of Nine Lessons and Carols at Durham Cathedral in this specially prepared broadcast online. Whether you join us online from far or near, I hope you will find real joy and inspiration in this service, and that the beauty and peace of this season will stay with you into the days that lie ahead. On behalf of the Cathedral, I wish you a blessed Christmas.

*The Very Reverend Andrew Tremlett
Dean*

Donations

Thank you for joining us in worship today. If you would like to make an offering to Durham Cathedral to support our worship and plans for recovery following Covid-19, please visit <https://localgiving.org/charity/durhamcathedral/>

Christmas Services

The following services are either ticket only and fully subscribed or online only: The First Eucharist of Christmas is celebrated on Thursday 24 December at 11.00 p.m. and this service will be live-streamed via the Cathedral's Facebook page. On Christmas Day at 11.30 a.m., a Sung Eucharist is also celebrated and live-streamed. At 3.30 p.m. on Christmas Day, Choral Evensong for Christmas Day is also broadcast.

The Cathedral Choir is directed by the Master of the Choristers and Organist, Daniel Cook, and the organ is played by Sub-Organist, Joseph Beech.

Voluntary La Nativité (from Poèmes Évangéliques) *Jean Langlais*

Hymn *Once in royal David's city* *sung by the Choir*

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.

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.

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.

Cecil Frances Alexander

Henry Gauntlett
descant by James O'Donnell

Bidding Prayer

The Dean

Beloved in Christ, be it this Christmas-tide our care and delight to hear again the message of the angels, and 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.

Therefore 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 Cathedral, dedicated to Him and Mary, his most blessed Mother, glad with our carols of praise.

But first, let us pray for the needs of the whole world; for peace on earth and goodwill among all his people; for unity and brotherhood within the Church he came to build, and especially within this City, County and Diocese of Durham.

And because this of all things would rejoice his heart, let us at this time remember, in his name, the poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry and the oppressed; the sick in body and in mind and them that mourn—especially at this time of pandemic; the lonely and the unloved; the aged and the little children; all those who know not the Lord Jesus, or who love him not, or who by sin have grieved his heart of love.

Then why should men on earth be so sad,
Since our Redeemer made us glad,
 When from our sin he set us free,
 All for to gain our liberty?

When sin departs before his grace,
Then life and health come in its place;
 Angels and men with joy may sing,
 All for to see the new-born King.

All out of darkness we have light,
Which made the angels sing this night:
 'Glory to God and peace to men,
 Now and for evermore. Amen.'

Traditional English carol

*Traditional English carol
arranged by Philip Ledger*

First Lesson

Micah 5. 2 - 4

*read by Nicholas Lebey, Ordinand
Cranmer Hall, Durham*

The prophet Micah foretells of a ruler coming out of Bethlehem

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labour has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth.

Anthem O radiant dawn

sung by the Choir

O radiant dawn, splendour of eternal Light, sun of justice: come, shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death. Isaiah had prophesied, 'The people who walked in darkness have

seen a great light: upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone.' Amen.

Antiphon for 21 December

*James MacMillan
from The Strathclyde Motets*

Second Lesson

Isaiah 9. 2, 6 - 7
read by William Johnson

The prophet Isaiah foretells the Messiah's birth

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness — on them light has shined. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onwards and for evermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Hymn

Of the Father's heart begotten

sung by the Choir

Of the Father's heart begotten,
Ere the world from chaos rose,
He is Alpha: from that Fountain
All that is and hath been flows;
He is Omega, of all things
Yet to come the mystic Close,
Evermore and evermore.

By his word was all created;
He commanded and 'twas done;
Earth and sky and boundless ocean,
Universe of three in one,
All that sees the moon's soft radiance,
All that breathes beneath the sun,
Evermore and evermore.

This is he, whom seer and sibyl
Sang in ages long gone by;
This is he of old revealed
In the page of prophecy;
Lo! he comes, the promised Saviour;
Let the world his praises cry!
Evermore and evermore.

Sing, ye heights of heaven, his praises;
Angels and archangels, sing!
Wheresoe'er ye be, ye faithful,
Let your joyous anthems ring,
Every tongue his name confessing,
Countless voices answering,
Evermore and evermore.

*Latin, Prudentius,
translated by R F Davis*

*Melody from Piae Cantiones
descant by David Willcocks*

Third Lesson

Isaiah 11. 1 - 10

read by Kieran McLaughlin, Headmaster, Durham School

The prophet foretells of the coming of a king and the peaceful kingdom

A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,

and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Anthem

There is a flow'r

sung by the Choir

There is a flow'r sprung of a tree,
The root thereof is callèd Jesse,
A flow'r of price;
There is none such in paradise.

This flow'r is fair and fresh of hue,
It fadeth never, but ever is new;
The blessed branch this flow'r on grew
Was Mary mild that bare Jesu,
A flow'r of grace;
Against all sorrow it is solace.

The seed hereof was Goddès sand,
That God himself sowed with his hand,
In Nazareth that holy land,
Amidst her arbour a maiden found;
This blessed flow'r
Sprang never but in Mary's bower.

When Gabriel this maid did meet
With 'Ave Maria' he did her greet;
Between them two this flow'r was set
And safe was kept, no man should wit,
Till on a day
In Bethlem it could spread and spray.

When that fair flow'r began to spread,
And his sweet blossom began to bed,
Then rich and poor of ev'ry land
They marvelled how this flow'r might spread,

Till kingès three
That blessed flower came to see.

Angels there came from heaven's tower,
To look upon this freshele flow'r,
How fair he was in his colour,
And how sweet in his savour,
And to behold
How such a flow'r might spring in gold.

There is a flow'r sprung of a tree,
The root thereof is called Jesse,
A flow'r of price;
There is none such in paradise.

John Audelay

John Rutter

Fourth Lesson

Luke 1. 26 - 35, 38

*read by Professor Wendy Powers,
Principal, University College, Durham*

The angel Gabriel greets Mary with the promise of a son who shall be king

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.' But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I am a virgin?' The angel said to her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. Then Mary said,

'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.' Then the angel departed from her.

Anthem *Benedicamus Domino* *sung by the Choir*

Procedenti puero
Eya, nobis annus est!

Virginis ex utero
Gloria! Laudes!
Deus homo factus est
et immortalis.

Sine viri semine
natus est de virgine.

Sine vire copia
natus est ex Maria.

In hoc festo determino
Benedicamus Domino!

*Glory and praise to the boy who comes forth, born of the womb of a virgin!
God, even the immortal God, is made man. He is born of a virgin, without
the seed of man; he is born of Mary, not by means of man. In this special
feast let us bless the Lord!*

From the Sloane MS (15th century)

Peter Warlock

Fifth Lesson

Matthew 1. 18 - 23

read by Gisela Lee, The Durham Chinese Methodist Church

The gospeller Matthew tells of the birth of Jesus the Messiah

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.' All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: 'Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel', which means, 'God is with us.'

Anthem

What sweeter music

sung by the Choir

What sweeter musick can we bring,
Than a Caroll, for to sing
The Birth of this our heavenly King?
Awake the Voice! Awake the String!
Heart, Eare, and Eye, and ev'ry thing
Awake! The while the active Finger
Runs division with the Singer.

Dark and dull night, flie hence away,
And give the honour to this day,
That sees December turn'd to May.
If we may ask the reason, say;
The why, and wherefore all things here
Seem like the Springtime of the yeere?

Why do's the chilling winters morne
Smile, like a field beset with corne?
Or smell, like to a Meade new-shorne,
Thus, on the sudden? Come and see
The cause, why things thus fragrant be:
'Tis He is borne, whose quickning Birth
Gives life and luster, public mirth,
To Heaven, and the under-Earth.

We see Him come, and know Him ours,
Who, with His Sunshine, and His showers,
Turnes all the patient ground to Flowers.

The Darling of the world is come,
And fit it is, we find a roome
To welcome Him. The nobler part
Of all the house here, is the heart,
Which we will give Him; and bequeath
This Hollie, and this Ivie Wreath,
To do him honour; who's our King,
And Lord of all this Revelling.

Robert Herrick

Kenneth Leighton

Hymn

God rest you merry, gentlemen

sung by the Choir

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:

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:

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:

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 efface:
 O tidings of comfort and joy,
 comfort and joy,
 O tidings of comfort and joy.

Traditional English Carol

London Carol Melody
arranged by David Willcocks

Sixth Lesson

Luke 2. 8 - 16

read by Sam Chapman, Stonemason, Durham Cathedral

The Shepherds go to the manger

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.

Anthem

I wonder as I wander

sung by the Choristers

I wonder as I wander, out under the sky,
How Jesus the Saviour did come for to die
For poor ordinary people like you and like I -
I wonder as I wander, out under the sky.

When Mary bore Jesus, 'twas in a cow's stall
With wise men and farmers and shepherds and all.
But high from the heavens a star's light did fall,
And the promise of ages it then did recall.

If Jesus had wanted for any wee thing,
A star in the sky, or a bird on the wing,
Or all of God's angels in heaven for to sing,
He surely could have had it, for he was the King.

John Jacob Niles

*Appalachian Melody collected by John Jacob Niles
arranged by Richard Lloyd*

Hymn

O little town of Bethlehem

sung by the Choir

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.

*Phillips Brooks,
based on Luke 2. 11, 12*

*Traditional English Melody,
arranged by Ralph Vaughan Williams;
descant by Thomas Armstrong*

Seventh Lesson

Matthew 2. 1 - 11

*read by the Right Worshipful The Mayor of Durham
Councillor Katie Corrigan*

Wise men from the east worship the Christ child

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.' " Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so

that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Anthem

The Three Kings

sung by the Choir

O balow, balow lalay.

The first king was very young,
with doleful ballads on his tongue
he came bearing a branch of myrrh
than which no gall is bitterer.

O balow, balow lalay,
gifts for a baby King, O.

O balow, balow lalay.

The second king was a man in prime,
the solemn priest of a solemn time,
with eyes down-cast and rev'rent feet
he brought his incense sad and sweet.

O balow, balow lalay,
gifts for a baby King, O.

O balow, balow lalay.

The third king was very old,
Both his hands were full of gold,
many a gaud and glittering toy
baubles brave for a baby boy.

O balow, balow lalay,
gifts for a baby King, O.

Dorothy L Sayers

Jonathan Dove

Hymn*It came upon the midnight clear**sung by the Choir*

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 the 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.

Edmund Sears

*Traditional English Melody
adapted by Arthur Sullivan
descant by David Hill*

Eighth Lesson

Luke 2. 22 - 28, 36 - 39

*read by Mrs Sue Snowdon
HM Lord Lieutenant of County Durham*

The Presentation of Christ in the temple

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, Mary and Joseph brought Jesus up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord'), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.' Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God. There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband for seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth.

Anthem Nowell sing we

sung by the Choir

*Nowell sing we, both all and some;
Now Rex pacificus is come.*

*Let us sing Nowell, each and every one,
now the King of Peace is with us.*

Exortum est in love and lysse;
Now Christ his grace he gan us gysse,
And with his body bought us bliss,
Both all and some.
Nowell sing we ...

Love and comfort have appeared,
now Christ has granted us grace,
and with his body redeemed us,
each and every one.
Let us sing Nowell ...

De fructu ventris of Mary bright,
Both God and man in her alight,
Out of disease he did us dight,
Both all and some.
Nowell sing we ...

By the fruit of the womb of bright Mary,
God and man descended in her;
he took us out of torment,
each and every one.
Let us sing Nowell ...

Puer natus to us was sent,
To bliss us bought, fro bale us blent,
Both all and some.
Nowell sing we ...

Born as a boy he was sent to us,
redeemed us, delivered us from evil,
each and every one.
Let us sing Nowell ...

Lux fulgebit with love and light,
In Mary mild his pennon bright,
In her took kind with many might,
Both all and some.
Nowell sing we, Nowell!

The light shines with love's brightness.
In gentle Mary he raised his flag,
took on human nature and strength,
each and every one.
Let us sing Nowell!

Gloria tibi ay and bliss:
God unto his grace he us wysse,
The rent of heaven that we not miss,
Both all and some.
Nowell sing we ...

Glory to you for ever, and joy;
God has made his grace known to us so
that we shall not lose our heavenly home,
each and every one.
Let us sing Nowell ...

15th century Macaronic Carol

Matthew Martin

Ninth Lesson

John 1. 1 - 14
read by The Bishop

The Gospeller John unfolds the mystery of the Incarnation

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe. He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

Hymn

Adeste fideles

sung by the Choir

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,
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:

Sing, choirs of Angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
Glory to God
In the highest:
*O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!*

*18th century, translated by
Frederick Oakeley and others*

*18th century English,
arranged by David Willcocks*

The Collect of Christmas Eve

The Dean

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.

All

Amen.

Anthem

I saw three ships

sung by the Choir

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?
Our Saviour Christ and his lady.

Pray, whither sailed those ships all three?
O, they sailed into Bethlehem.

And all the bells on earth shall ring,
And all the angels in heaven shall sing.

And all the souls on earth shall sing,
Then let us all rejoice amain!

Traditional English Carol

arranged by Richard Lloyd

The Blessing

The Bishop

Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one
things earthly and heavenly,
fill you with the sweetness of inward 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 upon you and remain with you always.

All

Amen.

Hymn

Hark! the herald-angels sing

sung by the Choir

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.*

Charles Wesley and others

*Felix Mendelssohn
arranged by William Cummings
and Christopher Robinson*

Voluntary In dulci jubilo, BWV 729

Johann Sebastian Bach

This act of worship is offered freely, although the costs of it are great. We invite you to consider a donation of £5.00, or whatever you can afford, which will enable the mission and ministry of this Cathedral to continue for the benefit of all the people of County Durham and the wider North-East. Please give generously; we are grateful for your support. Please visit <https://localgiving.org/charity/durhamcathedral/>