

PARISH OF ESHER
Christ Church, Esher with St George's, West End

**FESTIVAL OF LESSONS & CAROLS
CHRIST CHURCH, ESHER**

Sunday 18 December 2022



'And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us.'

John 1.14a

Festival of Lessons & Carols

Welcome to our Festival of Lessons and Carols. This order of service is based on the pattern of lessons used by Truro Cathedral, from where this annual tradition originated. Please join in the Congregational Hymns and in the prayers and responses marked in **bold**.

Opening Music & Organ Voluntary

Leading up to the start of the service, the brass ensemble will perform seasonal melodies.

Theme & 3rd Variation from Variations sur un Noël – Marcel Dupré (1886-1971)

Processional Hymn: **Once in Royal David's City** [please stand; v.1 solo, v.2 choir only]

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. 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. | 4. 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. |
| 2. 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. | 5. And our eyes at last shall see him
Through his own redeeming love,
For that child so dear and gentle
Is our Lord in heav'n above;
And he leads his children on
To the place where he is gone. |
| 3. 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. | 6. 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;
Where, like stars, his children crowned
All in white shall wait around. |

*Words: Cecil Frances Alexander
Music: Henry John Gauntlett*

Bidding Prayer, and the Lord's Prayer:

[please remain standing]

**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 be seated]

Choir Carol: Sussex Carol

1. On Christmas night all Christians sing,
To hear the news the angels bring -
News of great joy, news of great mirth
News of our merciful King's birth
 2. 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?
 3. 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 newborn 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!"

English traditional carol, arr. Willcocks

First Lesson: Genesis 3.8-15, 17-19

God tells sinful Adam that he has lost the life of Paradise and that his seed will bruise the serpent's head.

Congregational Hymn : See Amid the Winter's Snow

1. See amid the winter's snow,
Born for us on earth below,
See the tender Lamb appears,
Promised from eternal years.
*Hail, thou ever-blessed morn;
Hail, redemption's happy dawn;
Sing through all Jerusalem,
Christ is born in Bethlehem.*
2. Lo, within a manger lies
He who built the starry skies;
He who, throned in height sublime,
Sits amid the cherubim.
Chorus
3. Say, ye holy shepherds, say
What your joyful news today;
Wherefore have ye left your sheep
On the lonely mountain steep?
Chorus
4. As we watched at dead of night,
Lo, we saw a wondrous light;¹
Angels singing "Peace on earth
Told us of the Saviour's birth
*Hail, thou ever-blessed morn;
Hail, redemption's happy dawn;
Sing through all Jerusalem,
Christ is born in Bethlehem.*
5. Sacred infant, all divine,
What a tender love was thine,
Thus to come from highest bliss
Down to such a world as this.
Chorus
Teach, O teach us, Holy Child,
By thy face so meek and mild,
Teach us to resemble thee,
In thy sweet humility!
Chorus

*Words: Edward Caswall
Music: John Goss, arr. Willcocks*

Second Lesson: Genesis 22.15-18

God promises to faithful Abraham that in his seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed.

Choir Carol: Shepherds' Farewell

1. Thou must leave thy lowly dwelling,
The humble crib, the stable bare;
Babe, all mortal babes excelling,
Content our earthly lot to share;
Loving father, loving mother,
Shelter thee with tender care!

2. Blessed Jesus, we implore thee
With humble love and holy fear,
In the land that lies before thee,
Forget not us who linger here!
May the shepherd's lowly calling
Ever to Thy heart be dear!

3. Blest are ye beyond all measure,
Thou happy father, mother mild!
Guard ye well your heav'nly treasure,
The Prince of Peace, The Holy Child!
God go with you, God protect you,
Guide you safely through the wild!

*Words: Paul England
Music: Hector Berlioz*

Third Lesson: Isaiah 9.2, 6, 7

The prophet foretells the coming of the Saviour.

Congregational Hymn: Silent Night

1. Silent night, holy night!
All is calm, all is bright,
Round yon Virgin Mother and Child;
Holy infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.

2. Silent night, holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight,
Glories stream from heaven afar;
Heavenly hosts sing "Alleluia,
Christ the Saviour is born,
Christ the Saviour is born."

3. Silent night, holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

*Words: Josef Mohr
Music: Franz Grüber*

Fourth Lesson: Isaiah 11.1-3a, 4a, 6-9

The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown.

Choir Carol: Adam Lay Ybounden

1. Adam lay ybounden,
Bounden in a bond;
Four thousand winter
Thought he not too long.
2. And all was for an apple,
An apple that he took,
As clerkes finden
Written in their book.
3. Ne had the apple taken been,
The apple taken been,
Ne had never Our Lady
A-been heavené queen.
4. Blessed be the time
That apple taken was,
Therefore we moun singen,
Deo gracias, Deo gracias!

Words: Anon. 15th Century
Music: Boris Ord

Fifth Lesson: Luke 1.26-35, 38

The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Congregational Hymn: Angels from the Realms of Glory

1. Angels, from the realms of glory,
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Ye who sang creation's story,
Now proclaim Messiah's birth:
*Come and worship,
Come and worship
Worship Christ, the newborn King.*
2. Shepherds, in the fields abiding,
Watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with man is now residing,
Yonder shines the infant light:
Chorus
3. Sages, leave your contemplations,
Brighter visions beam afar;
Seek the great Desire of nations,
Ye have seen his natal star:
Chorus
4. Though an infant now we view him,
He shall fill his Father's throne,
Gather all the nations to him;
Every knee shall then bow down:
Chorus

Words: James Montgomery
Music: French traditional arr. Martin Shaw

Sixth Lesson: Luke 2.1, 3-7

Saint Luke tells of the birth of Jesus Christ.

Choir Carol: Christmas Lullaby

1. Clear in the darkness, a light shines in
Bethlehem:
Angels are singing, their sound fills the air.
Wise men have journeyed to greet their
Messiah;
But only a mother and baby lie there.
“Ave Maria, ave Maria”:
Hear the soft lullaby the angel hosts sing.
“Ave Maria, ave Maria,
Maiden, and mother of Jesus our King”.
2. Where are his courtiers, and who are his
people?
Why does he bear neither sceptre nor crown?
Shepherds his courtiers, the poor for his
people,
With peace as his sceptre and love for his
crown.
“Ave Maria, ave Maria”:
Hear the soft lullaby the angel hosts sing.
“Ave Maria, ave Maria,
Maiden, and mother of Jesus our King”.
3. What though your treasures are not gold or
incense?
Lay them before him with hearts full of love.
Praise to the Christ child, and praise to his
mother
Who bore us a Saviour by grace from above.
“Ave Maria, ave Maria”:
Hear the soft lullaby the angel hosts sing.
“Ave Maria, ave Maria,
Maiden, and mother of Jesus our King”.

Words and Music: John Rutter

Seventh Lesson: Luke 2.8-16

The Shepherds go to the Manger.

Congregational Hymn: The First Nowell

1. The first Nowell the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they
lay;
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.
*Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell,
born is the King of Israel!*
2. They lookèd up and saw a star
shining in the east beyond them far;
and to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and night.
*Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell,
born is the King of Israel!*
3. And by the light of that same star
three wise men came from country far;
to seek for a king was their intent,
and to follow the star wherever it went.
*Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell,
born is the King of Israel!*
4. This star drew nigh to the north-west:
o'er Bethlehem it took its rest;
and there it did both stop and stay,
right over the place where Jesus lay.
*Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell,
born is the King of Israel!*
5. Then entered in those wise men three,
full reverently upon their knee,
and offered there, in his presence,
their gold and myrrh and frankincense.
*Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell,
born is the King of Israel!*
6. Then let us all with one accord
sing praises to our heavenly Lord
who hath made heaven and earth of nought,
and with his blood mankind hath bought.
*Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell,
born is the King of Israel!*

*Words: Cornish Carol Music:
English traditional melody, arr. Willcocks*

Eighth Lesson: Matthew 2.1-12

The Wise Men are led by the Star to Jesus Christ.

Choir Carol: Creator of the Stars of Night

1. Creator of the stars of night,
Thy people's everlasting light,
O Jesu, Saviour of us all,
Regard thy servants when they call.
2. Thou, grieving at the bitter cry
Of all creation doomed to die,
Didst come to save a ruined race
With healing gifts of heav'n'ly grace.
3. Thou camest, bridegroom of the bride,
As drew the world to evening-tide,
Proceeding from a virgin shrine,
The Son of Man, yet Lord divine.
4. At thy great name, majestic now,
All knees must bend, all hearts must bow,
And things in heav'n and earth shall own,
That thou art Lord and King alone.
5. To thee, O holy One, we pray,
Our judge in that tremendous day,
Preserve us, while we dwell below,
From ev'ry onslaught of the foe.
6. All praise, eternal Son, to thee
Whose advent sets thy people free,
Whom with the Father we adore,
And Spirit blest, for evermore. Amen.

*Words: 7th Century Latin, translated by J.M. Neale
Music: Plainsong arr. John Scott*

Ninth Lesson: John 1.1-14

Saint John unfolds the great Mystery of the Incarnation.

[please stand]

Prayers:

The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light.
For to us a Child is born,
to us a Son is given.
His name will be called
Wonderful Counsellor, mighty God,
the Everlasting Father,
the Prince of Peace.
Glory to God in the highest
and peace to his people on earth.

[please remain standing]

Almighty God,
you make us glad with the yearly remembrance
of the birth of your Son Jesus Christ:
grant that, as we joyfully receive him as our redeemer,
we may with sure confidence behold him
when he shall come to be our judge;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

[please sit]

Choir Carol: Ding Dong! Merrily on High

1. Ding dong! Merrily on high
in heaven the bells are ringing;
Ding dong! Verily the sky
is riven with angel singing.
Gloria, hosanna in excelsis!

3. Pray you dutifully prime
your matin chime, you ringers;
may you beautifully rhyme
your evetime song, you singers:
Gloria, hosanna in excelsis!

2. E'en so, here below, below,
let steeple bells be swungen,
and *i-o, i-o, i-o!*
by priest and people sungen!
Gloria, hosanna in excelsis!

Words: G.R. Woodward
Music: 16th-century French melody, arr. Mack Wilberg & Peter Stevens

Blessing:

May the joy of the angels,
the eagerness of the shepherds,
the perseverance of the wise men,
the obedience of Joseph and Mary,
and the peace of the Christ-child
be yours this Christmas;
and the blessing of God almighty,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
be with you and remain with you,
now and always.
Amen.

Recessional Hymn: Hark, the Herald Angels Sing

1. Hark, the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn 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.
3. 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 newborn King!*

*Hark, the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King!*

2. 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 the incarnate Deity!
Pleased as man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.

*Hark, the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King!*

*Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788)
Music: Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)*

Closing Organ Voluntary

Fugue & Coda from Grande Pièce Symphonique – César Franck (1822-1890)

**The congregation is kindly requested to remain seated
until the conclusion of the organ voluntary. Thank you.**

Rector

Revd Darren McCallig

Music

Director of Music: Stuart Whatton

Organist: Oliver Macfarlane

Vocal Soloists: Isabel Jordan, Sam Cherry

Brass Quintet: Martin Boffey (1st trumpet),
Sarah Kent (2nd trumpet), Gill Lunn (tenor horn),
Paul MacNeill (tenor trombone) & Drew Prichard (bass trombone)

May the joy and peace of Christmas be with you!

The retiring collection will go towards the running of our churches and our work in the community.
If you can, please do use a Gift Aid envelope. Thank you.

**PARISH OF ESHER
CHRISTMAS SERVICES**

Please do join us. All are very welcome.

Saturday 24 December

CHRISTMAS EVE

2.00pm Crib Service at St George's, West End

4.00pm - Crib Service at Christ Church, Esher

11.30pm - Midnight Mass at Christ Church, Esher

Sunday 25 December

CHRISTMAS DAY

9.00am - Christmas Communion at St George's, West End

10.30am - Christmas Communion at Christ Church, Esher

Sunday 1 January

9.00am - Christmas Communion at St George's, West End

10.30am - Christmas Communion at Christ Church, Esher

MUSIC ON THE GREEN

2023 Lunchtime Concerts Programme

Concerts start at 1.15pm.

Jan 18 Ensemble Pensiero : Vaughan Williams Piano Quintet

Feb 15 Lola Marchenko, oboe &
Maxim Artyomenko, piano

Mar 15 Hannah Shilvock, bass clarinet &
Viola Lenzi, piano

Apr 19 Trio Lavolta (violin, /cello/piano)

May 17 James Larter, percussion: "Freedom in Rhythm"

Jun 21 Lumas Wind Quintet

Jul 19 Ezster Schütz, violin & Anna Cassú, piano

*Music on the Green (MOTG) is the Parish of Esher's musical
outreach programme based at Christ Church, overlooking Esher Green.*

*At MOTG we believe that music should be accessible to all. Whilst having our firmest
foot planted at the classical end of the spectrum,
we seek to offer a rich and varied listening programme.*

PARISH OF ESHER

Christ Church, Church Street, Esher, Surrey KT10 8QS

Telephone: 01372 462282

Email: office@esherparish.org.uk

Website: www.esherparish.org.uk

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