



THE CATHEDRAL AND METROPOLITICAL CHURCH OF CHRIST, CANTERBURY



**Carol Service**  
**Christmas Eve 2024**  
**5.30pm**

# Welcome to Canterbury Cathedral for this Carol Service

## Livestreaming

This service will be livestreamed and you may be seen on camera, although we will not deliberately take any close-ups of the congregation. By attending you agree to be seen in this way.

If you have any concerns please speak to a member of the clergy.

Voluntaries before the service played by Ivan Leung, Organ Scholar

J.S. Bach (1685-1750), Prelude & Fugue in A major, BWV 536

William Lloyd Webber (1914-82), Interlude on the Coventry Carol

Guy Weitz (1883-1970), Christmas Rhapsody

Guy Weitz (1883-1970), Sicilienne

Max Reger (1873-1916), Weinachten, op. 145, no. 3

Sigfrid Karg-Elert (1877-1933), Vom Himmel hoch, da komm ich her, op. 65, no. 10

J.S. Bach (1685-1750), Vom Himmel hoch, da komm ich her BWV 700

Aribert Reimann (1936-2024), Phantasie über den Choral „Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern“

Cover Image: Detail from The Nativity (Christopher Whall), South-West Transept



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**Large print** orders of service are available from the stewards and virgers. Please ask.

**The Collection** from this Service, including any tax recovered through Gift Aid, will - after deduction of costs - be shared equally between the Cathedral and this year's chosen partner charity, **The Social Justice Network** ([www.thesocialjusticenetwork.org](http://www.thesocialjusticenetwork.org))

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*giftaid it*

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# ORDER OF SERVICE

*Stand as the lights are dimmed – silence is kept*

*The choir on the Pulpitum Steps sings*

## **Wellcome, all Wonders in One Sight!**

Wellcome, all wonders in one sight!  
Eternitie shut in a span,  
Summer in winter, day in night,  
Heaven in Earth, and God in man;  
Great little one whose all embracing birth  
lifts earth to heav'n,  
stoops heav'n to earth.  
Wellcome blessed wonder.  
We saw thee in thy balmy nest  
bright dawn of our eternall day,  
We saw thine eyes breake from their East  
and chase the trembling shades away,  
We saw thee and we blest the sight,  
we saw thee, by thine own sweet light.  
To thee, meeke majestie!  
soft King of simple graces and sweet loves,  
Each of us his Lamb will bring,  
Each his paire of silver doves,  
Till burnt at last in fire of thy faire eyes,  
our selves become our owne best sacrifice.

*Words:* from 'An Hymne of the Nativity,  
sung as by the shepheards' by Richard Crashaw (1612-1649)

*Music:* Jonathan Dove (b.1959)

**Poem**            *The Work of Christmas by Howard Thurman*  
Read by Dr Ralph Norman, Head of Theology, Canterbury Christ Church  
University, from the Quire Lectern

When the song of the angels is stilled,  
When the star in the sky is gone,  
When the kings and princes are home,  
When the shepherds are back with their flock,  
The work of Christmas begins:  
To find the lost,  
To heal the broken,  
To feed the hungry,  
To release the prisoner,  
To rebuild the nations,  
To bring peace among others,  
To make music in the heart.

*The procession moves through the Nave*

*Remain standing to sing*



*Solo*

*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.*

<sup>4</sup>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.

*Choir only*

<sup>2</sup>*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.*

<sup>5</sup>And our eyes at last shall see him,  
Through his own redeeming love,  
For that child so dear and gentle  
Is our Lord in heaven above;  
And he leads his children on  
To the place where he is gone.

*All*

<sup>3</sup>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.

<sup>6</sup>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.

*Words:* Mrs C F Alexander (1818-95)

*Tune:* IRBY

AM 81

*Sit*

**A Christmas Homily**

The Dean

Choir **In dulci jubilo**

*In dulci jubilo* let us our homage show;  
Our heart's joy reclineth *In praesepio*  
And like a bright star shineth *Matris in gremio*  
*Alpha es et O*

*O Jesu parvule* I yearn for thee alway!  
Hear me, I beseech thee *O puer optime!*  
My praying let it reach thee *O princeps gloriae*  
*Trahe me post te*

*O patris caritas, O nati lenitas!*  
Deeply were we stained *Per nostra crimina*  
But thou has for us gained *Coelorum gaudia*  
O that we were there!

*Ubi sunt gaudia* If that they be not there?  
There are angels singing *Nova cantica*  
There the bells are ringing *In Regis curia*  
O that we were there!

Words: Edited and adapted: Reginald Jacques (1894-1969)  
Music: Robert Lucas de Pearsall (1795-1856)

Stand to sing



God rest you merry, gentlemen,  
Let nothing you dismay,  
Remember Christ our Saviour  
Was born on Christmas Day,  
To save us all from Satan's power  
When we were gone astray:

<sup>3</sup>And when they came to Bethlehem  
Where our dear Saviour lay,  
They found him in a manger,  
Where oxen feed on hay;  
His mother Mary kneeling down,  
Unto the Lord did pray:

*O tidings of comfort and joy,*  
*Comfort and joy!*  
*O tidings of comfort and joy!*

<sup>2</sup>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:

<sup>4</sup>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 other doth efface:

*Sit*

## **The First Lesson**

Isaiah 11.1-4a

Read by Haley Alabama, Volunteer for Connecting Canterbury for the Social Justice Network from the Nave Pulpit

### *The prophesy of the Messiah's birth*

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.

Thanks be to God.

### *Choir*      **A Spotless Rose**

A Spotless Rose is blowing, sprung  
from a tender root,  
Of ancient seers' foreshowing, of  
Jesse promised fruit;  
Its fairest bud unfolds to light  
Amid the cold, cold winter, And in the  
dark midnight.

The Rose which I am singing,  
whereof Isaiah said,  
Is from its sweet root springing in  
Mary, purest Maid;  
Through God's great love and might  
The Blessed Babe she bare us in a  
cold, cold winter's night.

*Words:* German, 15<sup>th</sup> Century  
*Trans:* Catherine Winkworth (1827-78)

*Music:* Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

## **Poem**

The God We Hardly Knew *by Oscar Romero*

Read by the Reverend Carol Smith, Volunteer for Refugee Projects and Chair of Trustees for the Social Justice Network from the Nave Pulpit

No one can celebrate  
a genuine Christmas  
without being truly poor.  
The self-sufficient, the proud,  
those who, because they have  
everything, look down on others,  
those who have no need  
even of God—for them there  
will be no Christmas.

Only the poor, the hungry,  
those who need someone  
to come on their behalf,  
will have that someone.  
That someone is God.  
Emmanuel. God-with-us.  
Without poverty of spirit  
there can be no abundance of God.

*Stand to sing*



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.

<sup>3</sup>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.

<sup>2</sup>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.

<sup>4</sup>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.

Words: Latin, Prudentius (348-413)  
Tr R.F. Davis (1866-1937)

Tune: DIVINUM MYSTERIUM  
Melody from Piae Cantiones

AM 80

*Sit*

## **The Second Lesson**      Luke 2.1-7

Read by Jeremy Cross, Volunteer for Break the Cycle and Refugee  
Projects and Trustee of the Social Justice Network from the Nave Pulpit

*St Luke tells of the birth of Jesus*

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

Thanks be to God.

Choir **Illuminare, Ierusalem**

Jerusalem reioss for joy;  
Jesus the sterne of most bewte  
In the is rissin, as rychtous roy,  
Fro dirknes to illumyne the;  
With glorius sound of angell gle  
The prince is borne in Baithlem,  
Quhilk sall thee mak of thraldome  
Illuminare, Ierusalem.

With angellis licht, in legionis,  
Thow art illumynit all about;  
Thre Kingis of strenge regionis  
To the ar cumin with lusty rout,  
All drest with dyamantis but dout,  
Reverst with gold in every hem,  
Sounding attonis with a schout,  
Illuminare, Ierusalem.

The regeand tarrant that in the rang,  
Herod, is exilit and his ofspring  
The land of Juda, that josit wrang;  
And rissin is now thy richtouss King.  
So he, so mychtie is and ding,  
Quhen men his glorius name dois nem,  
Hevin, erd and hell makis inclynyng;  
Illuminare, Ierusalem.

*Words:* Scottish, 15<sup>th</sup> Century

*Jerusalem, rejoice for joy:  
Jesus, the star of greatest beauty  
Is risen in thee as righteous king  
From darkness to illumine thee.  
With glorious sound of angels' glee  
Thy prince is born in Bethlehem  
Who shall make thee from slavery  
free. Illuminare, Jerusalem.*

*With the light of angels' legions  
Thou art illumined all about;  
Three kings from far regions  
Have come to thee in a lusty rout;  
All adorned with diamonds, without a  
doubt, trimmed with gold on every  
hem, Crying together with one shout,  
Illuminare, Jerusalem.*

*The raging tyrant who reigned over  
thee, Herod, is exiled with his  
offspring; He possessed the land of  
Judah unjustly, And risen is now thy  
rightful king. Because he is so mighty  
and worthy, When his glorious name  
is spoken. Heaven, earth and hell  
bow; Illuminare, Jerusalem.*

*Music:* Judith Weir (b. 1954)



*Stand to sing*



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 tonight.

<sup>2</sup>O morning stars, together  
Proclaim the holy birth,  
And praises sing to God the King,  
And peace to all the earth;  
For Christ is born of Mary;  
And, gathered all above,  
While mortals sleep, the angels keep  
Their watch of wond'ring love.

<sup>4</sup>Where children pure and happy  
Pray to the blessèd Child,  
Where misery cries out to thee,  
Son of the mother mild;  
Where charity stands watching  
And faith holds wide the door,  
The dark night wakes, the glory breaks,  
And Christmas comes once more.

<sup>3</sup>How silently, how silently,  
The wondrous gift is giv'n!  
So God imparts to human hearts  
The blessings of his heav'n.  
No ear may hear his coming;  
But in this world of sin,  
Where meek souls will receive him,  
still  
The dear Christ enters in.

<sup>5</sup>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.

*Words:* Phillips Brooks (1835-93)

*Tune:* FOREST GREEN

NEH 32

*Sit*

## The Third Lesson

Luke 2.8-16

Read by Councillor Jeanette Stockley, former Lord Mayor, from the Nave Pulpit

### *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.

Thanks be to God.

### *Choir*      **Silent Night**

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!

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!'

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:* Joseph Mohr (1792-1848)

*Music:* Libby Croad, (b. 1981)

*Trans:* John Freeman Young (1820-85), adapted by Libby Coade

## The Fourth Lesson

Matthew 2.1-11

Read by Lisa Carlson from The Canterbury BID, from the Nave Pulpit

*The wise men are led by a star to Jesus*

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.

Thanks be to God.

### *Choir*      **In the bleak mid-winter**

In the bleak mid-winter  
Frosty wind made moan;  
Earth stood hard as iron,  
Water like a stone;  
Snow had fallen, snow on snow,  
Snow on snow,  
In the bleak mid-winter  
Long ago.

Our God, heaven cannot hold Him  
Nor earth sustain,  
Heaven and earth shall flee away  
When He comes to reign:  
In the bleak mid-winter  
A stable-place sufficed  
The Lord God Almighty —  
Jesus Christ.

*Words:* Christina Rossetti (1830-94)

Enough for Him, whom Cherubim  
Worship night and day,  
A breastful of milk  
And a mangerful of hay;  
Enough for Him, whom Angels  
Fall down before,  
The ox and ass and camel  
Which adore.

What can I give Him,  
Poor as I am? —  
If I were a Shepherd  
I would bring a lamb;  
If I were a Wise Man  
I would do my part, —  
Yet what I can I give Him, —  
Give my heart.

*Music:* Harold Darke (1888-1976)

*Stand to sing*



It came upon the midnight clear,  
that glorious song of old,  
from angels bending near the earth  
to touch their harps of gold:  
'Through all the earth, goodwill and peace  
from heaven's all-gracious king!'  
The world in solemn stillness lay  
to hear the angels sing.

<sup>2</sup>With sorrow brought by sin and strife  
the world has suffered long  
and, since the angels sang, have passed  
two thousand years of wrong:  
the nations, still at war, hear not  
the love-song which they bring:  
O hush the noise and cease the strife,  
to hear the angels sing!

<sup>3</sup>And still the days are hastening on —  
by prophets seen of old —  
towards the fulness of the time  
when comes the age foretold:  
then earth and heaven renewed shall see  
the prince of peace, their king;  
and all the world repeat the song  
which now the angels sing.

*Words:* Edmund Sears (1810-76)  
*adapted by* Jubilate Hymns

*Tune:* NOEL

AM 70

*Sit*

**Poem**                      Refugee by *Malcolm Guite*

Read by Sarah Harmer, Director of Fundraising, Canterbury Cathedral,  
from the Quire Lectern

We think of him as safe beneath the steeple,  
Or cosy in a crib beside the font,  
But he is with a million displaced people  
On the long road of weariness and want.  
For even as we sing our final carol  
His family is up and on that road,  
Fleeing the wrath of someone else's quarrel,  
Glancing behind and shouldering their load.  
Whilst Herod rages still from his dark tower  
Christ clings to Mary, fingers tightly curled,  
The lambs are slaughtered by the men of power,  
And death squads spread their curse across the world.  
But every Herod dies, and comes alone  
To stand before the Lamb upon the throne.

*Stand to sing*



Unto us is born a Son,  
King of quires supernal:  
See on earth his life begun,  
Of lords the Lord eternal.

<sup>3</sup>This did Herod sore affray,  
And grievously bewilder,  
So he gave the word to slay,  
And slew the little childer.

<sup>2</sup>Christ from heav'n descending low,  
Comes on earth a stranger;  
Ox and ass their owner know,  
Be-cradled in the manger.

<sup>4</sup>Of his love and mercy mild  
This the Christmas story;  
And O that Mary's gentle child  
Might lead us up to glory.

<sup>5</sup>O and A, and A and O,  
*Cum cantibus in choro,*  
Let our merry organ go,  
*Benedicamus Domino.*

Words: Latin, 15<sup>th</sup> century

Tune: PUER NOBIS

*Sit*

## The Prayers

## The Canon in Residence

As we celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
we bring before him the needs of the whole world, praying  
for peace and goodwill over all the earth,  
for unity and fellowship within the Church,  
for those who suffer through the inhumanity of their neighbours,  
for the sick, the bereaved and the lonely,  
the poor, the hungry and the oppressed.

We pray also for those who have loved and served God here  
and are now at rest, that he may grant them,  
with Thomas and all the saints of Canterbury,  
refreshment, light and peace.

These prayers we offer in the words which Christ himself has taught us,  
each in our own language:

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever.  
Amen.**

*Notre Père...*

*Vater Unser...*

*Onze Vader...*

*Padre Nuestro...*

*Ojcze Nasz...*

*Baba Yetu...*

*E to matou Matua...*

*Ein Tad...*

*Choir*      **Lux aurumque**

Lux,  
calida gravisque pura velut aurum  
et canunt angeli mollior  
modo natum.

*Light,  
warm and heavy as pure gold  
and the angels sing softly  
to the new-born baby.*

*Words:* Edward Esch

*Music:* Eric Whitacre (b 1970)

*Sit*

## The Fifth Lesson

Titus 2.11-14, 3.3-7

The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds. For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, despicable, hating one another. But 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.

### *Choir*      **I saw three ships come sailing in**

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.

O, they sailed into Bethlehem  
on Christmas Day, on Christmas Day.  
O, they sailed into Bethlehem  
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?

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.

Our Saviour Christ and His lady  
on Christmas Day, on Christmas Day.  
Our Saviour Christ and His lady  
on Christmas Day in the morning.

And all the angels in heaven shall sing  
on Christmas Day, on Christmas Day.  
And all the angels in heaven shall sing  
on Christmas Day in the morning.

Pray, wither sailed those ships all three  
on Christmas Day, on Christmas Day.  
Pray, wither sailed those ships all three  
on Christmas Day in the morning.

And 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 traditional carol

*Music:* arr. Simon Preston (1938-2022)

*Stand*

## The Blessing

Christ, who by his incarnation gathered into one  
all things in heaven and on earth,  
fill you with his joy and peace;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

*Remain standing to sing*

*During the following hymn the processions move through the Quire and the Nave to the Great West Door*



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,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord.*

<sup>2</sup>God of God,  
Light of Light,  
Lo! he abhors not  
the Virgin's womb;  
Very God,  
Begotten, not created:  
*O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord.*

<sup>3</sup>See how the shepherds,  
Summoned to his cradle,  
Leaving their flocks, draw nigh  
with lowly fear;  
We too will thither  
Bend our joyful footsteps:  
*O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord.*

<sup>4</sup>Lo! star-led chieftains,  
Magi, Christ adoring,  
Offer him incense,  
gold, and myrrh;  
We to the Christ-child  
Bring our hearts' oblations:  
*O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord.*



<sup>5</sup>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?  
*O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord.*

<sup>6</sup>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,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord.*

Words: Latin 18th century  
Tr F Oakeley (1802-80) and others

Tune: ADESTE FIDELES

AM 78

## Organ Voluntary

Charles-Marie Widor (1844-1937), Final from Symphony no.6

*Members of the congregation are asked to remain  
in their places until directed to leave by the stewards*

*A retiring collection will be taken by the Stewards as you leave.*

**The Collection** from this Service, including any tax recovered through Gift Aid, will - after deduction of costs - be shared equally between the Cathedral and this year's chosen partner charity, **The Social Justice Network** ([www.thesocialjusticenetwork.org](http://www.thesocialjusticenetwork.org))

If you are a UK taxpayer we would encourage you to use the Cathedral's Gift Aid envelope for your donation. Please ensure that you complete all sections of the envelope including the box confirming that you are a UK taxpayer. The Cathedral will reclaim an extra 25p for every £1 placed in the envelope which will be passed on to the charities. Gift Aid envelopes can be obtained from the stewards. Cheques should be made payable to **Canterbury Cathedral**

You can also use the QR code



*giftaid it*

## **Christmas Day Services at the Cathedral**

*(Cathedral open for services only)*

- 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) – High Altar
- 9.15am Morning Prayer (said) – Western Crypt
- 11.00am Sung Eucharist – Nave
- 3.00pm Evensong with Carols – Quire

# THE SOCIAL JUSTICE NETWORK DIOCESE OF CANTERBURY

The Social Justice Network works in and with communities to alleviate issues of poverty, marginalisation, and vulnerability, especially the homeless, refugees and asylum seekers, and those leaving prison into homelessness. Our projects range from local, to national and international. We deliver our work through innovative partnerships creating a framework for others to respond to the changing social challenges of our time.

We engage with many partners, including charities, voluntary organisations, and local authorities to encourage a shared approach to responding to poverty and marginalisation. We offer practical advice and guidance to individuals, communities, and parishes, who are considering how they can better serve the socially and financially deprived.

Our network expresses our faith in God, seeking to show the love of God in practical action for those most in need, responding to God's call to love one another, and to act justly, love mercy, walk humbly and show compassion to all.

'The team has a range of expertise, as well as being linked into a wider network of diverse, knowledgeable, and passionate people. We aim to be a resource for deaneries, parishes, and the general community to help them fulfil their mission to work towards a sustainable and flourishing future. To this end we will increasingly shape our work in response to diocesan and Church of England priorities and in partnership with other agencies.'

*The Revd Dr Jonathan Arnold, Executive Director of The Social Justice Network.*



# The Social Justice Network

## Transforming Lives Together

[www.thesocialjusticenetwork.org](http://www.thesocialjusticenetwork.org)

Tackling issues of low income, debt, homelessness, poor mental health, exile and isolation through practical action, projects and partnerships.



**Diocese of Canterbury**  
CHANGED LIVES → CHANGING LIVES