

A FESTIVAL OF
**NINE LESSONS
& CAROLS**

7.30PM SUNDAY 22 DECEMBER 2024
HOLY TRINITY CATHEDRAL





INTRODUCTION

WE warmly welcome you to Auckland's Holy Trinity Cathedral.

The order of service for a Nine Lessons and Carols service was adapted from one drawn up by Bishop Edward White Benson, for use at a 10.00 pm service on Christmas Eve, in 1880. This service took place in a temporary wooden structure serving as his cathedral in Truro, Cornwall. That service was originally based on an idea from the Rev'd George Henry Somerset Walpole, later incumbent of St Mary's, Parnell, in the 1880s, and future Bishop of Edinburgh, who also wrote the original Bidding Prayer.

The service is now more commonly associated with the Chapel of King's College, Cambridge, and was first held there on Christmas Eve in 1918. It was conceived by Eric Milner-White, the Dean of the College, whose experience as an army chaplain had led him to believe that more imaginative worship was needed by the Church of England.

The Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols complements the Advent Procession with Carols "From darkness to light", which is held on the First Sunday of Advent. It directs our minds towards the events surrounding the birth of Jesus Christ and prepares us for the celebrations of the Eucharist on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

The service begins at 7.30 pm and is preceded by a series of seasonal organ pieces. This music has a sacramental quality, calling to mind the mystery of Christ's incarnation and evoking memories of Christmases past.

Please gather quietly and prayerfully during this time.

THE BISHOP OF AUCKLAND
The Right Reverend Ross Bay

CATHEDRAL CLERGY
The Very Reverend Anne Mills - Dean of Auckland
The Reverend Ivica Gregurec - Cathedral Precentor

CLERGY
The Venerable Michael Berry - Archdeacon of the Southern Region
The Reverend Sarah Moss - Diocesan Ministry Educator

DIRECTOR OF CHOIRS
Peter Watts

CATHEDRAL ORGANIST
Dr Philip Smith

HOLY TRINITY CATHEDRAL CHOIR

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

The Cathedral Organist plays:
Chorale Prelude on *In Dulci Jubilo*
Interlude on the Coventry Carol

Johann Michael Bach (1648-1694)
William Lloyd Webber (1914-1982)

Please stand as you are able when the bell is rung.



PROCESSIONAL HYMN

O ^{1 Solo}
NCE 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 Choir only}
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 heaven above;
and he leads his children on
to the place where he is gone.

^{3 All}
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.

Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-1895)

IRBY, Henry John Gauntlett (1805-1876)
Descant by David Willcocks (1919-2015)

The congregation remains standing for:

THE BIDDING PRAYER The Very Reverend Anne Mills Dean of Auckland

ETE whānau a te Karaiti, we have come together as the family of God to prepare ourselves for the festival of Christmas. Let it be our delight to go in heart and mind to Bethlehem and to hear again the story and the message of the birth of Jesus. Let us rejoice in the glorious redemption brought to us by this holy child, and make this place glad with the joyful singing of our carols of praise.

But first we pray:

for all who trust in Christ, that, by our celebration of the birth of Jesus, we may be renewed to proclaim God's commonwealth of love;
for the world God loves, that those who bear responsibility in government, in industry and commerce, in education and the mass media, may be inspired by the message of Christmas to strive for the establishment of justice, freedom and peace everywhere;
for all in particular need; the sick, the dying and the bereaved, the lonely and the unloved, the hungry and the oppressed, the elderly and the little children; that, by our loving actions, we may be Christ's hands and heart at work.

We commend all whom we love, or who have asked for our prayers, to the never-failing love of God, and say together:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

The Dean continues:

May the Creator bless us with grace, Christ give us the joys of everlasting life, and the Spirit strengthen us in our journey to fellowship with the citizens of heaven.

Amen.

The congregation sits as the choir sings:

FROHLOCKET ihr Völker auf
Erden, und preiset Gott!
Der Heiland ist erschienen,
den der Herr verheißen.
Er hat seine Gerechtigkeit
der Welt offenbaret.
Halleluja!

*Rejoice, ye people on earth,
and praise the Lord!
The Saviour has appeared, whom
the Lord has promised.
He has manifested his justice
to the world.
Hallelujah!*

Sentence for Christmastide

Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy (1809-1847)

THE FIRST LESSON
read in Tongan
Vien Lusitania Ngatai
Parnell Business Community

God announces that Adam's seed will bruise the serpent's head.

PEA na'a na fanongo ki he le'o 'o Sihova ko e 'Otua, 'i he 'alu 'i he ngoue 'i he mokomoko 'oe 'aho: pea na'e toitoi 'a 'Atama mo hono uaifi, mei he 'ao 'o Sihova ko e 'Otua, 'i he ngaahi 'akau 'oe ngoue.

Pea na'e ui 'e Sihova ko e 'Otua kia 'Atama, 'o ne pehē kiate ia, "'Oku ke 'i fē?" Pea pehē 'e ia, "Na'aku fanongo ki ho le'o 'i he ngoue, pea na'aku manavahē, koe'uhi kuo u telefua; pea u toitoi ai." Pea pehē 'e ia, "Ko hai kuo fakahā kiate koe 'oku ke telefua? Kuo ke kai 'i he 'akau, 'aia na'aku fekau kiate koe, ke 'oua na'a ke kai ai?" Pea pehē 'e he tangata, "Ko e fefine 'aia na'a ke foaki ke ma nonofo, na'e 'omi 'e ia kiate au mei he 'akau pea u kai ai." Pea na'e folofola 'a Sihova ko e 'Otua ki he fefine, "Ko e hā eni kuo ke fai?" Pea pehē 'e he fefine, "Na'e kākaa'i au 'e he ngata, pea u kai."

Pea na'e folofola 'a Sihova ko e 'Otua ki he ngata, "Koe'uhi kuo ke fai eni, kuo ke mala'ia lahi hake 'i he fanga manu lalata kotoa pē, mo e manu kotoa pē 'oe vao; te ke ngaolo koe 'i ho kete, pea te ke kai 'ae efu 'i he ngaahi 'aho kotoa pē 'o ho'o mo'ui: pea te u tuku 'ae taufehi'a 'iate koe mo e fefine, pea ki ho hako mo hono hako; 'e laiki 'e ia ho 'ulu, pea te ke fakavolu 'e koe 'a hono muiva'e."

They heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden.

But the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, 'Where are you?' He said, 'I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.'

He said, 'Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?' The man said, 'The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate.' Then the Lord God said to the woman, 'What is this that you have done?' The woman said, 'The serpent tricked me, and I ate.'

The Lord God said to the serpent, 'Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel.'

GENESIS 3:8-15

The choir sings:

ADAM lay ybounden,
bounden in a bond;
four thousand winter
thought he not too long.

Ne had the apple taken been,
the apple taken been,
ne had never Our Lady
a-been heavené queen.

And all was for an apple,
an apple that he took,
as clerkēs finden
written in their book.

Blessed be the time
that apple taken was!
therefore we moun singen
Deo gratias!)

Anon. 15th century

Boris Ord (1897-1961)

THE SECOND LESSON
Pauline Cornwell
Co-chair, Pearl of the Islands Foundation

God promises to Abraham that the nations will be blessed.

THE angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven, and said, 'By myself I have sworn, says the Lord: Because you have done this, and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will indeed bless you, and I will make your offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of their enemies, and by your offspring shall all the nations of the earth gain blessing for themselves, because you have obeyed my voice.'

GENESIS 22:15-18



The choir sings the Birthday Carol:

REJOICE today with one accord, *Alleluia*,
this is the birthday of our Lord. *Alleluia*.

Gloria, gloria in excelsis gloria, gloria Deo!

'And ye shall find in manger laid,' *Alleluia*,
'the babe in swaddling clothes arrayed.' *Alleluia*.

Shepherds abiding in the field, *Alleluia*,
to them God's glory was reveal'd. *Alleluia*.

Gloria, gloria in excelsis gloria, gloria Deo!

Gloria, gloria in excelsis gloria, gloria Deo!

A host of angels fill'd the sky, *Alleluia*,
thus singing praise to God on high. *Alleluia*.

And to the shepherds sore afraid, *Alleluia*,
An angel said, 'Be not dismayed', *Alleluia*.

Gloria, gloria in excelsis gloria, gloria Deo!

Gloria, gloria in excelsis gloria, gloria Deo!

Now join we all the angel throng, *Alleluia*,
and let our voices swell the song: *Alleluia*.

'Tidings of joy to you I bring,' *Alleluia*,
'today is born a heav'nly king.' *Alleluia*.

Gloria, gloria in excelsis gloria, gloria Deo!

David Willcocks (1919-2015)

The congregation stands and sings:

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:

*Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
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.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,,,

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.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel...

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.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel...

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.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel...

6
Then let us all with one accord
sing praises to our heavenly Lord,
that hath made heaven and earth of naught,
and with his blood mankind hath bought.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel...

English Traditional carol

arranged by David Willcocks (1919-2015)

The congregation sits.

THE THIRD LESSON
Genevieve Sage
Chair, Waitematā Local Board

Isaiah foretells Christ's birth and kingdom.

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.

ISAIAH 9:2, 6-7

The choir sings:

OMNIS mundus jocundetur nato
salvatore
casta mater quae concepit
Gabrielis ore.
Sonoris vocibus, sinceris mentibus,
exsulemus et laetemur hodie.
Christus natus ex Maria virgine,
gaudeamus et laetemur itaque.

*All the world rejoices that a Saviour
has been born
of a chaste mother who conceived
as Gabriel said.*

*With sounding voices, and with sincere hearts,
let us rejoice and be glad today.
Christ was born of the Virgin Mary,
so let us rejoice and be glad therefore.*

Medieval Christmas hymn

Michael Praetorius (1571-1621)



THE FOURTH LESSON

George Varghese

St Thomas Mar Thoma Church, Auckland

The prophet Micah foretells the glory of little 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.

MICAH 5:2-4



The congregation stands and sings:

O ¹ LITTLE town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie!
³ O morning stars, together
proclaim the holy birth,
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep and praises sing to God the King,
the silent stars go by. and peace to those on earth;
Yet in thy dark streets shineth for Christ is born of Mary;
the everlasting Light; and, gathered all above,
the hopes and fears of all the years while mortals sleep, the angels keep
are met in thee tonight. their watch of wondering love.

² 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.

⁴ 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 (1835-1893)

FOREST GREEN, English Traditional Melody
Harmonised by Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)
Descant by Thomas Armstrong (1898-1994)

The congregation sits as the choir sings the Nativity Carol:

BORN in a stable so bare,
born so long ago;
born 'neath light of star
he who loved us so.

Wise men from distant far land,
shepherds from starry hills
worship this babe so rare,
hearts with his warmth he fills.

*Far away, silent he lay,
born today, your homage pay,
for Christ is born for aye,
born on Christmas Day.*

*Far away, silent he lay,
born today, your homage pay,
for Christ is born for aye,
born on Christmas Day.*

Cradled by mother so fair,
tender her lullaby;
over her son so dear
angel hosts fill the sky.

Love in that stable was born
into our hearts to flow;
innocent dreaming babe,
make me thy love to know.

*Far away, silent he lay,
born today, your homage pay,
for Christ is born for aye,
born on Christmas Day.*

*Far away, silent he lay,
born today, your homage pay,
for Christ is born for aye,
born on Christmas Day.*

Nativity Carol

Words and music by John Rutter (1945-)

THE FIFTH LESSON

Charlotte Hatlauf

GM People, Auckland City Mission - Te Tāpui Atawhai

The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.

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. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with 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.

LUKE 1:26-38

The choir sings:

THE first good joy that Mary had,
it was the joy of one;
to see the blessed Jesus Christ
when he was first her son:

Chorus:
When he was first her son, good man:
and blessed may he be,
both Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
to all eternity.

The next good joy that Mary had,
it was the joy of two;
to see her own son, Jesus Christ
to make the lame to go:
Chorus...

The next good joy that Mary had,
it was the joy of three;
to see her own son, Jesus Christ
to make the blind to see;
Chorus...

The next good joy that Mary had,
it was the joy of four;
to see her own son, Jesus Christ
to read the Bible o'er:
Chorus...

The next good joy that Mary had,
it was the joy of five;
to see her own son, Jesus Christ
to bring the dead alive:
Chorus...

The next good joy that Mary had,
it was the joy of six;
to see her own son, Jesus Christ
upon the crucifix:
Chorus...

The next good joy that Mary had,
it was the joy of seven;
to see her own son, Jesus Christ
to wear the crown of heaven:
Chorus...

English Traditional carol

Arranged by Stephen Cleobury (1948-2019)

THE SIXTH LESSON

read in te reo Māori

Dame Rangimarie Naida Glavish DNZM, JP

Chief Advisor Tikanga, Waitemata and Auckland Districts

St Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.

Iua rā ka whakatakotoria he tikanga e Hihā Ākuhata kia tuhituhia te ao katoa. Ko te tuhituhinga tuatahi tēnei i meatia i te wā ko Kuirinia te kāwana o Hīria. Ā, ka haere ngā tāngata katoa kia tuhituhia, ia tangata, ia tangata, ki tōna ake pā.

I haere atu anō a Hōhepa i Karirī, i te pā, i Nahareta, ki Hūria, ki te pā o Rāwiri, ko Pētere-hema te ingoa; nō te mea nō te whare ia, nō te kāwei o Rāwiri. Kia tuhituhia ai rāua ko tāna wahine taumau, ko Meri, e hapū ana ia. Ā, i a rāua i reira, ka rite ngā rā e whānau ai ia. Nā, ka whānau tāna mātāmua, ā, takaia ana e ia ki ngā kākahu, ka whakatakotoria ki te takotoranga kai mā ngā kararehe; nō te mea kāhore he wāhi mō rātou i te whare.

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. 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.

LUKE 2:1,3-7



The congregation stands and sings:

AWAY in a manger, no crib for a bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his
sweet head;
the stars in the heavens looked down
where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

2
The cattle are lowing, the Baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

3
Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay
close by me forever, and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
and fit us for heaven, to live with thee there.

Anonymous

William James Kirkpatrick (1838-1921)
Harmonised by David Willcocks (1919 - 2015)

The congregation sits as the choir sings:

STILLE Nacht, heilige Nacht
alles schläft; einsam wacht
nur das traute hochheilige Paar.
Holder Knabe im lockigen Haar,
schlaf in himmlischer Ruh!

*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*

Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht,
hirten erst kundgemacht
durch der Engel Halleluja,
tönt es laut von fern und nah:
Christ, der Retter ist da!

*Silent night, holy night,
shepherds quake at the sight.
Glories stream from heaven afar,
heav'nly hosts sing Alleluia;
Christ the Saviour is born*

Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht,
Gottes Sohn, o wie lacht
lieb' aus deinem göttlichen Mund,
da uns schlägt die rettende Stund'.
Christ, in deiner Geburt!

*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.*

Joseph Mohr (1792-1848)

Franz Gruber (1787-1863)
Arranged by Donald Cashmore (1926-2013)



THE SEVENTH LESSON

Dr Lawrence Xu-Nan
Green Party List MP based in Epsom

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.

LUKE 2:8-16

The congregation stands and sings:

WHILE shepherds watched
their flocks by night,
all seated on the ground,
the angel of the Lord came down,
and glory shone around.

1
"Fear not," said he (for mighty dread
had seized their troubled mind);
"Glad tidings of great joy I bring
to you and all your kind."

2
"To you, in David's town, this day
is born of David's line
a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord;
and this shall be the sign:"

Nahum Tate (1652-1715)

4
"The heavenly babe you there shall find
to human view displayed,
all meanly wrapped in swathing bands
and in a manger laid."

5
Thus spake the seraph; and forthwith
appeared a shining throng
of angels praising God, who thus
addressed their joyful song:

6
"All glory be to God on high,
and on the earth be peace;
good will henceforth from heaven to all
begin and never cease."

WINCHESTER OLD, Este's Psalter (1592)
Descant by David Willcocks ((1919 - 2015)

The congregation sits as the choir sings the Rhumba Carol:

OWe come to worship Christ the King,
to him our gifts we bring;
a holy child for us to love,
sent by God above.

*Now let us all rejoice,
raising to him our voice:
Praise to the King, all people sing,
ne'er shall cease, praise to the King of peace.*

*Now let us all rejoice,
raising to him our voice:
Praise to the King, all people sing,
ne'er shall cease, praise to the King of peace.*

Wise men from distant lands afar,
guided by gleaming star,
show us how we may Christ adore,
worship him evermore,

Born in a stable dark and bare,
nurtured by Mary's care
angels appeared above the earth,
stars proclaimed his birth.

*Now let us all rejoice,
raising to him our voice:
Praise to the King, all people sing,
ne'er shall cease, praise to the King of peace.*

Miles Quick (1970-)

Colin Dowdeswell (1944-2023)

THE EIGHTH LESSON

Desley Simpson, JP
Deputy Major of Auckland

The wise men are led by the 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. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

MATTHEW 2:1-12

The choir sings:

THREE Kings from Persian lands afar
to Jordan follow the pointing star:
and this the quest of the travellers
three,
where the new-born King of the Jews may be.
full royal gifts they bear for the King;
gold, incense, myrrh are their offering.

How brightly shines the morning star!
With grace and truth from heaven afar
our Jesse tree now bloweth.

The star shines out with a steadfast ray;
the kings to Bethlehem make their way,
and there in worship they bend the knee,
as Mary's child in her lap they see;
Their royal gifts they show to the King;
gold, incense, myrrh are their offering.

Peter Cornelius (1824-1874)
Translated by Herbert Newell Bate (1871-1941)

Of Jacob's stem and David's line,
for thee, my Bridegroom, King divine,
my soul with love o'erfloweth.

Thou child of man, lo, to Bethlehem
the Kings are travelling, travel with them!
The star of mercy, the star of grace,
shall lead thy heart to its resting place.
Gold, incense, myrrh thou canst not bring;
offer thy heart to the infant King.

Thy word, Jesu, inly feeds us,
rightly leads us, Life bestowing.
Praise, O praise such love o'erflowing.

Peter Cornelius (1824-1874)
Arranged by Ivor Atkins (1869-1953)

*The congregation stands to sing the hymn during which a collection will be taken.
Alternatively, you will be able to leave your offering via our contactless payment system after
the service.*

O 1
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!*

2
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!*

3
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!*

Latin, 18th century
Translated by Frederick Oakeley (1802-1880),
William Thomas Brooke (184-1917), and others

4 *Choir only*
Koutou Anahera,
rehua mai he rangi,
ti-ino hari ake koutou katoa.
Hamama te reo mona i runga nei:
*tino whakapaingia ia
tino whakapaingia ia
tino whakapaingia ia
- t' Ariki.*

5
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!*

6
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!*

ADESTE FIDELES, John Francis Wade (1711-1786)
Descant by David Willcocks (1919 - 2015)



The congregation remains standing for:

THE NINTH LESSON
The Right Reverend Ross Bay
Bishop of Auckland

St John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.

IN the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

JOHN 1:1-14



THE COLLECT FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

Intoned by The Reverend Ivica Gregurec
Cathedral Precentor

ETE Atua kaha rawa, i hōmai e koe tau Tama kōtahi kia whakatangatatia, kia whanau mai ano i tēnei wa i te Wahina; meinga matou, te hunga kua oti nei te whakawhanau hou hei tamariki mau, kia whakahoutia i ngā ra katoa e tou Wairua Tapu; ko Ihu Karaiti nei hoki to mātou Ariki; tēnā ia te ora nā, te kīngi tahi nā, me koe, me te Wairua Tapu, kātahi ano ia Atua, ake ake ake.
Āmine.

Almighty God, who has 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, being renewed and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by thy Holy Spirit; through the same our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

The congregation sings:

H¹ARK! 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.

²Christ, 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 one with us to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! the herald-angels sing
glory to the new-born King.

³Hail, 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 we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth,
born to give us second birth.
Hark! the herald-angels sing
glory to the new-born King.

Charles Wesley (1707-1788), and others

Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy (1809-1847)
Descant and organ part by David Willcocks (1919 - 2015)

The congregation remains standing for:

THE BLESSING
The Right Reverend Ross Bay
Bishop of Auckland

CHRIST, who by his incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, grant you the fullness 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. Amen.

*As the procession withdraws, the Cathedral Organist plays:
Variations sur In Dulci Jubilo*

Denis Bédard (1950-)



SHARP

Be Original.

For information on all Advent and Christmas services at Holy Trinity Cathedral, please visit www.holy-trinity.org.nz

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SCAN ME