CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL

ADVENT PROCESSION

SUNDAY 29TH NOVEMBER 2026

4.30PM

For over 950 years, Chichester Cathedral has been
a place of worship, welcome and community.
Today, it costs us approximately £7,000 a day
to maintain the Cathedral.

Chichester Cathedral does not receive any regular funding
from government or from central church sources,
and relies heavily on generous donations.

We kindly ask you to make a cash donation
to the collection taken during this service.
Whatever you give, whether large or small,
will help to secure the future of this Cathedral.

If you do not have any cash, please scan the QR code
below to donate online or tap to donate as you exit the
Cathedral – our Stewards will be available to assist you.

Charity Name: Chichester Cathedral
Charity Number: 1205740

WELCOME

We warmly welcome you to this service, as we begin our journey through Advent to Christmas.

This booklet contains all you will need to follow the service. Please ask a Steward if you would like a large-print copy.

This service will be live-streamed and broadcast online via the Cathedral's website, YouTube channel and Facebook pages. Typically, services are made available for up to 48 hours, however this period may be longer for special recordings. For further information, please contact:
info@chichestercathedral.org.uk

Photography, filming and audio recordings are not permitted during this service. Please ensure that mobile telephones are switched off or silenced.

An induction loop is provided for the benefit of hearing aid users. To use this, please switch your hearing aid to 'T'.

At Chichester Cathedral, we want everyone to feel safe and cared for. If you have any concerns about safety or wellbeing, never leave with a worry. A member of the clergy, staff, or our Safeguarding Team will be happy to listen. You can contact our Safeguarding Officer on **07827 275670** or by emailing **safeguarding@chichestercathedral.org.uk**

Parents and caregivers are reminded that children remain in their care throughout this service and must not be left unattended or to wander around the Cathedral by themselves.

Toilets and baby-changing facilities can be accessed from the North Transept of the Cathedral. Children using these facilities must be accompanied by a parent or caregiver.

In the event of an emergency please follow the direction of the Vergers and Stewards.

www.chichestercathedral.org.uk

ADVENT

Advent means, 'Coming' and 'Arrival.' The Church celebrates three comings of Christ: his humble birth at Bethlehem as the 'long-expected Jesus'; his glorious final coming 'with clouds descending' to judge both the living and the dead; and his daily coming in worship.

This holy season is a journey through four weeks. It begins paradoxically at the end (with his final coming) but moves majestically toward the mystery of Christmas itself with its promise of peace on earth and glory in the highest heavens (Luke 2: 14).

This evening's procession captures beautifully that forward movement. We begin in darkness, looking from afar, crying out to Christ in John the Baptist's words 'Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?' (Luke 7: 19-20). In the readings from Holy Scripture, we hear the story of how God prepared his people for the birth of his Son, the yearned-for Messiah.

Advent is a season full of yearning, expectation, and hope. It is a journey toward the true light, Christ Our Lord. Each year it rouses us from slumber and awakens wonder at the 'loving kindness of our God, who visits us like the dayspring from on high (Luke 1: 78).' This evening's procession and service assures us that what God promised he has also fulfilled. Let us with joy go out to meet him!

BEFORE THE SERVICE

ORGAN MUSIC BEFORE THE SERVICE

The congregation is requested to be as quiet as possible during the organ music.

Played by Christopher Reid, Organ Scholar:

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland *P. 386*
Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

Ruhig Bewegt *from* Sonata No. 1 *Paul Hindemith (1895-1963)*

Tierce en Taille *from* Suite du Deuxième Ton
Jean-Adam Guilain (c. 1680 - after 1739)

Prélude, Fugue et Variation *Op. 18* *César Franck (1822-1890)*

Rorate Caeli *Jeanne Demessieux (1921-1968)*

Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme *BWV 645*
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Played by Timothy Ravalde, Assistant Organist:

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland *BuxWV 211*
Dieterich Buxtehude (c. 1637-1707)

ORDER OF SERVICE

THE SERVICE OF LIGHT

The service begins in darkness. Please remain seated.

From the South Transept, the choir sings

THE MATIN RESPONSORY

I look from afar: and lo, I see the power of God coming,
and a cloud covering the whole earth.
Go ye out to meet him and say:
Tell us, art thou he that should come
to reign over thy people Israel?
High and low, rich and poor, one with another,
go ye out to meet him and say:
Hear, O thou Shepherd of Israel,
thou that leadest Joseph like a sheep,
Tell us, art thou he that should come?
Stir up thy strength, O Lord, and come
to reign over thy people Israel.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost.
I look from afar: and lo, I see the power of God coming,
and a cloud covering the whole earth.
Go ye out to meet him and say:
Tell us, art thou he that should come
to reign over thy people Israel?

Matin Responsory
for Advent Sunday

Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (c. 1525-1594)
arr. David Willcocks (1919-2015)

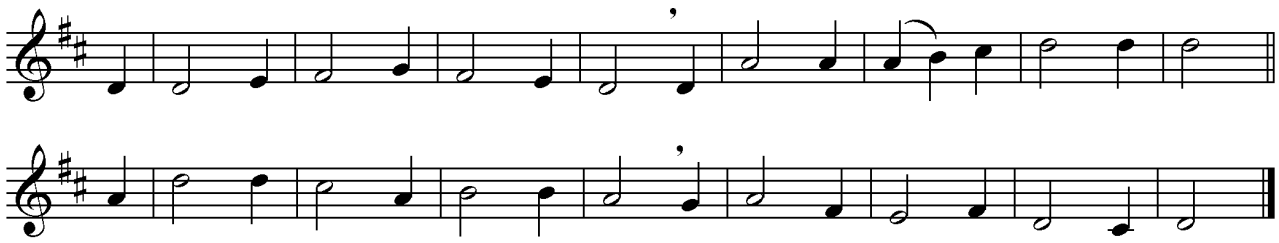
GENESIS 1: 1-5 is read, during which the congregation's candles are lit from the first candle on the Advent wreath.

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN

Choir Come, thou Redeemer of the earth,
and manifest thy virgin-birth:
let every age adoring fall,
such birth befits the God of all.

Begotten of no human will,
but of the Spirit, thou art still
the Word of God, in flesh arrayed,
the Saviour, now to man displayed.

Please stand as the procession moves to the west end of the Cathedral.



All **The virgin womb that burden gained**
with virgin honour all unstained;
the banners there of virtue glow;
God in his temple dwells below.

Forth from his chamber goeth he,
that royal home of purity,
a giant in twofold substance one,
rejoicing now his course to run.

From God the Father he proceeds,
to God the Father back he speeds,
runs out his course to death and hell,
returns on God's high throne to dwell.

O equal to thy Father, thou!
gird on thy fleshly mantle now;
the weakness of our mortal state
with deathless might invigorate.

Choir Thy cradle here shall glitter bright,
and darkness glow with new-born light,
no more shall night extinguish day,
where love's bright beams their power display.

All **O Jesu, Virgin-born, to thee**
eternal praise and glory be,
whom with the Father we adore
and Holy Spirit, evermore. Amen.

NEH 19
St Ambrose (340-397)
tr. J. M. Neale (1818-1866) and others

Puer nobis nascitur
adapted by Michael Praetorius (1571-1621)
Descant: John Scott (1956-2015)

Remain standing as the Dean reads

THE BIDDING PRAYER

The Bidding Prayer concludes with The Lord's Prayer:

All **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 sit.

I. THE MESSAGE OF ADVENT

CHOIR

Rorate caeli desuper et nubes pluant justum:
aperiatur terra et germinet salvatorem.
Drop down ye heavens, from above,
and let the skies pour down righteousness:
let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

Benedixisti Domine terram tuam:
avertisti captivitatem Jacob.
Lord, thou art become gracious unto thy land:
thou hast turned away the captivity of Jacob.

Gloria Patri et Filio:
et Spiritui Sancto.
Sicut erat in principio et nunc et semper:
et in saecula saeculorum. Amen.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.

Rorate caeli desuper et nubes pluant justum:
aperiatur terra et germinet salvatorem.
Drop down ye heavens, from above,
and let the skies pour down righteousness:
let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

Isaiah 45: 8; Psalm 85: 1 *William Byrd (c. 1540-1623)*

THE SENTENCE

Please stand. The Cathedral Curate says

Watch therefore,
for ye know neither the day nor the hour
wherein the Son of Man cometh.

The glory of the Lord shall be revealed
All **and all flesh shall see it together.**

THE COLLECT

Almighty God,
give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness,
and put upon us the armour of light,
now in the time of this mortal life,
in which thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility;
that in the last day,
when he shall come again in his glorious Majesty,
to judge both the quick and the dead,
we may rise to the life immortal;
through him who liveth and reigneth
with thee and the Holy Ghost,
now and ever.
All **Amen.**

Please sit.

THE FIRST LESSON

The prophet speaks of the righteous Judge who will come from the line of David.

I will go before you and level the mountains, I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron, I will give you the treasures of darkness and riches hidden in secret places, so that you may know that it is I, the Lord, the God of Israel, who call you by your name. For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name, I surname you, though you do not know me. I am the Lord, and there is no other; besides me there is no god. I arm you, though you do not know me, so that they may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is no one besides me; I am the Lord, and there is no other. I form light and create darkness, I make weal and create woe; I the Lord do all these things.

Shower, O heavens, from above, and let the skies rain down righteousness; let the earth open, that salvation may spring up, and let it cause righteousness to sprout up also; I the Lord have created it.

Isaiah 45: 2-8

CHOIR

People, look East. The time is near
of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able,
trim the hearth and set the table.
People, look East, and sing today:
Love, the Guest, is on the way.

Furrows, be glad. Tho' earth is bare,
one more seed is planted there:
give up your strength the seed to nourish,
that in course the flow'r may flourish.
People, look East, and sing today:
Love, the Rose, is on the way.

Angels, announce to man and beast
him who cometh from the East.
Set ev'ry peak and valley humming
with the Word, the Lord is coming.
People, look East, and sing today:
Love, the Lord, is on the way.

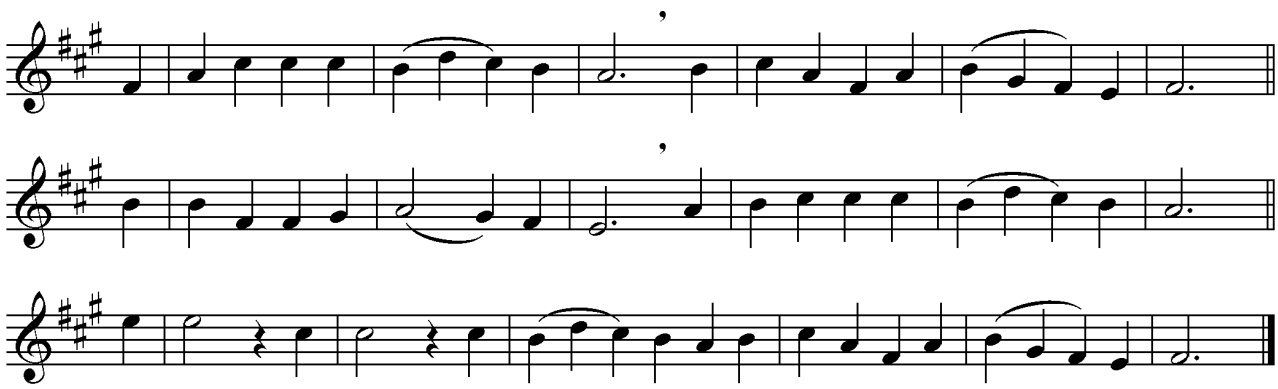
Eleanor Farjeon (1881-1965) *Traditional, arr. Charles Harrison (b. 1974)*

Please wait for the music to end before turning the page quietly

Please stand.

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN

during which the procession moves to the front of the Nave



O come, O come, Emmanuel!
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here,
until the Son of God appear:
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Rod of Jesse! free
thine own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell thy people save,
and give them victory o'er the grave:
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer
our spirits by thine advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadows put to flight:
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.

Choir O come, thou Key of David, come,
and open wide our heavenly home;
make safe the way that leads on high,
and close the path to misery:
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.

All **O come, O come, thou Lord of Might,**
who to thy tribes, on Sinai's height,
in ancient times didst give the law
in cloud and majesty and awe:
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.

AMNS 26
Latin Advent Antiphons
tr. J. M. Neale (1818-1866)

Veni Emmanuel
Melody adapted by Thomas Helmore (1811-1890)
Verse 4 arr. Timothy Ravalde (b. 1988)

Remain standing.

II. THE COMING OF THE SON OF GOD

THE SENTENCE

The Canon Chancellor says

O people of Sion,
behold the Lord is nigh at hand to redeem the nations,
and in the gladness of your heart
the Lord shall cause his glorious voice to be heard.

Declare his honour unto the nations:
All **and his wonders unto all people.**

THE COLLECT

Blessed Lord,
who hast caused all holy Scriptures
to be written for our learning;
grant that we may in such wise hear them,
read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them,
that by patience, and comfort of thy holy Word,
we may embrace, and ever hold fast
the blessed hope of everlasting life,
which thou hast given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ.

All **Amen.**

Please sit.

THE SECOND LESSON

The prophet foretells a righteous king who will dispel the darkness of this present age.

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. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder.

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: 2-3, 6-7

CHOIR

Peace be to you and grace from him
who freed us from our sins,
who loved us all and shed his blood
that we might saved be.

Sing holy, holy to our Lord,
the Lord, Almighty God,
who was, and is, and is to come;
sing holy, holy, Lord!

Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell therein,
rejoice on earth, ye saints below,
for Christ is coming, is coming soon!

E'en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come,
and night shall be no more;
they need no light, nor lamp, nor sun,
for Christ will be their All!

Revelation 22 *Paul Manz (1919-2009)*
adapted by Ruth Manz (1919-2008)

Please wait for the music to end before turning the page quietly

III. THE PROCLAMATION OF JOHN THE BAPTIST

THE SENTENCE

Please stand. The Canon Treasurer says

Behold, I will send my Messenger
and he shall prepare the way before me.

Prepare ye the way of the Lord:
All **make his paths straight.**

THE COLLECT

O Lord Jesu Christ,
who at thy first coming didst send thy messenger
to prepare thy way before thee:
grant that the ministers and stewards of thy mysteries
may likewise so prepare and make ready thy way,
by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just,
that at thy second coming to judge the world
we may be found an acceptable people in thy sight,
who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
ever one God, world without end.
All **Amen.**

Please sit.

THE THIRD LESSON

The proclamation of John the Baptist.

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.' This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, 'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight."'

Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

Matthew 3: 1-6

CHOIR

This is the record of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, Who art thou? And he confessed, and denied not, and said plainly, I am not the Christ.

And they asked him, What art thou, then? Art thou Elias? And he said, I am not. Art thou the Prophet? And he answered, No.

Then said they unto him, What art thou? that we may give an answer unto them that sent us. What say'st thou of thyself? And he said, I am the voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Make straight the way of the Lord.

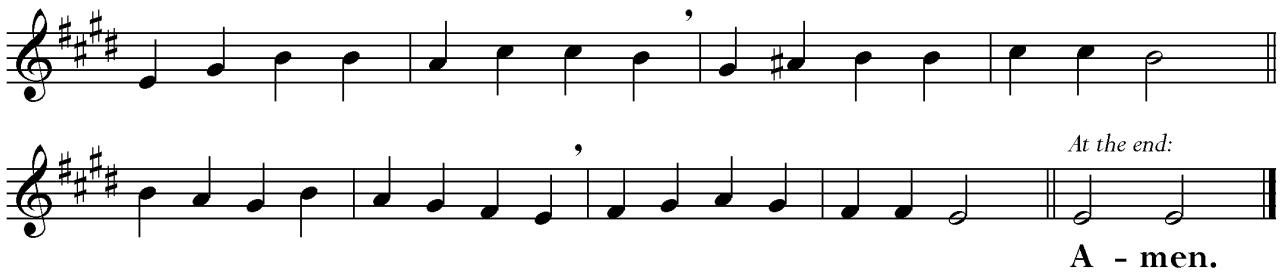
John 1: 19-23 *Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625)*

Please wait for the music to end before turning the page quietly

Please stand.

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN

during which the procession moves to the Quire



Hark! a herald voice is calling:
'Christ is nigh,' it seems to say;
'Cast away the dreams of darkness,
O ye children of the day!'

Startled at the solemn warning,
let the earth-bound soul arise;
Christ, her Sun, all sloth dispelling,
shines upon the morning skies.

Lo! the Lamb, so long expected,
comes with pardon down from heaven;
let us haste, with tears of sorrow,
one and all to be forgiven;

So when next he comes in glory,
and earth's final hour draws near,
may he then as our defender
on the clouds of heaven appear.

Honour, glory, virtue, merit,
to the Father and the Son,
with the co-eternal Spirit,
while unending ages run. Amen.

NEH 5 — *Merton*
Latin, tr. E. Caswall (1814-1878) — *W. H. Monk (1823-1889)*

IV. MARY: THE GOD-BEARER

THE SENTENCE

Remain standing. The Dean says

Behold, a virgin shall be with child,
and shall bring forth a Son,
and they shall call his name Emmanuel,
which being interpreted is, 'God with us.'

Unto us a child is born:

All **unto us a Son is given.**

THE COLLECT

Almighty and everlasting God,
who didst stoop to raise our fallen race
by the child-bearing of blessed Mary:
grant that we,
who have seen thy glory manifested in our flesh,
and thy love perfected in our weakness,
may daily be renewed in thine image,
and conformed to the likeness of thy Son,
who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost,
ever one God, world without end.

All **Amen.**

CHOIR

Remain standing as the thurifer, acolytes and Gospeller move to the Presbytery lectern.

Beata es, Virgo Maria,
quae omnium portasti creatorem mundi:
genuisti qui te fecit,
et in aeternum permanes virgo. Alleluia.
Blessed are you, O Virgin Mary,
who bore the creator of all things:
you brought forth him who made you,
and remain forever a virgin. Alleluia.

Offertory for the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin *William Byrd (c. 1540-1623)*

THE GOSPEL READING

The Lord be with you.

All **And with thy spirit.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Matthew.

All **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

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.'

Matthew 1: 18-23

Remain standing. As the Gospel Procession returns, the choir sings

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus Dominus Deus Sabaoth,
pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua.
Hosanna in excelsis.
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.

Messe Solennelle - Jean Langlais (1907-1991)

THE CENSING OF THE HIGH ALTAR

Remain standing. The Bishop leads the Responsory:

We wait for your loving-kindness, O Lord:
All **in the midst of your temple.**

The glory of the Lord shall be revealed:
All **and all flesh shall see it together.**

Show us your mercy, O Lord:
All **and grant us your salvation.**

The Bishop censes the High Altar as the choir sings

Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini.
Hosanna in excelsis.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

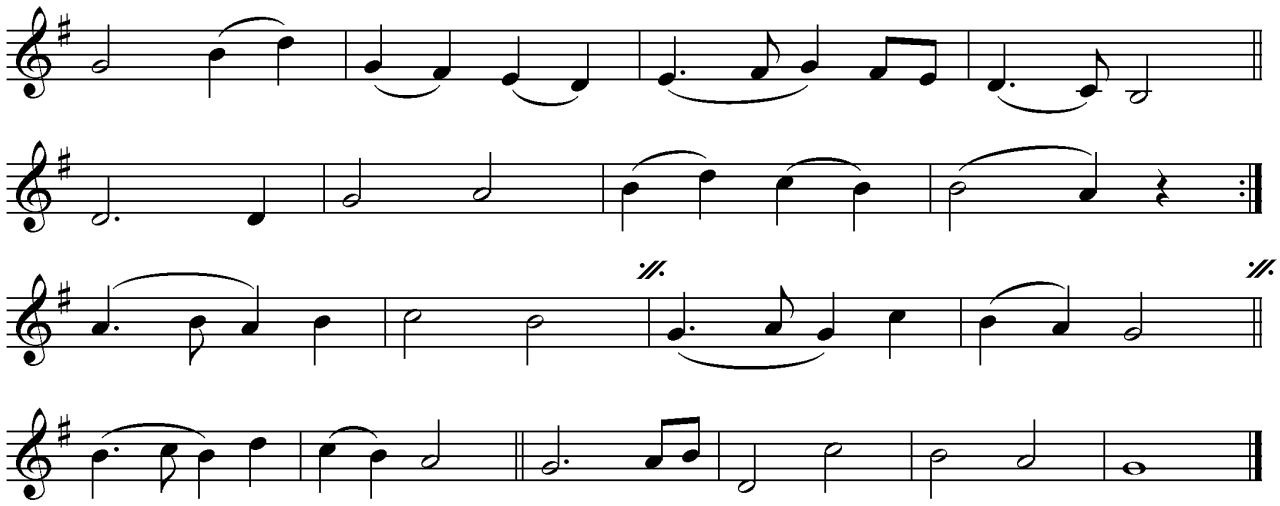
Messe Solennelle - Jean Langlais (1907-1991)

The Bishop, kneeling at the High Altar, leads the Responsory:

O Lord Jesus, come at evening time, with light:
All **and in the morning, with your glory,**
to guide our feet into the way of peace.

He who receives our prayers says: Surely I come quickly.
I am the root and offspring of David,
I am the bright and morning star.
All **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

CONGREGATIONAL CAROL



Lo! he comes with clouds descending,
once for favoured sinners slain;
thousand thousand saints attending
swell the triumph of his train:
Alleluia!
God appears, on earth to reign.

Every eye shall now behold him
robed in dreadful majesty;
those who set at nought and sold him,
pierced and nailed him to the tree,
deeply wailing
shall the true Messiah see.

Those dear tokens of his passion
still his dazzling body bears,
cause of endless exultation
to his ransomed worshippers:
with what rapture
gaze we on those glorious scars!

Yea, Amen! let all adore thee,
high on thine eternal throne;
Saviour, take the power and glory:
claim the kingdom for thine own:
O come quickly!
Alleluia! Come, Lord, come!

NEH 9
Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Helmsley
Melody noted by T. Olivers (1725-1799)
Included in Wesley's Select Hymns *(1765)*
Descant: Christopher Robinson (b. 1936)

THE BLESSING

The Lord be with you
All **and also with you.**

May God the Father, who loved the world so much
that he sent his only Son, give you grace to prepare for eternal life.
All **Amen.**

May God the Son, who comes to us as Redeemer and Judge,
reveal to you the path from darkness to light.
All **Amen.**

May God the Holy Spirit,
by whose working the Virgin Mary conceived the Christ,
help you bear the fruits of holiness.
All **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you, and remain with you for ever.
All **Amen.**

CLOSING MUSIC

INTRODUCTION AND FUGUE ON *VENI, VENI EMMANUEL*

Timothy Ravalde (b. 1988)

Please remain standing as the procession departs.

Please dispose of your extinguished candles using the baskets provided by the Stewards as you leave.

DONATIONS

There will be an opportunity to make a donation to support the mission and ministry of Chichester Cathedral as you leave. Donations can be made by cash or card – our Stewards will be happy to assist you. Other ways to donate are detailed at the front of this booklet.

Chichester Cathedral relies heavily on your generous donations. Whatever you give, whether large or small, helps us to maintain this special place and everything we offer. Thank you.

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SERVICES FOR CHRISTMAS AT CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL

Cathedral Carol Services

There are four opportunities to attend this year's Carol Service:

- Friday 18th December, 6.00pm
- Saturday 19th December, 3.00pm
- Sunday 20th December, 3.00pm (also livestreamed)
- Monday 21st December, 6.00pm

Services on Christmas Eve

- Children's Carols at the Crib, 11.00am and 2.00pm
- Christmas Eve Evensong, 6.00pm (also livestreamed)
- Midnight Mass, 11.00pm (also livestreamed)
  Celebrant and Preacher: The Dean of Chichester

Services on Christmas Day

- Said Holy Communion according to the Book of Common Prayer, 8.00am
- Eucharist for Children, Families & Caregivers, 9.00am
- Choral Mattins, 10.00am
- Sung Eucharist, 11.00am (also livestreamed)
  Celebrant and Preacher: The Acting Bishop of Chichester
  The Cathedral will close to the public for the rest of the day at 12.30pm.

The Epiphany Procession

A service celebrating the arrival of the Magi at Bethlehem

- Sunday 3rd January, 6.00pm (also livestreamed)

Full details are available on the Cathedral website, or available to collect as a hardcopy brochure in the Cathedral.

No advance booking is required for our Christmas services.