

CHICHESTER  
CATHEDRAL

# **EPIPHANY PROCESSION**

**SUNDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2026**  
**6.00PM**

For over 950 years, Chichester Cathedral has been  
a place of worship, welcome and community.  
Now, in 2025, 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 celebrate Our Lord's Nativity.

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

We are immensely grateful to the choir of St Paul's, Chichester for providing the music at this service, along with their director Chris Larley and organist Edward Cooke, and to recorder ensemble Fontanella (Rebecca Austen-Brown, Lou Bradbury, Sarah Humphrys and Annabel Knight).

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](mailto:info@chichestercathedral.org.uk)**

The congregation are asked to note that 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'.

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](http://www.chichestercathedral.org.uk)**

# BEFORE THE SERVICE

*As the congregation arrives, the following pieces are performed by Fontanella:*

GLORIA AD MODUM TUBAE	<i>Guillaume DuFay (c. 1474)</i>
UT TE PER OMNES CELITUS	<i>Johannes Ciconia (c. 1370-1412)</i>
FINE KNACKS FOR LADIES	<i>John Dowland (c. 1563-1626)</i>
UNE JEUNE PUCELLE	<i>Jean-Francois Dandrieu (c. 1682-1738)</i>
TALES OF LADIES FAIR	<i>Trad. Arr Annabel Knight</i>

## EPIPHANY

*by Howard Thurman (1900-1981)*

*When the song of the angels is stilled,  
When the star in the sky is gone,  
When the Kings have left and gone home,  
When the shepherds are back with their flocks,  
Then 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 people,  
To make music in the heart.*

# ORDER OF SERVICE

*After a welcome, the Cathedral lights are dimmed and a lone recorder begins playing from the Shrine of St Richard.*

CAROL *(please remain seated)*

*The choir sings the following carol, with the congregation joining in the refrain from verse 2 onwards, and the procession moves from the transepts to the west end of the Cathedral.*

Choir    We three kings of Orient are,  
             bearing gifts we traverse afar  
             field and fountain, moor and mountain,  
             following yonder star:  
             *O star of wonder, star of night,  
             star with royal beauty bright,  
             westward leading, still proceeding,  
             guide us to thy perfect light.*

Choir    Born a king on Bethlehem plain,  
             gold I bring to crown him again,  
             king for ever, ceasing never  
             over us all to reign:

All        ***O star of wonder, star of night,  
star with royal beauty bright,  
westward leading, still proceeding,  
guide us to thy perfect light.***

Choir Frankincense to offer have I,  
incense owns a deity nigh;  
prayer and praising, all men raising,  
worship him, God most high:

All ***O star of wonder, star of night,  
star with royal beauty bright,  
westward leading, still proceeding,  
guide us to thy perfect light.***

Choir Myrrh is mine, its bitter perfume  
breathes a life of gathering gloom,  
sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,  
sealed in the stone-cold tomb:

All ***O star of wonder, star of night,  
star with royal beauty bright,  
westward leading, still proceeding,  
guide us to thy perfect light.***

*During the final verse, Mary and Joseph take their place at the Arundel Screen.*

Choir Glorious now behold him arise,  
king and God and sacrifice.  
Heaven sings 'Alleluia';  
'Alleluia,' the earth replies:

All ***O star of wonder, star of night,  
star with royal beauty bright,  
westward leading, still proceeding,  
guide us to thy perfect light.***

## READING

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.'

*Luke 2: 8-11*

*A fanfare sounds as the Angels appear on the Arundel Screen.*

## CAROL

*during which the Shepherds process to the Arundel Screen – please remain seated*

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

**'Fear not,' said he (for mighty dread  
had seized their troubled mind);  
'glad tidings of great joy I bring  
to you and all mankind.**

**'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:**

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

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

**'All glory be to God on high,  
              and on the earth be peace;  
good-will henceforth from heaven to men  
              begin and never cease.'**

*Nahum Tate (1652-1715)*

*Winchester Old  
Thomas Este's Psalter (1592)*

## READING

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*

CAROL

*during which the Kings' procession moves towards the Arundel Screen –  
please remain seated*

**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!**

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!*

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!*

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!*

*18<sup>th</sup>-century Latin  
tr. Frederick Oakeley (1802-1880)*

*Adeste Fideles  
18<sup>th</sup>-century English carol  
arr. David Willcocks (1919-2015)*

## THE PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

*The Kings present their gifts and take their places beside the manger.*

*At the presentation of each gift the following acclamations are read:*

### GOLD

Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the universe:  
to you be praise and glory for ever!  
As gold in the furnace is tried  
and purified seven times in the fire,  
so purify our hearts and minds  
that we may be a royal priesthood  
acceptable in the service of your kingdom.

*All*     **Blessed be God for ever.**

### FRANKINCENSE

Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the universe:  
to you be praise and glory for ever!  
As our prayer rises up before you as incense,  
so may we be presented before you  
with penitent hearts and uplifted hands  
to offer ourselves in your priestly service.

*All*     **Blessed be God for ever.**

## MYRRH

Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the universe:  
to you be praise and glory for ever!  
As you give medicine to heal our sickness  
and the leaves of the tree of life  
for the healing of the nations,  
so anoint us with your healing power  
that we may be the first-fruits of your new creation.

*All*     **Blessed be God for ever.**

## CHOIR

In the bleak midwinter 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 midwinter, 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 midwinter a stable-place sufficed  
the Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ.

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.

*Christina Rossetti (1830-1894)*

*Gustav Holst (1874-1934)  
arr. Mack Wilberg (b. 1955)*

*Please stand.*

## CAROL

*during which the tableau moves to the High Altar and a cash collection is taken*

*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. Other ways to donate are detailed at the front of this booklet.*



**O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness!  
Bow down before him, his glory proclaim;  
with gold of obedience, and incense of lowliness,  
kneel and adore him, the Lord is his name!**

**Low at his feet lay thy burden of carefulness,  
high on his heart he will bear it for thee,  
comfort thy sorrows, and answer thy prayerfulness,  
guiding thy steps as may best for thee be.**

**Fear not to enter his courts in the slenderness  
of the poor wealth thou wouldst reckon as thine:  
truth in its beauty, and love in its tenderness,  
these are the offerings to lay on his shrine.**

**These, though we bring them in trembling and fearfulness,  
he will accept for the name that is dear;  
mornings of joy give for evenings of tearfulness,  
trust for our trembling and hope for our fear.**

**O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness!  
Bow down before him, his glory proclaim;  
with gold of obedience, and incense of lowliness,  
kneel and adore him, the Lord is his name!**

*NEH 52  
J. S. B. Monsell (1811-1875)*

*Was lebet  
Melody from the Rheinhardt MS (1754)*

*Please sit.*

THE ADDRESS

*The Dean  
The Very Reverend Dr Edward Dowler*

## CHOIR

*As the choir sings, the congregation's candles are lit.*

A maiden most gentle and tender we sing;  
of Mary the mother of Jesus our King.

*Ave Maria.*

How blessed is the birth of her heavenly child,  
who came to redeem us in Mary so mild.

*Ave Maria.*

The Archangel Gabriel foretold by his call  
the Lord of Creation, and Saviour of all.

*Ave Maria.*

Three kings came to worship with gifts rich and rare,  
and marvelled in awe at the babe in her care.

*Ave Maria.*

Rejoice and be glad at this Christmas we pray;  
sing praise to the Saviour, sing endless 'Ave'.

*Ave Maria.*

*The Venerable Bede (673-735)  
paraphrased by Andrew Carter*

*Andrew Carter (b. 1939)*

## THE PRAYERS

*The following response is used:*

Lord, hear us.

*All*     **Lord, graciously hear us.**

*The Prayers conclude 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.**

## THE BLESSING

*Please stand. The Dean says*

Christ our Lord,  
to whom kings bowed down in worship and offered gifts,  
reveal to you his glory  
and pour upon you the riches of his grace;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

*All*     **Amen.**



## CAROL AND PROCESSION

*During this carol, the congregation follows the choir in a candlelit procession to the High Altar, passing close to the final tableau. Please follow the direction of the Stewards.*

*The exit route is via the north and south Quire gates, proceeding to the west and leaving the Cathedral through the West Door. Alternatively, you are welcome to return to your seats for a period of quiet contemplation as the closing music is played.*

*Between the verses of this hymn, interludes will be played on the organ and by Fontanella.*

*If you have not yet been able to make a donation, there will be an opportunity to donate either by cash or card as you leave (our Stewards will be available to assist you), or you can scan this QR code to donate online.*



Choir    As with gladness men of old  
             did the guiding star behold,  
             as with joy they hailed its light,  
             leading onward, beaming bright,  
             so, most gracious God, may we  
             evermore be led to thee.

All        **As with joyful steps they sped,  
             to that lowly manger-bed,  
             there to bend the knee before  
             him whom heaven and earth adore,  
             so may we with willing feet  
             ever seek thy mercy-seat.**

As they offered gifts most rare  
at that manger rude and bare,  
so may we with holy joy,  
pure, and free from sin's alloy,  
all our costliest treasures bring,  
Christ, to thee our heavenly King.

Holy Jesu, every day  
keep us in the narrow way;  
and, when earthly things are past,  
bring our ransomed souls at last  
where they need no star to guide,  
where no clouds thy glory hide.

In the heavenly country bright  
need they no created light;  
thou its Light, its Joy, its Crown,  
thou its Sun which goes not down:  
there for ever may we sing  
alleluias to our King.

*NEH 47*  
*W. Chatterton Dix (1837-1898)*

*Dix*  
*From a chorale by C. Kocher (1786-1872)*  
*Abridged by W. H. Monk (1823-1889)*

## CHOIR

How sweet is the shepherd's sweet lot!  
From the morn to the evening he strays;  
he shall follow his sheep all the day,  
and his tongue shall be filled with praise.

Little lamb, who made thee?  
Dost thou know who made thee,  
gave thee life, and bid thee feed  
by the stream and o'er the mead;  
gave thee clothing of delight,  
softest clothing, woolly, bright;  
gave thee such a tender voice,  
making all the vales rejoice?  
Little lamb, who made thee?  
Dost thou know who made thee?

For he hears the lambs' innocent call,  
and he hears the ewes' tender reply;  
he is watchful while they are in peace,  
for they know when their shepherd is nigh.

Little lamb, I'll tell thee;  
Little lamb, I'll tell thee:  
He is called by thy name,  
for he calls himself a Lamb.  
He is meek, and he is mild,  
he became a little child.  
I a child, and thou a lamb,  
we are called by his name.  
Little lamb, God bless thee!  
Little lamb, God bless thee!

## CHOIR

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,  
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.  
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,  
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the poor baby wakes,  
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.

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

*Anonymous words*

*Melody by W. J. Kirkpatrick (1838-1921)  
arr. Ola Gjeilo (b. 1978)*

## CLOSING MUSIC

IMPRESSION ON *WE THREE KINGS*

*Alfred V. Fedak (b. 1953)*

POSTLUDE ON  
*HARK THE HERALD-ANGELS SING*

*David Willcocks (1919-2015)*