

CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL

Midnight Mass

CELEBRANT

The Bishop of Chichester
The Right Reverend Dr Martin Warner

MASS SETTING

Messe Solennelle
Louis Vierne (1870-1937)

Christmas Eve 2020 at 11.30pm

Digital Collection Plate



Scan the QR code to interact

Or go to thyg.uk/AQU35146

Need help? Visit help.thyngs.net

WELCOME TO CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL

This booklet contains all you will need to follow the service. The booklet includes suggestions about posture, but it is important that individuals feel comfortable.

This booklet is also available in a format with larger print. Please ask the stewards if you would like a copy.

Please note that congregational singing is not permitted at this service, in accordance with government guidelines.

*Donations - We ask that where possible you donate by scanning the QR code on the front of this booklet with a mobile phone or tablet, donating online at **thyg.uk/AQU35146**, or using one of the cashless donation points around the Cathedral.*

This service will be live-streamed and broadcast to our congregation online (this refers to the Cathedral's website, YouTube channel and Facebook page). Typically, services are made available for up to 7 days, however this period may be longer for special recordings. For further questions, both on live-streaming and on data protection, please contact:

marketing@chichestercathedral.org.uk

The congregation are asked to note that any other photography, filming and audio recording is 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'.

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

ORGAN MUSIC BEFORE THE SERVICE

Played by Thomas Howell, Organ Scholar

FANFARE

William Mathias (1934-1992)

MINUET GOTHIQUE

Léon Böellmann (1862-1897)

PRESTO *from* VOLUNTARY NO. 5

William Walond (1719-1768)

ALLEIN GOTT IN DER HÖH SEI EHR

*Johann Gottfried Walther
(1684-1748)*

ORDER OF SERVICE

THE GATHERING

Please stand as the procession enters. The choir sings

THE SUSSEX CAROL

On Christmas night all Christians sing
to hear the news the angels bring:
news of great joy, news of great mirth,
news of our merciful King's birth.

Then why should men on earth be so sad,
since our Redeemer made us glad,
when from our sin he set us free,
all for to gain our liberty?

When sin departs before his grace,
then life and health come in its place.
Angels and men with joy may sing
all for to see the new-born King.

All out of darkness we have light,
which made the angels sing this night:
'Glory to God and peace to men,
now and for evermore, Amen!'

*Traditional carol
arr. Philip Ledger (1937-2012)*

GREETING

The Bishop greets the people:

In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Peace be with you
and also with you.

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

**Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

PRAYERS OF PENITENCE

Christ the light of the world has come
to dispel the darkness of our hearts.
In his light let us examine ourselves and confess our sins.

God our Father,
you sent your Son full of grace and truth:
forgive our failure to receive him.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Jesus our Saviour,
you were born in poverty and laid in a manger:
forgive our greed and rejection of your ways.
Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

Spirit of Love,
your servant Mary responded joyfully to your call:
forgive the hardness of our hearts.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

The Bishop pronounces

THE ABSOLUTION

May the God of all healing and forgiveness
draw you to himself,
that you may behold the glory of his Son,
the Word made flesh,
and be cleansed from all your sins
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The choir sings

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO

Gloria in excelsis Deo et in terra pax hominibus bonae voluntatis. Laudamus te, benedicimus te, adoramus te, glorificamus te, gratias agimus tibi propter magnam gloriam tuam, Domine Deus, rex caelestis, Deus Pater omnipotens.

Glory be to God on high, and in earth peace, goodwill towards men. We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.

Domine Fili unigenite, Jesu Christe, Domine Deus, Agnus Dei, Filius Patris, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis; qui tollis peccata mundi, suscipe deprecationem nostram. Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris, miserere nobis.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesu Christ: O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.

Quoniam tu solus Sanctus, tu solus Dominus, tu solus Altissimus, Jesu Christe, cum Sancto Spiritu: in gloria Dei Patris. Amen.

For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art Most High, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

THE COLLECT

Let us pray.

Eternal God,
who made this most holy night
to shine with the brightness of your one true light:
bring us, who have known the revelation of that light on earth,
to see the radiance of your heavenly glory;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

Please sit.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

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 the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. 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.

This is the word of the Lord.

Isaiah 9: 2-7

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING

Please stand. The choir alone sings

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us,
and we have seen his glory.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

When the Gospel is announced, the reader says

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

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.

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. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Luke 2: 1-20

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please remain standing until the Sermon has been introduced.

SERMON

The Bishop of Chichester
The Right Reverend Dr Martin Warner

THE NICENE CREED

Please stand.

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Please sit or stand. These responses are used:

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

or

Lord, hear us.
Lord, graciously hear us.

And at the end:

Merciful Father,
**accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

THE PEACE

Please stand.

This holy night the angels sang,
‘Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace to all in whom he delights.’

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Please sit. The choir sings

AWAY IN A MANGER

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 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.

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.

19th-century American words

*Melody by W. J. Kirkpatrick (1838-1921)
arr. David Willcocks (1919-2015)*

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Please stand.

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere,
mighty creator, ever-living God.

We give you thanks and praise for your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who for love of our fallen race humbled himself,
and on this night was born of the Virgin Mary
by the power of your Spirit,
and lived as one of us.

In this mystery of the Word made flesh
you have caused his light to shine in our hearts,
to give knowledge of your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.
In him we see our God made visible
and so are caught up in the love of the God we cannot see.
Therefore with all the angels of heaven
we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name
and sing our joyful hymn of praise:

The choir sings

SANCTUS

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus Dominus Deus Sabaoth, pleni sunt caeli
et terra gloria tua. Hosanna in excelsis.

*Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts, heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Hosanna in the highest.*

The Eucharistic Prayer continues:

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
and according to your holy will,
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:
Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:
**Dying you destroyed our death,
rising you restored our life:
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world;
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,
we bring before you this bread and this cup
and we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we, in the company of all the saints,
may praise and glorify you for ever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,
for ever and ever.

Amen.

Please sit or stand.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Bishop breaks the consecrated bread.

**We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

GIVING OF COMMUNION

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word and I shall be healed.**

Communion will be administered in one kind only and it will be brought to you in your place. Once you have received communion please sit down.

During communion, the choir sings

AGNUS DEI

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata
mundi: miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata
mundi: miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata
mundi: dona nobis pacem.

*O Lamb of God, that takest away the
sins of the world, have mercy upon us.*

*O Lamb of God, that takest away the
sins of the world, have mercy upon us.*

*O Lamb of God, that takest away the
sins of the world, grant us thy peace.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Please stand.

God our Father,
in this night you have made known to us again
the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ:
confirm our faith and fix our eyes on him
until the day dawns
and Christ the Morning Star rises in our hearts.
To him be glory both now and for ever.
Amen.

THE SENDING OUT

THE DISMISSAL

The Bishop says

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Our help is in the name of the Lord
who has made heaven and earth.

Blessed be the name of the Lord
now and for ever. Amen.

Christ, who by his incarnation
gathered into one things earthly and heavenly,
fill you with 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 among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

Go in the peace of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

MUSIC AFTER THE SERVICE

Played by Timothy Ravalde, Assistant Organist

DIEU PARMi NOUS
from LA NATIVITÉ DU SEIGNEUR

Olivier Messiaen (1908-1992)

**We wish you
a joyful and blessed Christmas!**

Absolution (Epiphany) © Right Revd Kenneth Stevenson, 1989
Some material included in this service is copyright: © The Archbishops' Council 2000
Some material included in this service is copyright: © The Archbishops' Council 2002
Some material included in this service is copyright: © The Archbishops' Council 2005
Triple Blessing (Incarnation & BVM 3) © The Archbishops' Council