The Chapel of Selwyn College, Cambridge

LESSONS AND CAROLS
FOR CHRISTMAS 2020

THURSDAY 3 DECEMBER
FRIDAY 4 DECEMBER
SATURDAY 5 DECEMBER
at 3pm and 6pm
Please ensure that all mobile devices are switched off for the duration of the service.

This service may be being recorded, and the service at 6pm on Thursday 3 December will be livestreamed on YouTube.com/SelwynCollegeChapel, and will be available to view afterwards.

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ORGAN MUSIC BEFORE THE SERVICES

3pm services
played by Yvette Murphy, 
Junior Organ Scholar

Wachet auf, ruft uns die stimme  
– Max Reger (1873-1916)

O come, O come, Emmanuel  
– Flor Peeters (1903-1986)

O Rex gentium  
– Cecilia McDowall (b. 1951)

Creator alme siderum  
– Marcel Dupré (1886-1971)

O Little Town of Bethlehem  
– Wilbur Held (1914-2015)

6pm services
played by Michael Stephens-Jones ARCO,  
Percy Young Senior Organ Scholar

Noël Suisse  
– Claude Daquin (1694-1772)

Es ist ein Ros entsprungen  
– Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)

Von Himmel Hoch  
– Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

The Holy Boy  
– John Ireland (1879-1962)

Please stand when the bell rings.

CHOIR – Once in Royal David’s City

1 Once in royal David’s city  
Stood a lowly cattle shed,  
Where a mother laid her baby  
In a manger for his bed:  
Mary was that mother mild  
Jesus Christ her little child.

2 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.

3 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.

4 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 crown’d  
All in white shall wait around.

words: C. F. Alexander (1818-1895)  
THE BIDDING PRAYER

Beloved in Christ, as we enter, eager and expectant, into this season of Advent, looking forward to the birth of the Christ child, and as we await the great festival of Christmas, let us prepare ourselves so that we may be shown its true meaning. Let us hear, in lessons from Holy Scripture, how the prophets of Israel foretold that God would visit and redeem his waiting people. Let us rejoice, in our carols and hymns, that the good purpose of God is being mightily fulfilled. Let us celebrate the promise that our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, will bring all people and all things into the glory of God’s eternal kingdom.

But first let us pray for the needs of his whole world; for peace and goodwill over all the earth; for unity within the Church he came to build, in our nation, in this University and City of Cambridge, and in this College founded to the perpetuation of the name and work of Bishop George Augustus Selwyn: And let us at this time remember in Christ’s name the poor and the helpless, the cold, the hungry and the oppressed; the sick in body and in mind and all who mourn; the lonely and the unloved; the aged and the little children; and all who know not the loving kindness of God.

Lastly let us remember before God all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore and in a greater light, that multitude which no-one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom we for evermore are one. These prayers and praises let us humbly offer up to the throne of Heaven, in the words which Christ himself hath taught us:

All
Our Father, which art in Heaven,
Hallowed be thy Name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done,
in earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
And forgive us our trespasses,
As we forgive them that trespass against us;
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory
Forever and ever. Amen.

The Almighty God bless us with his grace: Christ give us the joys of everlasting life: and unto the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all.    All    Amen.
Please be seated.

CHOIR – Carol of the Bells
3pm services

Hark how the bells,
Sweet silver bells,
All seem to say
Throw cares away.

Christmas is here
Bringing good cheer
To young and old,
Meek and the bold.

Ding, dong, ding dong,
This is their song,
With joyful ring,
All carolling.

One seems to hear
Words of good cheer
From everywhere
Filling the air.

O how they pound,
Rising their sound
O’er hill and dale
Telling their tale,

Gaily they ring
While people sing
song of good cheer,
Christmas is here.

On, on they send,
On without end
Their joyful tone
To every home.

words: Ukrainian
tr. Peter Wilhousky (1902-1978)
music: Mykola Leontovych (1877-1921)
based on Ukrainian song Shchedryk

CHOIR – Ding dong, merrily on high
6pm services

Ding dong merrily on high,
In heav’n the bells are ringing:
Ding dong! verily the sky
Is riv’n with angel singing
Gloria Hosanna in excelsis! (x:2)

E’en so here below, below,
Let steeple bells be swungen,
And “Io, io, io!”
By priest and people sungen, Gloria…

Pray you, dutifully prime
Your matin chime, ye ringers,
May you beautifully rhyme
Your eve’time song, ye singers, Gloria…

words: G. R. Woodward (1848-1934)
music: traditional French Carol
arr. Charles Wood (SE 1888)
FIRST LESSON

The Prophet proclaims the good news to a people in exile. (Isaiah 9: 2, 6-7; 11: 1-6)

The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined. For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.

And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots: and the spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord; and shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the Lord. With righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth. The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them.
CHOIR – Nativity Carol
3pm services

Born in a stable so bare
Born so long ago
Born ’neath light of star
He who loved us so
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
Far away…

Wise men from distant far land
Shepherds from starry hills
Worship this babe so rare
Hearts with his warmth he fills
Far away…

Love in that stable was born
Into our hearts to flow
Innocent dreaming babe
Make me thy love to know
Far away…

words & music: John Rutter (b. 1945)

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CHOIR – Do you hear what I hear
6pm services

Said the night wind
to the little lamb
Do you see what I see
Way up in the sky little lamb
Do you see what I see
A star, Dancing in the night
With a tail as big as a kite.

Said the little lamb
to the shepherd boy
Do you hear what I hear
Ringing through the sky shepherd boy
Do you hear what I hear
A song, High above the trees
With a voice as big as the sea.

Said the shepherd boy
to the mighty king
Do you know what I know
In your palace wall mighty king
Do you know what I know
A child, Shivers in the cold
Let us bring him silver and gold.

Said the king
to the people everywhere
Listen to what I say
Pray for peace people everywhere
Listen to what I say
The child, Sleeping in the night
He will bring us goodness and light.

words: Noël Regney (1922-2002)
music: Gloria Shayne Baker (1923-2008)
arr. Sarah MacDonald (b. 1968)
SECOND LESSON

The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary. (St Luke 1: 26-35, 38)

And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth, to a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin’s name was Mary. And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women. And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be. And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God. And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: and he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end. Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man? And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God. And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word. And the angel departed from her.
CHOIR – Gabriel’s Message
3pm services

The angel Gabriel from heaven came,
His wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame;
“All hail,” said he, “O lowly maiden Mary,”
“Most highly favoured lady!” Gloria!

“For known a blessed Mother you shall be,
All generations praise continually,
Your son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold.” Most highly…

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head;
“To me be as it pleases God!” she said.
“My soul shall laud and magnify his holy name.” Most highly…

Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ, was born
In Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn;
And Christian folk throughout the world will ever say: Most highly…

words: Basque traditional tr. Sabine Baring-Gould (1834-1924)
music: Basques traditional, arr. Sarah MacDonald (b. 1968)

CHOIR – I sing of a maiden
6pm services

1 I sing of a maiden
   That is makes, [matchless]
   King of all kings
   To her son she ches. [chose]

2 He came all so still
   Where his mother was
   As dew in April
   That falleth on the grass.

3 He came all so still
   To his mother’s bower
   As dew in April
   That falleth on the flower.

4 He came all so still
   Where his mother lay
   As dew in April
   That falleth on the spray.

5 Mother and maiden
   Was never none but she;
   Well may such a lady
   God’s mother be.

words: Anonymous English 15thC
music: Patrick Hadley (1899-1973)
THIRD LESSON

*St Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.* (St Luke 2: 1-20)

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Cæsar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judæa, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David) to be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, 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, and on earth peace, good will toward men. And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us. And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.
CHOIR – O little town of Bethlehem

1 O little town of Bethlehem,
How still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth,
The everlasting light;
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee tonight.

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.

3 O holy Child of Bethlehem,
Descend to us we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in,
Be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell:
O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Emmanuel.

words: Bishop Phillips Brooks (1835-1893)
music: FOREST GREEN; descant: Thomas Armstrong (1898-1994)
FOURTH LESSON

The wise men are led by the star to Jesus. (St Matthew 2: 1-12)

Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judæa in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him. When Herod the king had heard these things, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born. And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judæa: for thus it is written by the prophet, And thou Bethlehem, in the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel. Then Herod, when he had privily called the wise men, inquired of them diligently what time the star appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, Go and search diligently for the young child; and when ye have found him, bring me word again, that I may come and worship him also. When they had heard the king, they departed; and lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts, gold, and frankincense, and myrrh. And being warned of God in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed into their own country another way.
Lux, calida gravisque
pura velut aurum,
et canunt angeli molliter
modo natum.

Light, warm and heavy
as pure gold,
and the angels sing softly
to the newborn babe.

words: Edward Esch, (b. 1970)
tr. into Latin by
Charles Anthony Silvestri (b. 1965)
music: Eric Whitacre (b. 1970)

We three kings of Orient are
Bearing gifts we traverse afar
Field and fountain, moor and mountain
Following yonder star

Born a king on Bethlehem’s plain
Gold I bring to crown Him again
King forever, ceasing never
Over us all to reign.

O star of wonder, star of night
Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect light.

Frankincense to offer have I,
Incense owns a deity night,
Prayer and prising, all men raising,
Worship him, God most high.

Myrrh is mine, its bitter perfume
Breathes a life of gathering gloom
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding dying
Sealed in the stone-cold tomb.
O star of wonder, star of night…

Glorious now, behold him arise,
King and God and sacrifice.
Heaven sings Alleluia,
Alleluia the earth replies.
O star of wonder, star of night…

words & music:
John Henry Hopkins Junior (1820-1891)
arr. Philip Stopford (b. 1977)
FIFTH LESSON

*St John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.* (St John 1: 1-14)

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the light, that all men through him might believe. He was not that light, but was sent to bear witness of that light. That was the true light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only-begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

CHOIR – O come, all ye faithful

1  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, (3x)*  
*Christ the Lord.*

2  God of God,  
Light of Light,  
Lo! he abhors not  
The Virgin’s womb;  
Very God,  
Begotten, not created:  
*Refrain.*

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:  
*Refrain.*

4  Sing choirs of angels,  
Sing in exultation,  
Sing, all ye citizens  
Of heaven above;  
Glory to God  
In the highest:  
*Refrain.*

words: Latin probably 13thC, trans. Frederick Oakeley (1802-1880)  
Please stand.

THE COLLECTS AND BLESSING

Dean We wait for thy loving kindness, O Lord,
All In the midst of thy temple.
Dean Let us pray.

O God, who makest us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of thy only Son Jesus Christ; Grant that as we joyfully receive him for our Redeemer, so we may with sure confidence behold him when he shall come to be our Judge; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end.
All Amen.

Go forth into the world in peace; be of good courage; hold fast that which is good; render to no-one evil for evil; strengthen the faint-hearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honour one another; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Ghost. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be upon you, and remain with you always.
All Amen.

Please remain standing as the choir and ministers leave the chapel.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

3pm services (played by Yvette Murphy, Junior Organ Scholar)
Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme BWV 645 – J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

6pm services (played by Michael Stephens-Jones, Percy Young Senior Organ Scholar)
Grand Dialogue – Louis Marchand (1669-1732)
Thanks are due to all who have supported and contributed to chapel life over the past year, especially those who have worked so hard to ensure worship has continued throughout the lockdowns.

Special thanks, too, to those who have given their time and talents to our carol services and their preparation, especially:

- The Director of Music, Organ Scholars, and all members of the Chapel Choir for preparing and leading the music; and Caille Sugarman-Banaszak, the Choir Administrative Assistant.
- Emily Williams, in charge of the chapel’s livestreaming;
- All readers;
- The Chapel Clerk, chapel wardens and sacristans, and others who have staffed these services;
- Caroline Stafferton, the Chapel Administrator, for all her assistance with bookings and seating plans.

Hugh Shilson-Thomas
Dean of Chapel & Chaplain