

CAROL of JOY

Christmas
Carols from
All Saints
Northampton

CHOIRS OF ALL SAINTS NORTHAMPTON
Directed by Lee Dunleavy

£10

The choir's most recent recordings are on sale after today's service. All of tonight's carols are featured on our new CD, available tonight for £10, or why not buy it alongside our other carols disc - The Bethlehem Star, at £15 for both!



£15

for both

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THE FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS 2011



The Church of All Saints
with St Katharine & St Peter
in Northampton

www.allsaintsnorthampton.co.uk

The original service of Nine Lessons and Carols was drawn up by E. W. Benson, later Archbishop of Canterbury, for use in the wooden shed which then served as his cathedral in Truro, at 10:00PM on Christmas Eve 1880. A. C. Benson recalled: "My father arranged from ancient sources a little service for Christmas Eve - nine carols and nine tiny lessons, which were read by various officers of the Church, beginning with a chorister, and ending, through the different grades, with the Bishop." The suggestion had come from G. H. S. Walpole, later Bishop of Edinburgh.

Almost immediately other churches adapted the service for their own use; All Saints first held a service of Nine Lessons and Carols during the ministry of Canon Trevor Lewis, who came to All Saints from Truro. A wider fame began to grow when the service was first broadcast from King's College, Cambridge in 1928. With the exception of 1930 it has been broadcast from there annually, even during the Second World War, when the ancient glass had been removed from the Chapel and the name of King's could not be broadcast for security reasons.

Wherever the service is heard and however it is adapted, whether the music is provided by the choir or congregation, the pattern and strength of the service derives from the lessons and not the music. The centre of the service is still found by those who 'go in heart and mind' and who consent to follow where the story leads.

All of the carols sung tonight are featured on our new CD recording, *Carol of Joy*, which is on sale at the end of the service, or by credit card from our website. We rely almost entirely on the generosity of those who come to our services to provide scholarships for the most gifted and talented young singers in the county. We therefore ask that in return for this evening's wonderful musical offering you **give as generously as you are able** in the collection. If you are a UK tax-payer, please use the Gift Aid envelope provided so that we can maximise on your generosity. With thanks in advance.

¶ **The congregation is asked to be silent during the organ music before the service.**

HYMN

¶ **Sung by all, standing.**

All HARK! 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!'*

Christ, 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 man with man to dwell:
Jesus, our Emmanuel! *Hark! ...*

Hail 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 man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth. *Hark! ...*

Words, *Charles Wesley* (1707 - 1788) Music, *Felix Mendelssohn* (1809 - 1847)
and *George Whitefield* (1714 - 1770)

Harmonies and Decant by
Sir David Willcocks (b. 1919)
Oxford University Press

What comfort by Him do we win?
Who made Himself the Prince of sin,
to make us heirs of glory?
To see this Babe, all innocence,
A Martyr born in our defence,
can man forget this story?

Words, *Ben Jonson* (1572 - 1637)

Music, *Philip Wilby* (b.1949)
Chester Music Ltd.

¶ **The congregation remains standing.**

THE PRAYERS & SOLEMN BLESSING

Priest The Lord be with you.

All **And with thy spirit.**

Priest Let us pray.

The Collect of Christmas Eve

O GOD, who makest us glad by 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 Spirit, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

¶ **Bow your heads for the Blessing.**

The Blessing

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.**

INTROIT HYMN

¶ **The congregation stands as the lights are dimmed. All join in singing the last four verses of the hymn.**

Solo *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*

Choir *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.*

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.

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.

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.

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;
When like stars his children crowned all in white shall wait around.

Words, *C. F. Alexander* (1818 - 1895)

Music, *H. J. Gauntlett* (1805 - 1876)

Descant by *Andrew Senn* (b. 1978)

www.andrewsenn.com

BIDDING PRAYER

¶ Remain standing.

BELOVÉD in Christ, be it this Christmas our care and delight to prepare ourselves to hear again the message of the angels: in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem and see this thing which is come to pass, and the Babe lying in a manger.

Therefore let us read and mark in Holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God from the first days of our disobedience unto the glorious Redemption brought us by this Holy Child; and let us make this church glad with our carols of praise.

But first let us pray for the needs of His whole world; for peace and goodwill over all the earth; for unity and brotherhood within the Church He came to build, within the dominions of our sovereign lady Queen Elizabeth, and within this town and the county of Northamptonshire.

Especially at this time of interregnum for our Parish, we pray for our faithful congregations and for the people of all our county's Churches currently in interregnum; we pray for Father David McConkey and the people of Swindon Newtown, as he prepares to join us as our next Parish Priest, and as they prepare for their interregnum.

And because this would rejoice His heart, let us remember in His name the poor and the helpless, the cold, the hungry and the oppressed; the sick in body and in mind and them that mourn; the lonely and the unloved; the aged and the little children; and all who know not the Lord Jesus, or who love Him not, or who by sin have grieved His heart of love.

THE HOLY GOSPEL (NINTH LESSON)

read by an Honorary Assistant Priest of All Saints

St John unfolds the great mystery of the
Incarnation. ST JOHN 1

¶ The congregation remains standing for the final Carol.

CAROL

sung by the combined choirs

I SING the birth was born tonight,
The Author both of life and light;
the angels so did sound it,
And like the ravished shepherds said,
Who saw the light, and were afraid,
yet searched, and true they found it.

The Son of God, the eternal King,
That did us all salvation bring,
and freed the soul from danger;
He whom the whole world could not take,
The Word, which heaven and earth did make,
was now laid in a manger.

The Father's wisdom willed it so,
The Son's obedience knew no "No,"
both wills were in one stature;
And as that wisdom had decreed,
THE WORD WAS NOW MADE FLESH indeed,
and took on Him our nature.

[cont. over

All Frankincense to offer have I,
incense owns a Deity nigh,
Prayer and praising, all men raising,
worship him, God most high.
*O Star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding,
guide us to thy perfect light.*

**Women
and Boys** Myrrh is mine, its bitter perfume
breathes of 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.*

All Glorious now behold him arise,
King and God and sacrifice!
Heav'n sings Alleluia,
Alleluia the earth replies.
*O Star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding,
guide us to thy perfect light.*

Words, *The Reverend
John Henry Hopkins* (1820 - 1891)

Music, trad. English tune arr.
Magnus Williamson (b. 1967)
Kirklees Music

¶ **The congregation remains standing.**

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 man 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
**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 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.

¶ **The congregation sits.**

CAROL

sung by the boys & men

IN DARKNESS held the world awaits
salvation, healing, light;
The promised grace, at last to come,
brings freedom, wholeness, sight.

In darkness held our souls await
true freedom from our fear;
the longed for peace, our heart's desire,
contentment, solace, cheer.

In darkness held the child awaits
his world transforming birth;
Held by Mary, fed by love,
our God will come to earth.

O stars sing out! O heavens rejoice!
The voice of God is heard:
In Bethlehem's stable,
God speaks the eternal word.

Words, *The Reverend*
Dr. Jonathan Draper (b.1962)

Music, *Richard Shephard* (b. 1949)
Encore Music Publications

EIGHTH LESSON

read by the Lady Juliet Townsend LVO, Lord Lieutenant of Northamptonshire

The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.
ST MATTHEW 2

HYMN

¶ **Sung by all, standing. Before the Hymn notices will be given and during the Hymn a collection will be taken; please give generously.**

All 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.*

Men Born a King on Bethlehem's plain,
gold I bring to crown him again,
King forever, 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.*

[cont. over

CAROL

sung by the girls & men

¶ **The title track of our new CD, Carol of Joy, receives its European première at tonight's service.**

GREEN leaves all fallen, withered and dry;
brief sunset fading, dim winter sky.
Lengthening shadows, dark closing in ...
then, through the stillness, carols begin!

O fallen world, to you is the song –
death holds you fast and night tarries long.
Jesus is born, your curse to destroy!
sweet to your ears, a Carol of Joy!

Pale moon ascending, solemn and slow;
cold barren hillside, shrouded in snow;
Deep, empty valley veiled by the night;
hear angel music – hopeful and bright!

O fearful world, to you is the song –
Peace with your God, and pardon for wrong!
Tidings for sinners, burdened and bound –
A Carol of Joy! A Saviour is found!

Earth wrapped in sorrow, lift up your eyes!
thrill to the chorus filling the skies!
Look up sad hearted – witness God's love!
join in the carol swelling above!

O friendless world, to you is the song!
all Heaven's joy to you may belong!
You who are lonely, laden, forlorn –
O fallen world! O friendless world!

To you, a Saviour is born!

Words, *Eileen Berry*

Music, *Dan Forrest (b. 1978)*
Beckenhorst Press Inc.

FIRST LESSON

read by Miss Clarissa McKenzie, Girl Chorister

God announces in the Garden of Eden that
the seed of woman shall bruise the serpent's
head. GENESIS 3

CAROL

sung by the girls' choir

THE tree of life my soul hath seen,
laden with fruit and always green:
The trees of Nature fruitless be
compared with Christ, the apple tree.

His beauty doth all things excel:
by faith I know, but ne'er can tell
The glory which I now can see
in Jesus Christ, the apple tree.

For happiness I long have sought,
and pleasure dearly I have bought;
I missed of all, but now I see,
'Tis found in Christ, the apple tree.

I'm weary with my former toil,
here will I sit and rest awhile:
Under the shadow I will be
of Jesus Christ, the apple tree.

This fruit doth make my soul to thrive,
it keeps my dying faith alive;
Which makes my soul in haste to be
with Jesus Christ, the apple tree.

Words, Anon. collection of *Joshua Smith*
New Hampshire, 1784

Music, *Adrian Self (b. 1952)*
animus Music Publications

SECOND LESSON

read by Dominik Masnica Esq., Lay Clerk

The prophet foretells the coming of the
Saviour. ISAIAH 9

CAROL

sung by the girls & men

THE holly and the ivy, when they are both full grown;
Of all the trees that are in the wood,
the holly bears the crown.

*O, the rising of the sun, the running of the deer,
the playing of the merry organ, sweet singing in the choir.*

The holly bears a blossom as white as lily flower;
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ
to be our dear Saviour. *O, the rising...*

The holly bears a berry as red as any blood;
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ
to do poor sinners good. *O, the rising...*

The holly bears a prickle as sharp as any thorn;
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ,
on Christmas Day in the morn. *O, the rising...*

The holly bears a bark as bitter as the gall;
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ
for to redeem us all. *O, the rising...*

The holly and the ivy, when they are both full grown;
Of all the trees that are in the wood,
the holly bears the crown. *O, the rising...*

Words, trad. English Carol Music, *Sir Richard Rodney Bennett* (b. 1936)

SEVENTH LESSON

read by the Councillor Jamie Lane, Mayor of Northampton

The shepherds go to the manger. ST LUKE 2

CAROL

sung by the boys & men

WE STOOD on the hills, Lady,
our day's work done,
Watching the frosted meadows that winter had won.

The evening was calm, Lady,
the air so calm,
Silence more lovely than music folded the hill.

There was a star, Lady,
shone in the night,
Larger than Venus it was and bright, so bright.

O, a voice from the sky, Lady,
it seemed to us then
Of God being born in the world of men.

And so we have come, Lady,
our day's work done,
Our love, our hopes, ourselves we give to your son.

Words, trad. English Carol Music, *Sir Richard Rodney Bennett* (b. 1936)
Novello & Co. Ltd.

SIXTH LESSON

read by Mrs Penelope Escombe MBE, High Sherriff of Northamptonshire

Saint Matthew tells of the birth of Jesus
ST MATTHEW 1

HYMN

¶ **Sung by all, standing.**

All JOY to the world, the Lord is come!
let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare him room,
and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the world, the Saviour reigns!
let all their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
repeat the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness,
and wonders of his love.

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!

Words, *Isaac Watts* (1674 - 1748),
based on Psalm 98.

Music, Anon. tune
arr. *William Llewellyn* (b. 1952)
Novello & Co. Ltd.

¶ **The congregation sits.**

HYMN

¶ **Sung by all, standing.**

All 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.

O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth;
For Christ is born of Mary; and, gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.

Choir *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.*

All Where children pure and happy pray to the Blessed child.
Where misery cries out to thee, Son of the Mother mild.
Where charity stands watching and faith holds wide the door.
The dark night wakes, the glory breaks, and Christmas
[comes once more.

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, *Phillips Brooks* (1835 - 1893)

Music, trad. English tune
arr. *Sir Philip Ledger* (b. 1937)
and *W. Ron Gates* (b. 1927)
Oxford University Press

¶ **The congregation sits.**

THIRD LESSON

read by Mrs Margaret Pickard, member of the congregation

The peace that Christ will bring is
foreshown. ISAIAH 11

CAROL

sung by the girls' choir

NOW is that sad time of year
When no flower or leaf is here;
When in misty Southern ways
Oriole and jay have flown,
And of all sweet birds, alone
The robin stays.

So give thanks at Christmas-tide:
Hopes of spring-time yet abide!
See, in spite of darksome days,
Wind and rain and bitter chill,
Snow, and sleet-hung branches, still
The robin stays!

Words, *Thomas Bailey Aldrich* (1836-1907) Music, *Lee Dunleavy* (b.1979)
www.leedunleavy.co.uk

CAROL

sung by the boys & men

MAN, be merry, I thee rede¹,
But beware what mirthes thou make;
Christ is clothed in thy weed²,
And he is made man for thy sake.

He came from His Father's seat,
Into this world to be thy make³;
Man, beware how thou Him treat,
For He is made man for thy sake.

Look thou mercy ever cry,
Now and alway, rathe⁴ and late;
He will set thee wonder high,
For He is made man for thy sake.

Man, be merry, I thee rede,
But beware what mirthes thou make;
Christ is clothed in thy weed,
And he is made man for thy sake.

¹ = Advise

² = Clothing

³ = Equal

⁴ = Early

Words, Anon. ca. 1490

Music, *Barry Ferguson* (b. 1942)
Encore Publications

FIFTH LESSON

read by Dr Robin Sheppard, Deputy Churchwarden

The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin
Mary. ST LUKE 1

CAROL

sung by the girls' choir

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?

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.

Words, *William Blake*
(1757 - 1827)

Music, *Christopher le Fleming* (1908 - 1995)
Novello & Co. Ltd.

CAROL

sung by the boys & men

IN DULCI *jubilo* [With sweet rejoicing
Let us our homage shew;
our heart's joy reclineth
In præsepio [Lies in a manger
and like a bright star shineth,
Matris in gremio. [In his Mother's lap
Alpha es et Ω! [The Alpha and Omega
O Jesu parvule! [O little Jesus
I yearn for thee alway!
Hear me, I beseech thee
O Puer optime! [O best of sons
My prayer let it reach thee,
O princeps gloria! [O prince of glory
Trabe me post te! [Draw me after thee
O Patris caritas, [O love of the Father
O Nati lenitas! [O gentleness of the Son
Deeply were we stained
Per nostra crimina, [Through our sins
But thou for us hast gained
Cælorum gaudia, [The joy of heaven
O that we were there!
Ubi sunt gaudia? [Where are the joys?
If that they be not there?
There are angels singing
Nova cantica, [New songs
There the bells are ringing
In Regis curia: [In the King's court
O that we were there!

Words, Anon. 14th century

Music, Anon. 14th century
arr. *Michael Bedford* (b.1964)
St James Music Press

FOURTH LESSON

read by Jeff Lee Esq., Server of the Sanctuary

The prophet Micah foretells the glory of the
little Bethlehem. MICAH 5

CAROL

sung by the girls & men

TOMORROW shall be my dancing day;
I would my true love did so chance
To see the legend of my play,
to call my true love to my dance;
*Sing, O! my love, O! my love, my love, my love,
this have I done for my true love.*

Then was I born of a virgin pure,
of her I took fleshly substance
Thus was I knit to man's nature
to call my true love to my dance. *Sing ...*

In a manger laid, and wrapped I was
so very poor, this was my chance
Betwixt an ox and a silly poor ass
to call my true love to my dance. *Sing ...*

Tomorrow shall be my dancing day;
I would my true love did so chance
To see the legend of my play,
to call my true love to my dance. *Sing ...*

Words, trad. English Carol

Music, *Carl Rütli* (b. 1949)
Escorial Edition

HYMN

¶ **Sung by all, standing. In verses 1 and 2 the first two lines of the refrain are sung by women and boys only.**

All 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, Christ the Lord.

Choir *Splendour Immortal, Son of God Eternal,
Now hid in mortal flesh our eyes shall view.
See there the Infant, swaddling clothes enfold him.
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.*

All 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, Christ the Lord.

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born on Christmas morning,
Jesu, to thee be glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing.
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Words, *John F. Wade*
translated from
15th century Latin

Music, *John F. Wade* (ca. 1710-1786)
arr. *Guthrie Foote* (1897 - 1972),
Lee Dunleavy (b. 1979) and *Roger Palmer* (b. 1946)
Oxford University Press & www.leedunleavy.co.uk

¶ **The congregation sits.**