

The Parish Church of All Saints
Kingston upon Thames



Advent
Carol Service

2nd December 2001

Before the service

Chorale Prelude on 'Wachet auf', BWV 645 – Bach

Fantasia in F minor – Mozart

Three Chorale Preludes on 'Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland',
BWV 657-9 – Bach

Chorale Improvisation on 'Wachet auf' – Karg-Elert

Please stand as the lights in the church are extinguished and remain standing until the first lesson. After that, sit for the lessons and carols and stand for the hymns.

Advent Prose

Choir *Pour down, O heavens, from above,
and let the skies rain down righteousness.*

Turn your fierce anger from us, O Lord,
and remember not our sins for ever.
Your holy cities have become a desert,
Sion a wilderness, Jerusalem a desolation;
our holy and our beautiful house, where our fathers praised you.

We have sinned, and become like one who is unclean;
we have all withered like a leaf:
and our iniquities, like the wind, have swept us away.
You have hidden your face from us,
and abandoned us to our iniquities.

Ye are my witnesses, says the Lord, and my servant whom I have
chosen; that ye may know me and believe me.
I myself am the Lord, and none but I can deliver;
what my hand holds, none can snatch away.

Comfort my people, comfort them;
my salvation shall not be delayed.
I have swept your offences away like a cloud;
fear not for I will save you.
I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your redeemer.

(Plainsong)

First Lesson

God seeks for a prophet to announce his everlasting love.
Isaiah 6: 1-8

Matin Responsory

Choir 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.

(Words translated from an early mediæval Advent Sunday Responsory)
(Music adapted from a Magnificat by Palestrina)

Hymn *(sung by all as the Choir enters the Church)*

**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.**

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.

Thy cradle here shall glitter bright,
And darkness glow with newborn light,
No more shall night extinguish day,
Where love's bright beams their power display.

O Jesu, Virgin born, to thee
Eternal praise and glory be,
Whom with the father we adore,
And Holy Spirit evermore.
Amen.

Second Lesson

The Prophet gives the sign of Emmanuel. Isaiah 7: 10-16

Adam lay ybounden,
Bounden in a bond;
Four thousand winter
Thought he not too long.
Deo gratias!

And all was for an apple,
An apple that he took,
As clerkes finden
Written in their book.
Deo gratias!

[clerkes = clergy]

Ne had the apple taken been
The apple taken been,
Ne had never our Lady
A-been heavene queen.

Blessed be the time
That apple taken was;
Therefore we moun singen
Deo gratias!

[moun = must]

(Words: 15th century. Music: Philip Ledger)

Third lesson

The Prophet Isaiah proclaims comfort to the children of Israel.
Isaiah 40: 1-8

This is the truth sent from above,
The truth of God, the God of love;
Therefore don't turn me from your door,
But hearken all, both rich and poor.

The first thing that I will relate,
That God at first did man create;
The next thing which to you I tell
Woman was made with him to dwell.

Thus we were heirs to endless woes
Till God the Lord did interpose;
And so a promise soon did run:
That he'd redeem us by his Son.

And at this season of the year
Our blest redeemer did appear,
And here did live, and here did preach,
And many thousands he did teach.

Thus he in love to us behaved,
To show us how we must be saved;
And if you want to know the way,
Be pleased to hear what he did say.

(Herefordshire Carol, arranged by Ralph Vaughan Williams)

Fourth Lesson

The Prophet Malachi foresees the forerunner of Christ.
Malachi 3: 1-4, 10-12, 4: 1&2.

Remember, O thou man,
O thou man, O thou man,
Remember, O thou man,
Thy time is spent:
Remember, O thou man,
How thou art dead and gone,
And I did what I can:
Therefore repent.

Remember Adam's fall,
O thou man, O thou man,
Remember Adam's fall
From heaven to hell!
Remember Adam's fall,
How we were condemned all
In hell perpetual,
There for to dwell.

Remember God's goodnesse,
O thou man, O thou man,
Remember God's goodnesse
And his promise made!
Remember God's goodnesse;
How he sent his Sonne doubtlesse,
Our sinnes for to redresse:
Be not afraid!

(Words: 16th century. Music: Thomas Ravenscroft, Melismata, 1611)

Hymn *(sung by all as the Choir moves into the transepts)*

**Thy Kingdom come! On bended knee
The passing ages pray;
And faithful souls have yearned to see
On earth that Kingdom's day:**

**But the slow watches of the night
Not less to God belong;
And for the everlasting right
The silent stars are strong.**

**And lo, already on the hills
The flags of dawn appear;
Gird up your loins, ye prophet souls,
Proclaim the day is near:**

**The day in whose clear-shining light
All wrong shall stand revealed,
When justice shall be throned in might,
And every hurt be healed;**

**When knowledge, hand in hand with truth,
Shall walk the earth abroad:
The day of perfect righteousness,
The promised day of God.**

Fifth Lesson

The Angel Gabriel visits the Virgin Mary. St Luke 1: 26-38

The angel Gabriel from Heaven came,
His wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame;
'All hail,' said he, 'thou lowly maiden Mary,
Most highly favoured lady,' *Gloria!*

'For known a blessed Mother thou shalt be,
All generation laud and honour thee,
Thy Son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold.
Most highly favoured lady,' *Gloria!*

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head,
'To me be as it pleaseth God,' she said,
'My soul shall laud and magnify his Holy Name.'
Most highly favoured lady,' *Gloria!*

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 favoured lady, *Gloria!*

(Words: S Baring-Gould. Music: Basque Carol, arr. Edgar Pettman)

Sixth Lesson.

The Angel of the Lord appears to Joseph in a dream.
St Matthew 1: 18-23

Alma redemptoris mater.

As I lay upon a night,
my thought was on a burd so bright [burd = maiden]
that men clepn Mary, full of might, [clepn = call]
redemptoris mater.

To her came Gabriel with light
And said: Hail be thou, blissful wight! [wight = person]
To ben cleped now art thou dight [cleped = called, dight = appointed]
redemptoris mater.

At that word that lady bright
Anon conceived God full of might; [anon = straightway]
Then men wist well that she hight [wist = knew, hight = named]
redemptoris mater.

When Jesu on the rood was pight, [rood = crucifix, pight = pitched]
Mary was doleful of that sight
Till she see him rise upright,
redemptoris mater.

(Words: Mediæval English. Music: Anon, Mediæval)

Hymn *(sung by all as the Choir moves to the East end)*

**On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
Announces that the Lord is nigh;
Awake, and hearken, for he brings
Glad tidings of the King of Kings.**

**Then cleansed be every breast from sin;
Make straight the way for God within;
Prepare we in our hearts a home,
Where such a mighty guest may come.**

**For thou art our salvation, Lord,
Our refuge, and our great reward;
Without thy grace we waste away,
Like flowers that wither and decay.**

**To heal the sick stretch out thine hand,
And bid the fallen sinners stand;
Shine forth, and let thy light restore
Earth's own true loveliness once more**

**All praise, eternal Son to thee
Whose advent doth thy people free,
Whom with the Father we adore
And Holy Ghost for evermore.**

Seventh Lesson

John the Baptist calls people to repentance. St Matthew 3: 1-11

A spotless Rose is blowing
Sprung from a tender root,
Of ancient seers' foreshowing,
Of Jesse promised fruit;
Its fairest bud unfolds to light
Amid the cold, cold winter
And in the dark midnight.

The Rose which I am singing,
Whereof Isaiah said,
Is from its sweet root springing
In Mary, purest Maid;
For through our God's great love and might
The blessed babe she bare us
In a cold, cold winter's night.

(Words: 14th Century. Music: Herbert Howells)

Hymn *(The organ plays the whole chorale, then the choir sings verse one, moving into the choir stalls. All sing verse two)*

Choir Wake, O wake! with tidings thrilling
The watchmen's cry the air is filling:
'Arise, Jerusalem, arise!
Midnight strikes! no more delaying:
The hour has come!' we hear them saying;
'Where are ye all, ye virgins wise?
The Bridegroom now is nigh:
Stand forth! your lamps raise high!
Halleluja!
In bright array
This nuptial day
Go forth and meet him in the way!

All Sion hears the watchmen singing,
Her heart for joy within her springing;
She wakes, and eagerly attends;
See her Friend, from heaven descending,
Adorned with truth and grace unending!
Her light shines clear, her star ascends.
Appear, thou precious crown!
God's Son, to earth come down!
Sing 'Hosanna!'
Now rise we all
to that glad hall
Where to thy feast thou dost us call.

Eighth Lesson

Waiting for the Coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.
1 Thessalonians 5: 1-11

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, today:
Love the Guest is on the way.

Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare,
One more seed is planted there:
Give up your strength the seed to nourish,
That in course the flower may flourish.
People look East, today:
Love the Rose is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim
One more light the bowl shall brim,
Shining beyond the frosty weather,
Bright as sun and moon together.
People look East, today:
Love the Star is on the way.

Angels announce to man and beast
Him who cometh from the East.
Set every peak and valley humming
With the Word, the Lord is coming.
People look East, today:
Love the Lord is on the way.

(Words: Eleanor Farjeon. Music: Besançon carol, arranged Barry Ferguson)

Kneel or sit for a period of silent prayer, followed by 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.**

Stand

Priest We wait for thy loving kindness, O Lord:
People In the midst of thy temple.

Collect for Advent Sunday

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

O Lord our God, make us watchful and keep us faithful as we await the coming of your Son our Lord; that, when he shall appear, he may not find us sleeping in sin but active in his service and joyful in his praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Vesper Responsory

Judah and Jerusalem, fear not, nor be dismayed;
Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, he will be with you.
Stand ye still, and ye shall see the salvation of the Lord.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

(Music: adapted from Palestrina)

Blessing

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always.

Amen.

Hymn O come, O come Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lowly 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 day-spring, 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.

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.

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.

Concluding voluntary

'Le Monde dans l'attente du Sauveur' from *Symphonie-Passion* – Macel Dupré