

# CHRISTMAS

## CAROL SERVICE

Carol Service for Alumni & Friends

Thursday, 5 December 2024

5.00pm

A service of

Lesson and Carols for Advent

Produced by Trinity Development & Alumni

5



Trinity College Dublin  
Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath  
The University of Dublin

Inspiring Generations

Trinity College Dublin



## *A note on the service from the Director of Chapel Music*

This service of readings and carols for Advent and Christmas is based on the format established in the Diocese of Truro in the late nineteenth century. Carols have been a part of popular piety for many centuries and were often performed in secular settings and family homes. Indeed, many carols are imbued with depictions of nature and often weather that is more associated with Western Europe than ancient Palestine. Bishop Edward Benson introduced his service of nine lessons and carols at Truro Cathedral on Christmas Eve 1880 at 10 pm.

Whilst the piety of singing carols on the eve of the birth of the saviour was the primary purpose, perhaps the hour at night was chosen to encourage the faithful to leave taverns and come to the cathedral. The 'Nine lessons and Carols' service has become a central feature of Christmas in the British Isles and further afield. Benson's design was adopted by King's College Cambridge in 1918 and has been broadcast from that College Chapel since 1928. However, the service of nine lessons and carols was used in Dublin earlier. This first took place in North Strand Church on Christmas Eve 1914 when Reverend David Wilson was rector. Wilson had been Succentor at Saint Patrick's Cathedral and Warden of the Grammar School (a foundation of King Edward VI). David Wilson was a scholar of hymnody and carols and when he was appointed Dean of Saint Patrick's Cathedral in 1935, he introduced the service of nine lessons and carols there. This remains part of the cathedral's annual calendar on Christmas Eve and is broadcast every year by RTÉ radio. Indeed it is the longest running yearly broadcast from RTÉ.

The service at Trinity is a slightly adapted version of Bishop Benson's design: 'a ladder of Messianic prophecy from Eden to Bethlehem, from the Fall to Redemption'. Hence the readings start with the Fall as portrayed in the book of Genesis and bring us through the Old Testament prophecies of the coming of the Messiah to the birth narratives as conveyed in the gospels of Saint Luke and Saint Matthew, culminating with Saint John's great unfolding of the mystery of the incarnation.

Some of the music at the service today has strong associations with Dublin and Trinity College. The chant for the Magnificat is to be found in the library of Saint Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin in an arrangement by Andrew Johnstone (lecturer in music at Trinity) as a homage to George Hewson, former professor of music at Trinity (1935-62) and organist of the Chapel (1927-60). George Hewson's daughter, Heather Hewson was conductor of the Chapel Choir 1992-1993. George Hewson's pupil and successor as organist of both Saint Patrick's Cathedral and this chapel was William Sydney Grieg. His setting of The Storke came at the request of former President Erskine Childers. The text is taken from a prayer book of King Edward VI. The setting of O Magnum mysterium is from the pen of a member of the chapel choir Dusk Boyd, an Australian-American composer, a Bachelor of Music undergraduate student at Trinity. Boyd's setting of O Magnum Mysterium receives its international debut tonight and is dedicated to the chapel choir and its conductor Callum Byrne. This short and dark setting brings a sense of mystery and reverence capturing the awe of the Great Mystery.

The final dismissal is an adaptation of music by Victoria (c.1548-1611) by a former member of the Chapel Choir, Dr Thomas McCarthy.  
*Precentor & Director of Chapel Music*  
*Dr Kerry Houston*





# Order of Service



## ORGAN PRELUDE

The following **MATIN RESPONSORY** is sung by the 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.

*Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (1525-1594)*

## *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

First verse is sung by choir only, congregation sings from verse 2:

O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
and ransom captive Israel  
that mourns in lonely exile here  
until the Son of God appear.

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

O come, O Bright and Morning Star,  
and bring us comfort from afar!  
Dispel the shadows of the night and  
turn our darkness into light.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to thee, O Israel.

*Bone Jesu dulcis cunctis (anon. 15th century)*

*Advent Antiphons translated by John Neale (1818-1866)*



The **BIDDING PRAYER** is said by one of the chaplains.

A **REFLECTION**. The Revd Alan O'Sullivan O.P..

The **FIRST LESSON** is read.

God tells sinful Adam that he has lost the life of Paradise, and that his seed will bruise the serpent's head.

And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. But the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, 'Where are you?' And he said, 'I heard the sound of thee in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.' He said, 'Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?' The man said, 'The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate.' Then the LORD God said to the woman, 'What is this that you have done?' The woman said, 'The serpent beguiled me, and I ate.' The LORD God said to the serpent, 'Because you have done this, cursed are you above all cattle, and above all wild animals; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life.

I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.'

*Genesis 3:8-15*

## The Lamb

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 wooly 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.

*Text: William Blake (1757 – 1827)  
Music: John Tavener (1944 – 2013)*







The **SECOND LESSON** is read.

The prophet foretells the coming of the Saviour.

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.

*Isaiah 9:2, 6-7*

Es ist ein Ros entsprungen,  
[ aus einer Wurzel zart,  
wie uns die Alten sungen,  
von Jesse kam die Art Und  
hat ein Blümlein bracht  
mitten im kalten Winter,  
wohl zu der halben Nacht.

Das Röslein, das ich meine,  
davon Isaias sagt,  
ist Maria die reine,  
die uns das Blümlein bracht.  
Aus Gottes ew'gem Rat hat  
sie ein Kind geboren  
und blieb ein reine Magd.

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; Through God's great  
love and might  
The Blessed Babe she bare us  
In a cold, cold winter's night.

*Text: Anonymous 15th century German*

*Music: Michael Praetorius from Musae Sioniae, Wolfenbuttel (1609).*



The **THIRD LESSON** is read.

The Angel Gabriel salutes the blessed Virgin Mary.

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David.

The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.' But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.' Then Mary said, 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.' Then the angel departed from her.

*Luke 1:26-33, 38*

The following **ANTIPHON** is sung:

Drop down, ye heavens, from above,  
and let the skies pour down righteousness.

*The Advent Prose—Rorate Caeli  
Music: An anonymous setting in the library  
of Saint Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin*

The **MAGNIFICAT** is sung:

My soul doth magnify the Lord:  
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my saviour.

For he hath regarded : the lowliness of his hand-maiden.  
For behold, from henceforth: all generations shall call me blessed.  
For he that is might hath magnified me: and holy is his Name.

And his mercy is on them that fear him:  
throughout all generations.

He hath shewed strength with his arm:  
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.

He hath put down the mighty from their seat:  
and hath exalted the humble and meek.

He hath filled the hungry with good things:  
and the rich he hath sent empty away.

He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel:  
as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed, for ever.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son:  
and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now,  
and ever shall be : world without end. Amen.

*Luke 1:46-55*

*St Patrick's Cathedral Use Old melody arr. by Andrew Johnstone (b.1967)  
Homage to George Henry Phillips Hewson (1881 – 1972)*





The following **ANTIPHON** is sung:

Drop down, ye heavens, from above,  
and let the skies pour down righteousness.

*The Advent Prose—Rorate Caeli  
Music: An anonymous setting in the library  
of Saint Patrick’s Cathedral, Dublin*

The **FOURTH LESSON** is read.  
St Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. 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.

*Luke 2:1-7*

### The Storke

The storke she rose on Christmas eve,  
And sayed unto her broode:  
‘I now must fare to Bethleem,  
To vieue the Son of God.’

She gave to each his dole of mete,  
She stowed them fayrlie in;  
And farre she flewe,  
And fast she flewe,  
And came to Bethleem.

‘Now where is he of David’s Line?’  
She asked on house and hall.  
‘He is not here,’ they spake hardlye,  
‘But in the maungier stalle.’

She found him in the maungier stall,  
With that most holy Mayde.  
The gentyle storke she wept to see  
The Lord so rudely layde.

Then from her pauntynge brest she plucked  
The fethers white and worm;  
She strewed them in the maungier bed,  
To keep the Lord from harm.

‘Now blessed bee the gentyle storke  
‘Forever more,’ quoth hee,  
‘She shewed such pitye.

‘Full welcum shall she ever be,  
In hamlet and in halle,

And hight henceforth the blessed byrd,  
And friend of babyes all.’

*Text: a prayer book of King Edward VI  
Music: William Sydney Grieg (1910 – 83)  
Organist of Saint Patrick’s Cathedral 1960–76, organist of Trinity College Chapel 1960 – 68*





The **FIFTH LESSON** is read.  
The shepherds go to the manger.

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.

*Luke 2:8-17*

A Boy was born in Bethlehem,  
Rejoice for that, Jerusalem!  
Alleluya.  
He let himself a servant be,  
That all mankind He might set free:  
Alleluya.  
Then praise the Word of God who came  
to dwell within a human frame:  
Alleluya.

*Text: anonymous*

*Music: Benjamin Britten (1913 – 76)*

The following **ADESTE FIDELES** is sung:

Adeste, fideles, laeti, triumphantes, venite, venite in  
Bethlehem; Natum videte, regem angelorum: Venite,  
adoremus, venite, adoremus, venite, adoremus  
Dominum.

See how the shepherds, summoned to His cradle,  
leaving their flocks,  
draw night to gaze;  
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.

Yea, Lord, we bless thee,  
born for our salvation;  
Jesu, to thee  
be glory given;  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:  
O come, let us adore him. O come, let us adore him.  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord.

*Text: 18thc. Latin, trans. Frederick Oakley (1802-1880) and  
others Music: John Francis Wade (1711-1786)*





The **SIXTH LESSON** is read.

The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.

Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came 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 Judaea: 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, enquired 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. And when they were departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeareth to Joseph in

a dream, saying, 'Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and flee into Egypt, and be thou there until I bring thee word: for Herod will seek the young child to destroy him.' When he arose, he took the young child and his mother by night, and departed into Egypt. Then Herod, when he saw that he was mocked of the wise men, was exceeding wroth, and sent forth, and slew all the children that were in Bethlehem, and in all the coasts thereof, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had diligently enquired of the wise men.

*Matthew 2: 1-16*

O magnum mysterium,  
et admirabile sacramentum,  
ut animalia viderent Dominum natum,  
iacentem in praeseptio!  
O beata virgo, cuius viscera  
meruerunt portare  
Dominum Iesum Christum.  
Alleluia!

O great mystery,  
and wonderful sacrament,  
that animals should see the newborn Lord,  
lying in a manger!  
O blessed virgin, whose womb  
was worthy to bear  
the Lord Jesus Christ.  
Alleluia!

*Text: from the office of Mattins for Christmas Day  
Music: Dusk Boyd (Contráth Mac Buideach) b. 2004)*





The **SEVENTH LESSON** is read.

Uilliam Bedell - Prapast Choláiste na Tríonóide, 1627-1629, ar aistrigh an tSeantiomna don Ghaeilge agus ar eagraigh an chéad Bhíobla iomlán as Gaeilge

Sa tosach do bhí an Briathar, agus do bhí an Briathar i bhfochair Dé, agus dob é Dia an Briathar.

Do bhí seo ar dtús i bhfochair Dé.

Leisean atá na huile nithe déanta, agus gan é níl aon ní déanta dá ndearnadh.

Ann san do bhí beatha, agus dob í an bheatha solas na ndaoine:

Agus soilsíodh an solas sin sa dorchadas, agus níor ghabh an dorchadas chuige é.

Do cuireadh duine ó Dhia darb ainm Eoin:

Tháinig an té seo mar fhianaise, go ndéanfadh sé fianaise don tsolas, ionas go creidfidís cách uile tríd.

Níorbh eisean an solas, ach do cuireadh é ionas go ndéanfadh sé fianaise don tsolas.

Dob é seo an solas fírinneach a shoilsíos gach uile dhuine dá dtig ar an tsaol.

Do bhí sé ar an tsaol, agus trídsean do rinneadh an saol, ach níor aithin an saol é.

Chun a choda féin a tháinig sé, agus níor ghabhadar a dhaoine féin chucu é.

Ach an méid do ghabh chucu é, thug sé cumhacht dóibh bheith ina gclann ag Dia, don droing a chreideas ina ainmse.

Nach bhfuil a nginiúin ó fhuil, ná ó thoil na colla, nó ó thoil fir, ach ó Dhia.

Agus do rinneadh feoil den Bhriathar, agus do chónaigh sé eadrainn, agus do chonaiceamar a ghlóirse, mar ghlóir mhic aonghine an Athar, lán de ghrásta agus fírinne.

*Eoin 1:1-14*

The **CONCLUDING PRAYER** is said by one of the chaplains.

*Hark The Herald* is sung:

Hark! the herald angels sing,  
'Glory to the newborn King:  
peace on earth, and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled!  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,  
join the triumph of the skies;  
with th'angelic hosts proclaim,  
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King!"

Christ, by highest heaven adored,  
Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
late in time behold him come,  
offspring of the Virgin's womb:  
veiled in flesh the Godhead see;  
hail th'incarnate Deity,  
pleased with us in flesh to dwell,  
Jesus, our Immanuel.

Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King!"

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 we no more may die, born  
to raise us from the earth, born to  
give us second birth.

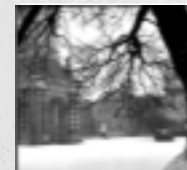
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory  
to the newborn King!"

*Text: Charles Wesley (1707-88) and others*

*Music: an adaptation by William H. Cummings  
of Felix Mendelssohn's Festgesang*

***Dominus vobiscum: Et cum spiritu tuo  
Benedicamus Domino: Deo gratias***

**ORGAN VOLUNTARY**







*Have an Inspiring Christmas  
from Trinity Development & Alumni  
and the College Chapel!*

*Church of Ireland Chaplain & Dean of Residence*

**The Rev'd Dr. Yesupatham Duraikannu**

*Methodist Chaplain*

**Mr Brian Hickey**

*Roman Catholic Chaplains*

**The Rev'd Peter Sexton S.J**

**The Rev'd Dr Alan O'Sullivan O.P  
(chairman of the chaplains 2024-25)**

*Precentor & Director of Chapel Music*

**Dr Kerry Houston**

*Conductor*

**Callum Byrne**

*Organ Scholar to the College*

**Mickey Tomas**