



# EPIPHANY CAROL SERVICE

Sunday 25 January 2026

*The Third Sunday of Epiphany*

*Welcome to this service in Trinity College Chapel, Cambridge.*

*Please ensure that all electronic devices,  
including cameras, are switched off*

*Services from Trinity College Chapel are  
video webcast and available to watch again;  
you may be identifiable as in attendance at the service*

## ORGAN MUSIC BEFORE THE SERVICE

Prelude in e, 'The Wedge', BWV 548i  
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

Fantasia in d  
William Byrd (1540–1623)

Chorale and Fugue, from Op. 16  
Francis Jackson (b. 1917)

*All remain seated in silence as the lights are dimmed*

Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern, Op. 65 No. 64  
Sigfrid Theodor Karg-Elert (1877–1933)

*All stand as the lights are switched off  
at the end of the organ music*

## CHOIR

Es ist ein' Ros' entsprungen (1995)

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

*A Rose has sprung up from a bitter root,  
as our elders sang to us: he comes of the lineage of Jesse  
and has brought a bud to bloom in the midst of cold winter,  
in the depths of the night.*

Words: Alte Catholische Geistliche Kirchengesäng (Köln, 1599)  
Music: Michael Praetorius (1571–1621) / Jan Sandström (b. 1954)

*Remain standing*

## THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 49: 1–6

*The Prophet proclaims the coming of the Messiah*

Listen, O isles, unto me; and hearken, ye people, from far; The Lord hath called me from the womb; from the bowels of my mother hath he made mention of my name. And he hath made my mouth like a sharp sword; in the shadow of his hand hath he hid me, and made me a polished shaft; in his quiver hath he hid me; And said unto me, Thou art my servant, O Israel, in whom I will be glorified. Then I said, I have laboured in vain, I have spent my strength for nought, and in vain: yet surely my judgment is with the Lord, and my work with my God.

And now, saith the Lord that formed me from the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob again to him, Though Israel be not gathered, yet shall I be glorious in the eyes of the Lord, and my God shall be my strength. And he said, It is a light thing that thou shouldest be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and to restore the preserved of Israel: I will also give thee for a light to the Gentiles, that thou mayest be my salvation unto the end of the earth.

Thus saith the Lord, the Redeemer of Israel, and his Holy One, to him whom man despiseth, to him whom the nation abhorreth, to a servant of rulers, Kings shall see and arise, princes also shall worship, because of the Lord that is faithful, and the Holy One of Israel, and he shall choose thee.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## CHOIR

A solis ortus cardine

A solis ortus cardine  
adusque terrae limitem  
Christum canamus Principem,  
natum Maria Virgine.

Beatus auctor saeculi  
servile corpus induit,  
ut carne carnem liberans  
non perderet quod condidit.

Clausae parentis viscera  
caelestis intrat gratia;  
venter puellae baiulat  
secreta quae non noverat.

Domus pudici pectoris  
templum repente fit Dei;  
intacta nesciens virum  
verbo concepit Filium.

Iesu, tibi sit gloria,  
qui natus es de Virgine,  
cum Patre et almo Spiritu,  
in sempiterna saecula. Amen.

*From lands that see the sun arise,  
to earth's remotest boundaries,  
the Virgin-born today we sing,  
the Son of Mary, Christ the King.*

*Blest Author of this earthly frame,  
to take a servant's form he came,  
that liberating flesh by flesh,  
whom he had made might live afresh.*

*In that chaste parent's holy womb,  
celestial grace hath found its home:  
and she, as earthly bride unknown,  
yet call that Offspring blest her own.*

*The mansion of the modest breast  
becomes a shrine where God shall rest:  
the pure and undefiled one  
conceived in her womb the Son.*

*All honor, laud, and glory be,  
O Jesu, Virgin-born, to Thee;  
all glory, as is ever meet,  
to the Father and to Paraclete. Amen.*

Words: Coelius Sedulius  
trans. J. M. Neale (1818–1866)  
Music: Plainsong (Mode III)

*Remain standing*

## HYMN

Of the Father's heart begotten,  
ere the world from chaos rose,  
he is Alpha: from that Fountain  
all that is and hath been flows;  
he is Omega, of all things  
yet to come the mystic Close,  
evermore and evermore.

By his word was all created;  
he commanded and was done;  
earth and sky and boundless ocean,  
universe of three in one,  
all that sees the moon's soft radiance,  
all that breathes beneath the sun,  
evermore and evermore.

He assumed this mortal body,  
frail and feeble, doomed to die,  
that the race from dust created  
might not perish utterly,  
which the dreadful law had sentenced  
in the depths of Hell to lie,  
evermore and evermore.

O how blest that wondrous birthday,  
when the Maid the curse retrieved,  
brought to birth mankind's salvation,  
by the Holy Ghost conceived;  
and the Babe, the world's Redeemer,  
in her loving arms received,  
evermore and evermore.

**Sing, ye heights of heaven, his praises;  
Angels and Archangels, sing!  
Wheresoe'er ye be, ye faithful,  
let your joyous anthems ring,  
every tongue his name confessing,  
countless voices answering,  
evermore and evermore.**

Words: Prudentius (348–413) trans. R.F. Davis (1866–1937)

Music: melody from 'Piae Cantiones' (1582) arr. David Willcocks (1919–2015)

*Remain standing*

## **THE BIDDING PRAYER**

*The Dean of Chapel says*

Beloved in Christ, the grace of God hath dawned upon the world through the birth of our saviour Jesus Christ, who came to be the glory of God's people Israel and a light to the nations. Gentiles were led to his rising by a star, to worship and pay homage to the new born king; at his baptism, he submitted to the path of righteousness, and renewed and cleansed the new Israel in the waters of Jordan; at Cana of Galilee, in the water turned to wine, he revealed the miracle of God's new creation, and summoned us to the celebration of the marriage feast of the lamb.

At this season of Epiphany, let us then turn with full and joyful hearts to the story of our redemption made manifest in the revelation of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ;

But first let us pray that as he was a light in the darkness of the world, so may we, his people, be ever drawn to this light, that in our time we may reflect his grace and love in all those places where there is conflict, anguish, sorrow, injustice and need.

May God, who hath delivered us from the dominion of darkness, give us place with the saints in light, in the kingdom of his beloved Son, who taught us to pray:

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,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

*All sit*

## **THE SECOND LESSON**

Isaiah 60: 1–7

*The Prophet foretells the journey of the Magi to see the Christ-child*

Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee. For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the Lord shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee. And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising.

Lift up thine eyes round about, and see: all they gather themselves together, they come to thee: thy sons shall come from far, and thy daughters shall be nursed at thy side.

Then thou shalt see, and flow together, and thine heart shall fear, and be enlarged; because the abundance of the sea shall be converted unto thee, the forces of the Gentiles shall come unto thee.

The multitude of camels shall cover thee, the dromedaries of Midian and Ephah; all they from Sheba shall come: they shall bring gold and incense; and they shall shew forth the praises of the Lord. All the flocks of Kedar shall be gathered together unto thee, the rams of Nebaioth shall minister unto thee: they shall come up with acceptance on mine altar, and I will glorify the house of my glory.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## CHOIR

O Radiant Dawn (2007)

O Radiant Dawn, Splendour of eternal Light, Sun of Justice: come, shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death. Isaiah had prophesied, 'The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone.' Amen.

Words: Antiphon for 21 December  
Music: James MacMillan (b. 1959)

*All stand*

## HYMN

**Bethlehem, of noblest cities  
none can once with thee compare;  
thou alone the Lord from heaven  
didst for us incarnate bear.**

**Fairer than the sun at morning  
was the star that told his birth;  
to the lands their God announcing,  
seen in fleshly form on earth.**

**By its lambent beauty guided  
see the eastern kings appear;  
see them bend, their gifts to offer,  
gifts of incense, gold and myrrh.**

**Solemn things of mystic meaning:  
incense doth the God disclose,  
gold a royal child proclaimeth,  
myrrh a future tomb foreshows.**

**Holy Jesu, in thy brightness  
to the Gentile world displayed,  
with the Father and the Spirit  
endless praise to thee be paid. Amen.**

Words: Prudentius (348–410) trans. Edward Caswall (1814–78)  
Music: from Christian Friedrich Witt's 'Harmonica Sacra' (1715)

*All sit*

## THE THIRD LESSON

John 1: 1–14

*God creates light, and separates it from darkness*

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: Which 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.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## CHOIR

I wonder as I wander

I wonder as I wander out under the sky  
How Jesus the Savior did come for to die  
For poor on'ry people like you and like I  
I wonder as I wander out under the sky.

When Mary birthed Jesus all in a cow's stall,  
Came wise men and farmers and shepherds and all.  
But high from God's heaven a star's light did fall,  
And the promise of ages it then did recall.

If Jesus had wanted for any wee thing,  
A star in the sky, or a bird on the wind,  
Or all of God's angels in heav'n for to sing,  
He surely could have it, for he was the King.

Words: Appalachian carol

Music: Traditional arr. Andrew Carter (b. 1939)

Balulalow (2009)

O my deare hert, young Jesu sweat,  
Prepare thy creddil in my spreit,  
And I sall rock thee to my hert,  
And never mair from thee depart.

But I sall praise thee evermoir  
With sanges sweat unto thy gloir.  
The knees of my heart sall I bow,  
And sing that richt Balulalow!

Words: attrib. James, John and Robert Wedderburn (c. 1567)

Music: Francis Pott (b. 1957)

## THE FOURTH LESSON

Matthew 2: 1–13

*King Herod sends the magi to Bethlehem*

Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea 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 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.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*All stand*

## **HYMN**

**As with gladness men of old  
did the guiding star behold;  
as with joy they hailed its light,  
leading onward, beaming bright;  
so, most gracious God, may we  
evermore be led to thee.**

**As with joyful steps they sped,  
to that lowly manger-bed,  
there to bend the knee before  
him whom heaven and earth adore,  
so may we with willing feet  
ever seek thy mercy-seat.**

**As they offered gifts most rare  
at that manger rude and bare,  
so may we with holy joy,  
pure, and free from sin's alloy,  
all our costliest treasures bring,  
Christ, to thee our heavenly King.**

**Holy Jesu, every day  
keep us in the narrow way;  
and, when earthly things are past,  
bring our ransomed souls at last  
where they need no star to guide,  
where no clouds thy glory hide.**

**In the heavenly country bright,  
need they no created light;  
thou its light, its joy, its crown,  
thou its sun which goes not down:  
there for ever may we sing  
alleluyas to our King.**

Words: William Chatterton Dix (1837–98)

Music: Conrad Kocher (1786–1872)

adapt. William Henry Monk (1823–89)

descant David Willcocks (1919–2015)

*All sit*

## THE FIFTH LESSON

Matthew 3: 13–16

*Christ is baptized and receives the Holy Spirit*

Then cometh Jesus from Galilee to Jordan unto John, to be baptized of him. But John forbad him, saying, I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me? And Jesus answering said unto him, Suffer it to be so now: for thus it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness. Then he suffered him. And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## CHOIR

Vidi aquam (2019)

Vidi aquam egredientem de templo,  
a latere dextro, alleluia:  
et omnes, ad quos pervenit aqua ista,  
salvi facti sunt, et dicent alleluia, alleluia.

*I saw water flowing from the Temple,  
from its right-hand side, alleluia;  
and all to whom this water came  
were saved and shall say: alleluia, alleluia.*

Words: from Ezekiel 47

Music: Matthew Martin (b. 1976)

## THE SIXTH LESSON

John 2: 1–11

*Christ performs his first public miracle in Cana*

The third day there was a marriage in Cana of Galilee; and the mother of Jesus was there: And both Jesus was called, and his disciples, to the marriage. And when they wanted wine, the mother of Jesus saith unto him, They have no wine. Jesus saith unto her, Woman, what have I to do with thee? mine hour is not yet come.

His mother saith unto the servants, Whatsoever he saith unto you, do it. And there were set there six waterpots of stone, after the manner of the purifying of the Jews, containing two or three firkins apiece. Jesus saith unto them, Fill the waterpots with water. And they filled them up to the brim. And he saith unto them, Draw out now, and bear unto the governor of the feast. And they bare it.

When the ruler of the feast had tasted the water that was made wine, and knew not whence it was: (but the servants which drew the water knew;) the governor of the feast called the bridegroom, And saith unto him, Every man at the beginning doth set forth good wine; and when men have well drunk, then that which is worse: but thou hast kept the good wine until now.

This beginning of miracles did Jesus in Cana of Galilee, and manifested forth his glory; and his disciples believed on him.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*All stand*

## HYMN

**Songs of thankfulness and praise,  
Jesu, Lord, to thee we raise,  
manifested by the star  
to the sages from afar;  
branch of royal David's stem  
in thy birth at Bethlehem;  
anthems be to thee address,  
God in Man made manifest.**

**Manifest at Jordan's stream,  
Prophet, Priest, and King supreme;  
and at Cana, wedding guest  
in thy Godhead manifest;  
manifest in power divine,  
changing water into wine;  
anthems be to thee address,  
God in Man made manifest.**

**Manifest in making whole  
palsied limbs and fainting soul;  
manifest in valiant fight,  
quelling all the devil's might;  
manifest in gracious will,  
ever bringing good from ill;  
anthems be to thee address,  
God in Man made manifest.**

**Grant us grace to see thee, Lord,  
mirrored in thy holy word;  
may we imitate thee now,  
and be pure, as pure art thou;  
that we like to thee may be  
at thy great Epiphany,  
and may praise thee, ever blest,  
God in Man made manifest.**

Words: Christopher Wordsworth (1807–85)  
Music: Charles Steggall (1826–1905) descant Richard Marlow (1939–2013)

*All sit*

## **CHOIR**

O leave your sheep (1962)

O leave your sheep,  
you lambs that follow after.  
O leave the brook,  
the pasture and the crook.  
No longer weep, turn weeping into laughter.  
O shepherds seek your goal –  
your Lord who cometh to console.  
You'll find him laid within a simple stable,  
a babe newborn, in poverty forlorn, in love array'd.  
A love so deep, 'tis able to search the night for you.

Words: Alice Raleigh (15th c.)  
Music: Kenneth Leighton (1929–1988)

*All stand*

## PRAYERS AND BLESSING

*The Dean of Chapel says*

Let us pray.

O God, who by the leading of a star didst manifest thy only-begotten Son to the Gentiles: Mercifully grant, that we, who know thee now by faith, may after this life enter into the fuller light of thy glorious kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

Eternal Father, who at the baptism of Jesus didst reveal him to be thy Son, anointing him with the Holy Spirit; grant that we, being born again by water and the Spirit, may be faithful to our calling as thine adopted children, through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord.

**Amen.**

Almighty God, whose Son manifested in his first sign at Cana in Galilee, the abundance of thy mercy and the wonder of thy saving presence; renew thy people with thy heavenly grace, that, when he shall appear again with power and great glory, we may be made like unto him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where with thee, O Father, and thee, O Holy Ghost, he liveth and reigneth, one God, world without end.

**Amen.**

May Christ the Son of God perfect in you the image of his glory and gladden your hearts with the good news of his kingdom; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

*Remain standing*

## HYMN

**O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness!  
Bow down before him, his glory proclaim;  
with gold of obedience, and incense of lowliness,  
kneel and adore him, the Lord is his name!**

**Low at his feet lay thy burden of carefulness,  
high on his heart he will bear it for thee,  
comfort thy sorrows, and answer thy prayerfulness,  
guiding thy steps as may best for thee be.**

**Fear not to enter his courts in the slenderness  
of the poor wealth thou wouldst reckon as thine:  
truth in its beauty, and love in its tenderness,  
these are the offerings to lay on his shrine.**

**These, though we bring them in trembling and fearfulness,  
he will accept for the name that is dear;  
mornings of joy give for evenings of tearfulness,  
trust for our trembling and hope for our fear.**

**O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness!  
bow down before him, his glory proclaim;  
with gold of obedience, and incense of lowliness,  
kneel and adore him, the Lord is his name!**

Words: John Samuel Bewley Monsell (1811–75)

Music: from Rheinhardt MS (1754) descant Richard Marlow (1939–2013)

*Remain standing as the Choir and Clergy  
process to the Ante-Chapel*

## CHOIR

### Benedicamus Domino (1918)

Procedenti puero, Eya, nobis annus est!  
Virginis ex utero: Gloria! Laudes!  
Deus homo factus est et immortalis.

Sine viri semine, Eya, nobis annus est!  
natus est de virgine: Gloria! Laudes!  
Deus homo factus est et immortalis.

Sine viri copia, Eya, nobis annus est!  
natus est ex Maria: Gloria! Laudes!  
Deus homo factus est et immortalis.

In hoc festo determino, Eya, nobis annus est!  
benedicamus Domino! Gloria! Laudes!  
Deus homo factus est et immortalis.

*A boy comes forth, Eya, our time is come!  
from the Virgin's womb: Glory! Praise!  
God is become man and yet immortal.*

*Without a man's seed, Eya, our time is come!  
he is born of a virgin: Glory! Praise!  
God is become man and yet immortal.*

*Without the means of man, Eya, our time is come!  
he is born of Mary: Glory! Praise!  
God is become man and yet immortal.*

*On this appointed Feast, Eya, our time is come!  
let us bless the Lord. Glory! Praise!  
God is become man and yet immortal.*

Words: From Sloane MS. 2593, time of Henry VI  
Music: Peter Warlock (1894–1930)

*The Master and Fellows leave at the start of the organ voluntary*

Toccata on Omnes de Saba venient

Augustine Cox (b. 2004)

*A retiring collection will be taken as you leave  
in aid of this Term's nominated charities,  
the Tom ap Rhys Pryce Memorial Trust and International Alert*