



BLACKBURN CATHEDRAL

The Cathedral
Eucharist
on
The Fourth Sunday
of Advent

Sunday, 22 December, 2024

10.30am

Welcome to this morning's service

The President is
The Very Revd Peter Howell-Jones
The Dean

The Preacher is
Canon James Lawrence
Missioner

The Deacon is
Canon Dr Jenny Gaffin
Precentor

The Subdeacon is
Diane Warner

The service is sung by the
The Cathedral Choir

Directed by
John Robinson
Director of Music

The Organist is
John Hosking
Organist in Residence

The setting for the service is
Missa Brevis – Palestrina

Children and young people are welcome at all our services, but if you feel your child needs a more informal space, the Temple Gallery and the Cloister Garth are available as 'breakout' areas.

Please note that they are unattended, and so you will need to stay with your child at all times. The wardens and stewards can give directions.

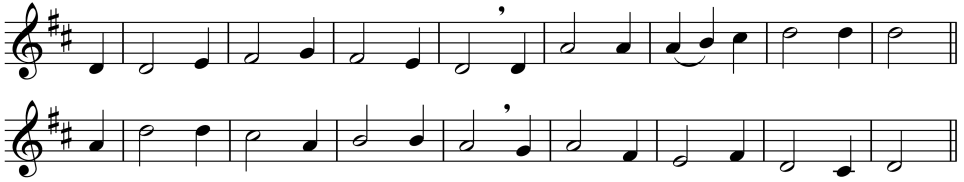
*Before the service, the congregation is
welcomed by Canon Dr Jenny Gaffin*

The Gathering

Please stand to sing

Processional

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR 19 II



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 us 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.

O equal to thy Father, thou!
Gird on thy fleshly mantle now,
the weakness of our mortal state
with deathless might invigorate.

Thy cradle here shall glitter bright,
and darkness glow with new-born 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.



Veni, Redemptor gentium,

Ambrose of Milan (340-397) translated by John M Neale (1818-1866)

The Greeting

The president greets the people

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you
and also with you.

The president introduces the celebration

The Prayer of Preparation

Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open, all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Prayers of Penitence

The deacon says

When the Lord comes,
he will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness,
and will disclose the purposes of the heart.
Therefore in the light of Christ let us confess our sins.

Lord God, we have sinned against you;
we have done evil in your sight.
We are sorry and repent.
Have mercy on us according to your love.
Wash away our wrongdoing
and cleanse us from our sin.
Renew a right spirit within us
and restore us to the joy of your salvation,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The choir sings

Kyrie eleison.	<i>Lord, have mercy upon us.</i>
Christe eleison.	<i>Christ, have mercy upon us.</i>
Kyrie eleison.	<i>Lord, have mercy upon us.</i>

The president says

Almighty God,
who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Collect

Let us pray.

Silence is kept – please remain standing

God our redeemer, who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary
to be the Mother of your Son:
grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour,
so we may be ready to greet him
when he comes to be our judge;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God,
now and for ever. **Amen**

Please sit down

The Liturgy of the Word

Old Testament Reading

Read by Camilla Hadcock

(Micah 5.2-5a)

A reading from the book of the prophet Micah.

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labour has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace. If the Assyrians come into our land and tread upon our soil, we will raise against them seven shepherds and eight installed as rulers.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Magnificat

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 mighty 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.

New Testament Reading

Read by Ceri Davies

(Hebrews 10.5-10)

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

When Christ came into the world, he said, ‘Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; in burnt-offerings and sin-offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, “See, God, I have come to do your will, O God” (in the scroll of the book it is written of me).’ When he said above, ‘You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt-offerings and sin-offerings’ (these are offered according to the law), then he added, ‘See, I have come to do your will.’ He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God’s will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Please stand with the president to sing

Gradual Hymn

CROSS OF JESUS 3 ii



Come, thou long-expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us;
let us find our rest in thee.

Born thy people to deliver;
born a child and yet a King;
born to reign in us for ever;
now thy gracious kingdom bring.

Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.

By thy own eternal Spirit,
rule in all our hearts alone;
by thy all-sufficient merit,
raise us to thy glorious throne.

Charles Wesley (1707 – 88)

Please remain standing for the Gospel

The Gospel

The deacon says

(Luke 1.39-55)

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leapt for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

There is a period of silence after the sermon for reflection

Please stand with the president

The Creed

We say together in faith

**Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God almighty,
who was, and is, and is to come.**

**We believe in God the Father,
who created all things: for by his will they were created
and have their being.**

**We believe in God the Son, who was slain:
for with his blood, he purchased us for God,
from every tribe and language,
from every people and nation.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit:
the Spirit and the Bride say, 'Come!'
Even so come, Lord Jesus! Amen.**

The president invites the congregation to kneel or sit

The Prayers of Intercession

Led by Nigel Scales

This response is used

Maranatha:

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

We pray today for those who are sick at home or in hospital:

Stephen Birch, Arthur Blundell, Chris Drewe, Graham Jordan, Margaret Young,
Sue Penfold, Irfan Masih, Harry Searles, Liam Johnson, Lorraine, Ray Hutchings,

Brian and Ruth Whittle, Jenni Bellamy

for those who mourn, and remember those who have recently died,

Brian Quinn, Sue Fishwick, Eric Jones, Joan Banks

and those whose anniversaries fall this week

Raymond Critchley Fowler (22), Julie Boon (23), Walter Jones, Christopher
Smith (24), Gertrude Eeles (25), Janita John, Peggy Prest (26), Doris Jones,
Bishop Ian Harland (27)

And at the end:

Merciful Father,

accept these prayers

for the sake of your Son

our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Please stand with the president for the peace

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

The president says

In the tender mercy of our God,
the dayspring from on high shall break upon us,
to give light to those who dwell in darkness
and in the shadow of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
and also with you.

The deacon says

Let us greet one another with a word of peace.



Please give what you prayerfully can. You may prefer to use the collection point or card reader on the way out. If you are a UK tax payer please use and sign the blue gift aid form provided on your chair. Alternatively, The Parish Giving Scheme is the easy way to give regularly to support the ongoing ministry of Blackburn Cathedral and you can find out more and sign up by using the QR code provided here.

Blackburn Cathedral's Parish Giving Scheme Code is: 030603001

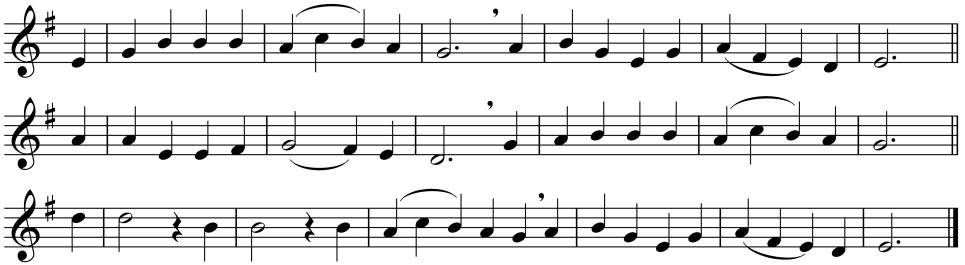
Preparation of the Table

The deacon prepares the table

Please remain standing to sing the hymn during which there will be a collection

Offertory Hymn

VENI EMMANUEL I I



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, 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. *Refrain*

O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer
our spirits by thine advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadows put to flight. *Refrain*

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. *Refrain*

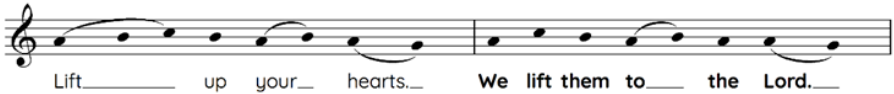
O come, O come, thou Lord of might,
who to thy tribes, on Sinai's height,
in ancient times didst give the law
in cloud and majesty and awe. *Refrain*

Latin 13th century translated by John M Neale (1818-1866)

Taking of the Bread and Wine

Look upon us in mercy not in judgement;
draw us from hatred to love: make the frailty of our praise
a dwelling place for your glory **Amen.**

Eucharistic Prayer



It is indeed right and good to give you thanks and praise,
almighty God and everlasting Father,
through Jesus Christ your Son.
He is the one foretold by all the prophets,
whom the Virgin Mother bore with love beyond all telling.
John the Baptist was his herald
and made him known when at last he came.
In his love Christ fills us with joy
as we prepare to celebrate his birth,
so that when he comes again he may find us watching in prayer,
our hearts filled with wonder and praise.
And so, with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your glory,
and join in their unending hymn of praise:

The choir sings

Sanctus Dominus Deus Sabaoth
Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua.
Hosanna in excelsis.
Benedictus qui venit in nomine
Domini. Hosanna in excelsis.

*Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of
the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.*

We praise and bless you, loving Father,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;
and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit,
that broken bread and wine outpoured
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends and,
taking bread, he praised you.

He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.

Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:

Drink this, all of you;

this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and
for many for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice
made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,
we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

The deacon says

Christ is the bread of life:

**When we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus,
until you come in glory.**

Lord of all life, help us to work together for that day
when your kingdom comes

and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people,

gather us in your loving arms

and bring us with Mary, Paul and all the saints

to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,

for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Joining our prayers with those of the Church Universal, so we say, each in our own language, the prayer our Saviour taught us,

Notre père, qui es aux cieux ... Missierna, li inti fis-smewwiet...
Vater unser im Himmel ... Padre nosso, que estais nos céus...
Padre nostro che sei nei cieli ... Ojcz nasz, któryś jest w niebie...
Otče náš, jenž jsi na nebesích ... الذي في السَّمَاوَاتِ...
Têve MÛsu, kuris esi danguje! ... Ein Tad, yr hwn wyt yn y nefoedd...
Tatal nostru care esti in ceruri ...

**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 Breaking of the Bread

The president breaks the consecrated bread, saying

Every time we eat this bread and drink this cup
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Agnus Dei qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei qui tollis peccata mundi,
dona nobis pacem.

Lamb of God you take away the sins of
the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God you take away the sins of
the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God you take away the sins of
the world, grant us peace.

The Giving of Communion

Jesus is the Lamb of God
who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.
**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

Communion is available in both kinds, and the minister distributing bread will say
The body of Christ. Amen.

*After receiving the bread, if you wish to receive wine please move to the station near the central aisle, and return to your place by the central aisle of the Nave.
The minister distributing wine will say*

The blood of Christ. Amen.

*If you do not wish to receive communion wine, please walk past that second distribution point, and return to your place by the central aisle of the Nave.
While you are waiting to go for communion you may wish to sit.*

During communion

The choir sings

Bogoroditsye Dyevo, raduysia
blagodatnaya Mariye,
hospod s'Toboyu
Blagoslovenna ti v'zhenah,
i Blagosloven Plod chreva Tvoyego
yako Spasa rodila yesi dush nashih.

*Rejoice, virgin, God-bearer
Mary, full of grace,
the Lord be with you.
Blessed are you amongst women
and blessed is the Fruit of your Womb
for you have borne the Saviour of our souls.*

Rachmaninoff Vespers, N° 6, by Sergei Rachmaninoff (1873-1915).

Prayer after Communion

Silence is kept.

Heavenly Father,
who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary
to be the Mother of the promised saviour:
fill us your servants with your grace,
that in all things we may embrace your holy will
and with her rejoice in your salvation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.

Please stand to sing

Final Hymn

BRISTOL 6



When came in flesh the
incarnate Word,
the heedless world slept on,
and only simple shepherds heard
that God had sent his Son.

When comes the Saviour at the last,
from east to west shall shine
the judgement light, and earth aghast
shall tremble at the sign.

Then shall the pure of heart be blest,
as mild he comes to them
as when upon the Virgin's breast
he lay at Bethlehem:

As mild to meek-eyed love and faith,
only more strong to save;
strengthened by having bowed to death,
by having burst the grave.

Lord, who could dare see thee descend
in state, unless he knew
thou art the sorrowing sinner's friend,
the gracious and the true?

Dwell in our hearts, O Saviour blest;
so shall thine advent's dawn
'twixt us and thee, our bosom-guest,
be but the veil withdrawn.

Joseph Anstice (1808-1836)

The Dismissal

The president says

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you,
scatter the darkness from before your path,
and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

The deacon says

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

Please do consider staying for tea or coffee after the service.

The Organ Voluntary

“Dorian” Fugue BWV 538

J. S. Bach (1685 – 1750)

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Notices for the Week Commencing 22nd December

Next Sunday – Christmas I

Morning readings – I Sam 2, 18-20, 26, Col 3.12-17, Luke 2.41-end

9am – Parish Eucharist

10.30am – Cathedral Eucharist

4pm – Choral Evensong – Harwood in A Flat, Responses – Sanders

Anthem – The Spirit of the Lord – Elgar

Blackburn Foodbank in December

We are collecting soup. If you can afford to give, please add it to your weekly or monthly shopping list and donate.

Cathedral Flowers

We would be grateful if you would like to make a contribution towards flowers at Christmas. Please speak to Pat Wedgeworth if you wish to do this. Thank you.

Christmas services

Nine Lessons & Carols: Monday 23rd December at 7:30pm

Carols Around The Crib: Tuesday 24th December at 4pm

Midnight Mass: Tuesday 24th December at 11.30pm

Parish Eucharist on Christmas Day: Wednesday 25th December at 9am

Cathedral Eucharist on Christmas Day: Wednesday 25th December at 10.30am

Safeguarding – for Safeguarding concerns please contact:

Cathedral Safeguarding Officer – Jenny Price – 07800740001,

safeguardingadviser@blackburncathedral.co.uk

Under 18s Safeguarding Coordinator – Denise Sanderson – 01772335903

Vulnerable adults Safeguarding Coordinator – Stewart Hopkinson –
07515 652776