



BLACKBURN
CATHEDRAL

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Sunday 22 December 2024

Cathedral Choir

Choral Evensong

Setting – Stanford in B Flat

Responses - Leighton

Anthem – Mary's Magnificat - Carter

Psalms 123

The order of service is on the cream sheet.

Office Hymn

ABBOTS LEIGH



God is with us, Joseph heard it,
in a dream in deepest sleep:
Mary's child, they'd call him Jesus,
now he had a vow to keep;

Tiny fingers, gurgles, crying,
Mary feeding as they go,
God is with them in this baby,
God would learn and God would grow.

bound together in God's purpose,
he and Mary made their way
to the census in the city,
waiting for God's chosen day.

Enigmatic gift and promise,
Mary pondered in her heart,
Joseph just as challenged, puzzled,
had to learn a father's part.

So they pause within the tension;
fallow moment, time to pray;
parents looking for protection,
what would follow day on day?

Now we look back on the story,
time contracted, one life's span,
Jesus human, here among us,
terror waits as life began.

Andrew Pratt (born 1948)

The Word of God

Psalmody 123, p.514
First reading Isaiah 10.33 - 11.10
Second reading Matthew 1.18-25

Final Hymn

DUNDEE A&M 52



The people that in darkness sat
a glorious light have seen;
the light has shined
on them who long
in shades of death have been.

To hail thee, Sun of Righteousness,
the gathering nations come;
they joy as when the reapers bear
their harvest treasures home.

For unto us a Child is born,
to us a Son is given,
and on his shoulder ever rests
all power in earth and heaven.

His name shall be
the Prince of Peace,
the everlasting Lord,
the Wonderful, the Counsellor,
the God by all adored.

His righteous government and power
shall over all extend;
on judgement and on justice based,
his reign shall have no end.

Lord Jesus, reign in us, we pray,
and make us thine alone,
who with the Father ever art
and Holy Spirit One.

John Morison (1750-1798) Scottish Paraphrases (1781)

The Organ Voluntary