



**BLACKBURN
CATHEDRAL**

The Parish
Eucharist
on
The Fourth Sunday
of Advent

Sunday, 22 December, 2024

9.00am

Welcome to this morning's service

The President and Preacher is
Canon James Lawrence
Missioner

The service is sung by the
The Cathedral Youth Choir
Directed by
Helen Davies

The setting for the service is
Blackburn Mass – John Hosking

Preparation

For individual use before the service begins.

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.

(Micah 5.2-5a)

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.

The Gathering

Please stand to sing

Processional

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR 1911



Come, thou Redeemer of the earth,
and manifest thy virgin-birth:
let every age adoring fall,
such birth befits the God of all.

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 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 Advent Wreath

Blessed are you, sovereign Lord, merciful and gentle:
to you be praise and glory for ever.
Your light has shone in our darkened world
through the child-bearing of blessed Mary;
grant that we who have seen your glory
may daily be renewed in your image
and prepared like her for the coming of your Son,
who is the Lord and Saviour of all.
Blessed be God for ever.

The Prayers of Penitence

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.

cf 1 Corinthians 4.5

**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.**

Everyone sings

♩ = 50

Cantor/Choir All Cantor/Choir All

Lord__have mer- cy, Lord__have mer- cy. Christ have mer- cy, Christ have mer- cy.

6

Cantor/Choir All

Lord have mer - cy, Lord have mer - cy.

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

Eternal God, as Mary waited for the birth of your Son,
so we wait for his coming in glory;
bring us through the birth pangs of this present age
to see, with her, our great salvation
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Please sit down

The Liturgy of the Word

New Testament Reading

Read by Silvia Roberts

(Hebrews 10.5-10)

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

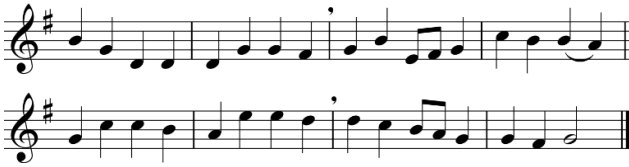
When Christ came into the world, he said, ‘Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; in burnt-offerings and sin-offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, “See, God, I have come to do your will, O God” (in the scroll of the book it is written of me).’ 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 hear.

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

The Gospel

(Luke 1.39-55)

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

In those days 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.' And Mary said, 'My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him = from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*There is a period of silence after the sermon for reflection
Please stand with the president for the Creed*

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 Prayers of Intercession

Led by Terry Givens

Please sit down or kneel for the prayers.

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 at this time:

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

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 president introduces the Peace and then says

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

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

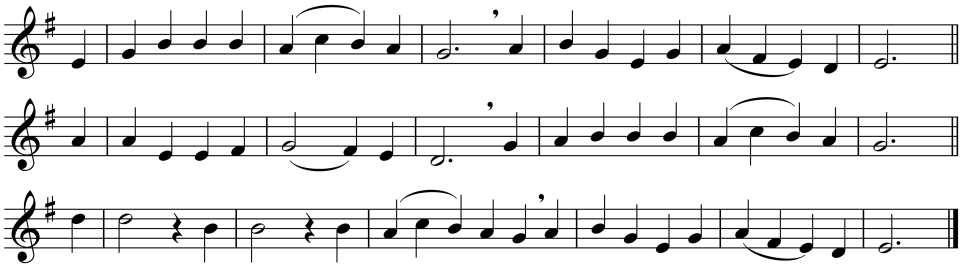
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Preparation of the Table

Please remain standing to sing

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 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, 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

The Lord is here.
His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

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:

Everyone sings

mp Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord. *mf* Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
11 *ff* pow'r and might, Hea ven_ and earth are full of your glo-ry. Hea-ven and earth_ are
20 full of your glo-ry. Ho - san-na, Ho-san-na, Ho - san-na in the high - est.
29 *mp* Bles-sed is he, bles-sed is he, bles-sed is he who
36 *f* comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na, Ho -
41 san - na in the high - est, Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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.

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 ... Ojczy nasz, któryś jest w niebie...
Otče náš, jenž jsi na nebesích ... ،الذِي فِي 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.**

Everyone sings

Lamb of God, *mp*

6
 —you take a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy on us.

12
mf
 Lamb of God, — you take a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy on us.

17
f
 Lamb of God,

22
 — you take a - way the sin of the world, *p* Grant us *cedez.....*

26
rit.

The Giving of Communion

The president says

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.**

When you are ready to receive communion please approach the president in single file and return to your seat by one of the side aisles.

Please do come and ask this first minister for any blessings.

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 next minister before returning to your place. 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 minister and return to your place.

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).

Silence is kept

Prayer after Communion

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

The Dismissal

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.

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

The Organ Voluntary

Fugue in C minor BWV 546

J. S. Bach

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

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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