

BBC STUDIOS

EVENTS

PRODUCTIONS

Manchester
Cathedral

Christmas Day Sung Eucharist



25th December 2023
10.15 am

Spatzen-Messe, K220
W A Mozart

Welcome to Manchester Cathedral

Welcome to the Cathedral and Collegiate Church of St Mary, St Denys and St George in the heart of the City of Manchester. The building is the old mediaeval Parish Church of Manchester. King Henry V first granted it Collegiate status in 1421 and it became Manchester's Cathedral on the creation of the Diocese of Manchester in 1847. It is believed that there has been a church on or near this site for over a thousand years.

Safeguarding

Manchester Cathedral works hard to create safe environments where children and young people are protected and where all people, especially those who may be vulnerable for any reason, are able to worship and pursue their faith journey with encouragement and in safety. We follow the policies and procedures detailed within the Cathedral Safeguarding Handbook. We act promptly on any complaints made, and work in partnership with Manchester Diocese, the police and social care services whenever appropriate to do so. Details of our policy and how to voice a concern can be found on a dedicated page of our website and on the noticeboard at the south porch.

BBC One Broadcast

Today's service is broadcast live on BBC One, so our worship will be available to people at home and will be very important to those who cannot get to their local church, including those in care homes and hospitals. The service will also be available on iPlayer for twelve months.

Because of the live broadcast we are adjusting some aspects of the service, especially the distribution of Communion. Some of this will take place after the broadcast has concluded.

Photography

Please do not use cameras, photo-imaging devices or recording equipment during the service.

Gift Aid

During the final carol – after the end of the broadcast part of the service - there will be a collection for the mission and aims of the Cathedral. Please use the Gift Aid envelope that is with this order of service or, donate using this QR Code:





Hearing-loop

The Cathedral has a hearing-loop.
Please set your hearing aid to setting T.

Have you turned off your mobile phone?

Please make sure that you have turned off your mobile phone and any other electronic equipment that might interrupt the service.

Receiving Holy Communion

We offer a very warm welcome to any who are visiting us today. If you would normally receive communion in your own church you are very welcome to do so here. If you do not receive communion please feel free to come up for a blessing instead - simply bow your head when you come up so the Eucharistic Minister will know.

If you require a gluten free communion wafer please inform a steward before the service. Please note that the wine may contain traces of gluten.

Communicants are asked not to dip communion wafers into the wine.

Musicians

The Cathedral Choir is conducted by Christopher Stokes,
Organist and Master of the Choristers.

The organ is played by Geoffrey Woollatt, Sub-Organist.

President

The Very Revd Rogers Govender
Dean

Preacher

The Right Revd Prof David Walker
Bishop of Manchester

Large-print copies of this booklet are also available

Music Before the Service

Chorale Prelude on 'In dulci júbilo', BWV 729
J S Bach (1685-1750)

Gathering

Christmas Acclamation

Sung by the Choir

Please stand.

Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy
which shall be to all people:
for unto you is born in the city of David,
a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.
Alleluia.

Christopher Stokes

Luke 2.10, 11

The Processional Carol

O come, all ye faithful,
joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
come and behold him,
born the King of angels;
 O come, let us adore him,
 O come, let us adore him,
 O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

God of God,
Light of Light,
lo, he abhors not the virgin's womb;
very God,
begotten, not created:
 O come...

Sing, choirs of angels,
sing in exultation,
sing all ye citizens of heaven above:
"Glory to God
in the highest:"
 O come...

Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
born this happy morning;
Jesu, to thee be glory given:
word of the Father,
now in flesh appearing:
O come...

Adeste Fideles NEH 30

Melody probably by

John Francis Wade (1711-1786)

Descant by Philip Ledger (1937-2012)

Last verse by David Willcocks (1919-2015)

Latin 18th century
tr Frederick Oakeley (1802-1880)
and others

The Greeting

President I bring you good news of great joy:

a Saviour has been born to you. Alleluia!

All **Unto us a child is born, a son is given. Alleluia!**

He is Christ the Lord. Alleluia!

All **We worship and adore him. Alleluia!**

President Grace, peace and joy from God our Father

and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All **and also with you.**

Words of welcome are said.

The Christmas candle is lit.

Prayers of Penitence

Deacon Christ the light of the world has come
to dispel the darkness of our hearts.
In his light let us examine ourselves and confess our sins.

Deacon God our Father,
you sent your Son full of grace and truth:
forgive our failure to receive him.
Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Deacon Jesus our Saviour,
you were born in poverty and laid in a manger:
forgive our greed and rejection of your ways.
Christ, have mercy.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

Deacon Spirit of love,
your servant Mary responded joyfully to your call:
forgive the hardness of our hearts.
Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

President May the God of all healing and forgiveness
draw you to himself,
that you may behold the glory of his Son,
the Word made flesh,
and be cleansed from all your sins,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Gloria in Excelsis

sung by the Choir

Gloria in excelsis Deo,
et in terra pax hominibus
bonae voluntatis.
Laudamus te, benedicimus te,
adoramus te, glorificamus te,
gratias agimus tibi
propter magnam gloriam tuam,
Domine Deus, Rex caelestis,
Deus Pater omnipotens.

*Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to people
of good will.
We praise you, we bless you,
we adore you, we glorify you,
we give you thanks
for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.*

Domine Fili unigenite,
Jesu Christe. Domine Deus,
Agnus Dei, Filius Patris,
qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis;
qui tollis peccata mundi,
suscipe deprecationem nostram.
qui sedes
ad dexteram Patris,
miserere nobis.

*Lord, only-begotten Son,
Jesus Christ; Lord God,
Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the
world, have mercy upon us;
you take away the sins of the
world, receive our prayer;
you are seated
at the right hand of the Father
have mercy upon us.*

Quoniam tu solus Sanctus,
tu solus Dominus,
tu solus Altissimus,
Jesu Christe,
cum Sancto Spiritu
in gloria Dei Patris.
Amen.

*For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.*

Please remain standing

The Collect

President Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ,
your birth at Bethlehem
draws us to kneel in wonder at heaven touching earth:
accept our heartfelt praise as we worship you,
our Saviour and our eternal God.

All **Amen.**

Please sit

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

Isaiah 9.2-7

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah:

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness - on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onwards and for evermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

At the end the reader says

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand

Gradual Carol

All Unto us is born a Son!
Voices King of quires supernal:
See on earth his life begun,
of lords the Lord eternal,
of lords the Lord eternal.

Christ, from heaven descending low,
comes on earth a stranger;
ox and ass their owner know,
be-cradled in the manger,
be-cradled in the manger.

Lower Voices This did Herod sore affray,
and grievously bewilder,
so he gave the word to slay,
and slew the little childer,
and slew the little childer.

Higher Voices Of his love and mercy mild
this the Christmas story;
and O that Mary's gentle child
might lead us up to glory!
might lead us up to glory!

All Voices O and A, and A and O,
cum cantibus in choro,
let our merry organ go:
Benedicamus Domino!
Benedicamus Domino!

Puer nobis CC1 43
Melody from *Piae Cantiones* 1582
arranged by David Willcocks (1919-2015)

Latin, 15th century
tr G R Woodward (1848-1934)

Please remain standing

Gospel Reading

Luke 2.1-14

All turn to face the Gospel book. An acclamation heralds the Gospel reading

Choir 

Cantor Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace!
Alleluia!

All **Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Deacon Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

All 

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. 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.

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!'

At the end

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All



Please sit

The Sermon

The Rt Revd Prof David Walker
Bishop of Manchester

Carol

Sung by the Choir

Love came down at Christmas,
love all lovely, Love divine;
love was born at Christmas,
star and angels gave the sign.

Love shall be our token,
love be yours and love be mine,
love to God and all men,
love for plea and gift and sign.

Hermitage CP 59
R O Morris (1886-1948)

Christina Rossetti (1830-1894)

Please stand

Affirmation of Faith

President Do you believe and trust in God the Father,
source of all being and life,
the one for whom we exist?

All **We believe and trust in him.**

President Do you believe and trust in God the Son,
who took our human nature,
died for us and rose again?

All **We believe and trust in him.**

President Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,
who gives life to the people of God
and makes Christ known in the world?

All **We believe and trust in him.**

President This is the faith of the Church.

All **This is our faith.**
We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Please sit or kneel

Prayers of Intercession

Prayers of intercession are said

Let us pray to Jesus for all God's people
and for the broken world he came to save:

We give thanks for the the joy of Christmas,
for churches across the world
celebrating your birth in Bethlehem:
Strengthen and sustain your people,
especially where the Church is persecuted or endangered.
Jesus, Child of Mary,

All **hear our prayer.**

We give thanks that the whole human race is your family:
Bless and protect our families and friends.
May we cherish our children and those who are older,
may all find a place within the fellowship of your love.
Jesus, Son of God,

All **hear our prayer.**

We give thanks that your love is stronger than hatred,
your peace stronger than war:
We hold before you the millions of displaced people
fleeing violence and conflict,
including the people of Ukraine
and the people of Palestine and Israel.
Jesus, who became a refugee,

All **hear our prayer.**

We give thanks that you came to heal and restore the lost:
Lay your hands of love upon all broken lives,
all who feel loneliness, sadness or despair,
all whose minds or bodies are wracked with pain.
We bring to you those known by us,
also known and loved by you.

Jesus, Saviour,
hear our prayer.

All

Lord Jesus Christ,
you have given us the hope of a renewed earth
and the joy of heaven
and have delivered us from the power of darkness:
May the light of your love always shine in our hearts,
for with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
you live and reign, now and forever.

All **Amen.**

Please stand

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

President Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace, goodwill to all people.

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

Deacon Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may exchange a sign of peace

Preparation of the Table Taking of the Bread and Wine

The Offertory Carol

While shepherds watched their flocks by night,
all seated on the ground,
the angel of the Lord came down,
and glory shone around.

‘Fear not’, said he (for mighty dread
had seized their troubled mind);
‘Glad tidings of great joy I bring
to you and all mankind.

'To you in David's town this day
is born of David's line
a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord;
and this shall be the sign:

'The heavenly babe you there shall find
to human view displayed,
all meanly wrapped in swathing bands,
and in a manger laid.'

Thus spake the seraph; and forthwith
appeared a shining throng
of angels praising God, who thus
addressed their joyful song:

'All glory be to God on high,
and to the earth be peace;
good will henceforth from heaven to men
begin and never cease.'

Winchester Old NEH 42
Thomas Este's Psalter 1592
Descant by Christopher Stokes

Nahum Tate (1652-1715)

The president takes the bread and wine.

President To you we come, Father of lights,
where heaven and earth unite.
May Jesus meet us in the breaking of the bread.
All **Amen.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

President The Lord be with you,
All **and also with you.**

President Lift up your hearts.
All **We lift them to the Lord.**

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

President It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
always, here and everywhere to give you thanks,
holy Father, almighty and eternal God.

For by the coming of Jesus your only Son,
born into humanity by the blessed Virgin,
you began the work of our salvation.
Christ shared the substance of our flesh
and opened wide his arms of love for us on the cross;
he put an end to death by dying for us;
and revealed the resurrection by rising to new life;
so he fulfilled your will and won for you a holy people.

Therefore, with angels proclaiming peace on earth
and glory in the highest heaven,
we lift our voices to join their unending hymn of praise:

Choir	Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus, Dominus Deus Sabaoth. Pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua. Osanna in excelsis. Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini. Osanna in excelsis.	<i>Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.</i>
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President 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.

Deacon Great is the mystery of faith:
All **Christ has died:**
 Christ is risen:
 Christ will come again.

President 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 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.

All **Amen.**

Please sit

The Lord's Prayer

Please say the Lord's Prayer in the language of your choice

President As our Saviour taught us, so we pray.
All **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 and says

President We break the bread of life,
and that life is the light of the world.
All **God here among us,
light in the midst of us,
bring us to light and life.**

Communion

The invitation to Communion is said

President Christ is the true bread
which has come down from heaven.
All **Lord, give us this bread always.**

The president and people receive communion. Authorized words of distribution are used and the communicant replies

Amen.

Please follow the direction of the stewards.

Members of all Christian Churches are welcome to receive Holy Communion. If you wish to receive a blessing instead, please keep your hands down.

Holy Communion will be offered in both kinds (that is in both elements of bread and wine). If you prefer, continuing to receive only bread is also permitted. Consecrated bread must not be intincted (dipped) in the wine.

Gluten-free wafers are available at the administration points by the nave platform.

Agnus Dei

sung by the Choir

Agnus Dei,
qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.

*Lamb of God
you take away the sin of the world
have mercy on us.*

Agnus Dei,
qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.

*Lamb of God
you take away the sin of the world
have mercy on us.*

Agnus Dei,
qui tollis peccata mundi,
dona nobis pacem.

*Lamb of God
you take away the sin of the world
grant us peace.*

Motet

sung by the Choir

In dulci jubilo
nun singet und seid froh!
Unsers Herzens Wonne
liegt in praesepio,
und leuchtet als die Sonne,
matris in gremio.
Alpha es et O.

*In sweet rejoicing,
now sing and be joyous!
Our heart's bliss
rests in a manger,
and shines like the sun
in his mother's lap.
[He is] Alpha and Omega!*

O Jesu parvule
nach dir ist mir so weh!
Tröst' mir mein Gemüte
O puer optime.
Durch alle deine Güte
O Princeps Glorïae,
Trahe me post te!

*O tiny Jesus
my heart aches for you.
Console me in heart and soul,
O best of boys.
Through all your good
O Prince of Glory,
Draw me after you!*

O Patris caritas!
O Nati lenitas!
Wir wärn all verloren
per nostra crimina,
so hat er uns erworben
Cœlorum gaudia.
Eia, wärn wir da!

*O love of the Father!
O gentleness of the Son!
We would all be lost
through our crimes,
but you for us have gained
the joys of Heaven.
Oh, that we were there!*

Ubi sunt gaudia?
Nirgend mehr denn da!
Da die Engel singen
nova cantica,
und die Schellen klingen
in regis curia.
Eia, wärn wir da!

*Where are joys?
Nowhere more than there!
Where the angels sing
new songs,
and the bells ring
in the courts of the King.
Oh, that we were there!*

Hieronymus Praetorius (1560-1629)

Heinrich Seuse (1295-1366)

Carol

sung by the Choir

I wonder as I wander out under the sky,
how Jesus the Saviour 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 'twas in a cow's stall,
with 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 wing,
or all of God's angels in heav'n for to sing,
he surely could have it, 'cause he was the King.

Carl Rütti (b 1949)

Traditional Appalachian

Please stand if you can as the president approaches the Altar

Prayer after Communion

President God our Father,
whose Word has come among us
in the Holy Child of Bethlehem:
All **May the light of faith fill our hearts,
and shine in our words and deeds;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

The Dismissal

The Blessing

Bishop May the joy of the angels,
the eagerness of the shepherds,
the perseverance of the wise men,
the devotion of Joseph and Mary,
and the peace of the Christ-child
be yours this Christmas;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
All **Amen.**

Farewell

President To everyone here in the Cathedral and who are joining us at
home and from anywhere in the world, from Manchester we
wish you a joyful Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

Recessional Carol

During this carol the Servers and Clergy leave the Nave platform.

Hark! the herald-angels sing
glory to the new-born King,
peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled.

Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic host proclaim,
'Christ is born in Bethlehem.'

*Hark! the herald-angels sing
glory to the new-born King.*

Christ, by highest heaven adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come,
offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see!
Hail, the incarnate Deity!
Pleased as man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.

Hark!...

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 man no more may die,
born to raise the sons of earth,
born to give them second birth.

Hark!...

Mendelssohn NEH 26

from a chorus by Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

Descant by Howard Arman (b 1954)

Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Music after the Service

Finale from Symphony No 1

Louis Vierne (1870-1937)

After the Broadcast

Those who have not received Communion are invited to do so.

Carol

Please stand. During the final carol an offering for the ministry of Manchester Cathedral will be taken.

Christians, awake! salute the happy morn,
whereon the Saviour of the world was born;
rise to adore the mystery of love,
which hosts of angels chanted from above;
with them the joyful tidings were begun
of God incarnate and the Virgin's son.

Then to the watchful shepherds it was told,
who heard the angelic herald's voice: 'Behold,
I bring good tidings of a Saviour's birth
to you and all the nations upon earth:
this day hath God fulfilled his promised word,
this day is born a Saviour, Christ the Lord.'

Oh may we keep and ponder in our mind
God's wondrous love in saving lost mankind;
Trace we the babe, who hath retrieved our loss,
from his poor manger to his bitter cross;
tread in his steps, assisted by his grace,
till man's first heavenly state again takes place.

Then may we hope, the angelic hosts among,
to sing, redeemed, a glad triumphal song;
he that was born upon this joyful day
around us all his glory shall display;
saved by his love, incessant we shall sing
eternal praise to heaven's almighty King.

*Yorkshire (Stockport) NEH 24
John Wainwright (1723-1768)*

John Byrom (1691-1763)

The Sending Out

Dean Let us go in the peace of Christ.
All **Amen.**

*Please take this order of service away with you
to reflect upon the music,
readings and prayers,
and as a reminder of your visit.*

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