Wycliffe Hall

CAROL SERVICE

With

Dr Jane Williams

Tuesday 6 December 2022

4:30pm

St. Andrew’s Church, Oxford
ORDER OF SERVICE
Christmas Music
for
organ
Alistair Reid

Choir Introit:

Jesus Christ
the
Apple Tree

The tree of life my soul hath seen,
Laden with fruit and always green:
The tree of life my soul hath seen
Laden with fruit and always green:
The trees of nature fruitless be,
Compared with Christ the apple tree.

His beauty doth all things excel,
By faith I know but ne'er can tell;
His beauty doth all things excel,
By faith I know but ne'er can tell.
The glory which I now can see,
In Jesus Christ the apple tree.

For happiness I long have sought,
And pleasure dearly I have bought;
For happiness I long have sought,
And pleasure dearly I have bought.
I missed of all but now I see
'Tis found in Christ the apple tree.

I'm weary with my former toil,
Here I will sit and rest awhile:
I'm weary with my former toil,
Here I will sit and rest awhile.
Under the shadow I will be,
Of Jesus Christ the apple tree.

This fruit doth make my soul to thrive,
It keeps my dying faith alive;
This fruit doth make my soul to thrive,
It keeps my dying faith alive.
Which makes my soul in haste to be
With Jesus Christ the apple tree.

Words: From the collection of Joshua Smith, New Hampshire, 1784.
ORDER OF SERVICE

Christmas Music for organ

Choir Introit: Jesus Christ the Apple Tree

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Words: From the collection of Joshua Smith, New Hampshire, 1784.
Music: Elizabeth Poston, 1905-1987
Carol: Of the Father's heart begotten

Of the Father's heart begotten,
Ere the world from chaos rose;
He is Alpha: from that fountain
All that is and has been flows;
He is Omega, of all things
Yet to come the mystic close,
Evermore and evermore.

O that birth forever blessed,
When the Virgin, full of grace,
By the Holy Ghost conceiving,
Bore the saviour of our race;
And the babe, the world’s redeemer
First revealed his sacred face,
Evermore and evermore.

Sing ye heights of heaven his praises,
Angels and archangels sing;
Powers, dominions bow before him,
And extol our God and King:
Let no tongue on earth be silent,
Every voice in concert ring,
Evermore and evermore.

Words: Prudentious b. 348, tr. R.F. Davis
Music: From Piae Cantiones, Theoderici Petri Nylandensis, 1582

Welcome
The Rev’d Dr Michael Lloyd
Principal

Bidding Prayer
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Welcome The Rev'd Dr Michael Lloyd Principal Bidding Prayer

The Annunciation  Sandro Botticelli c 1485
Choir Carol: The Angel Gabriel

The angel Gabriel from heaven came,  
His wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame;  
"All hail", said he, "thou lowly maiden Mary,  
Most highly favour’d lady." Gloria.

"For know a blessed mother thou shalt be:  
All generations laud and honour thee.  
Thy Son shall be Emmanuel,  
By seers foretold,  
Most highly favour’d lady, "Gloria.

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head,  
"To me be as it pleaseth God," she said,  
"My soul shall laud and magnify His holy name."  
Most highly favour’d lady, Gloria.

Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ was born,  
In Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn;  
And Christian folk throughout the world will ever say;  
"Most highly favour’d lady," Gloria.

Words and Music: Old Basque Carol, col S. Baring-Gould 1834-1924  
Arranged and harmonised by Edgar Pettman, 1866-1943

Reading: Luke 1.26-38

Carol: How bright appears the Morning Star

Choir  How bright appears the Morning Star,  
With mercy beaming from afar;  
The host of heaven rejoices.  
O Righteous Branch, O Jesse's Rod,  
The Son of Man and Son of God,  
We too will lift our voices:  
Jesus, Jesus, holy, holy, yet most lowly,  
Draw Thou near us;  
Great Emmanuel, come and hear us.

Words: William Meercer 1811-1873, after Philipp Nicolai 1556-1608  
Music: att. Philipp Nicola 1556-1608,  
Arr. and harmonised by J.S. Bach 1685-1750

The Art of Christmas  
Jane Williams
The Angel Gabriel from heaven came,
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All
Though circled by the hosts on high,
He deigned to cast a pitying eye
Upon His helpless creature.
The whole creation’s head and Lord,
By highest seraphim adored,
Assumed our very nature;
Jesus, grant us, through Your merit,
To inherit thy salvation.
Hear, O hear our supplication!

Rejoice, ye heavens, and earth, reply;
With praise, ye sinners, fill the sky
For this, his incarnation.
Incarnate God, put forth thy power;
Ride on, ride on, great Conqueror,
Till all know thy salvation.
Amen, amen! Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise be given
Evermore by earth and heaven.

Words: William Mercer 1811-1873, after Philipp Nicolai 1556-1608
Music: att. Philipp Nicolai 1556-1608,
Arr. And harmonised by J.S. Bach 1685-1750

The Art of Christmas 1

Jane Williams
Carol: Once in Royal David’s City

Solo  Once in Royal David’s City  
      Stood a lowly cattle shed,  
      Where a mother laid her baby,  
      In a manger for His bed;  
      Mary was that mother mild,  
      Jesus Christ her little child.

All  He came down to earth from heaven,  
      Who is God and Lord of all,  
      And his shelter was a stable,  
      And his cradle was a stall;  
      With the poor and mean and lowly,  
      Lived on earth our Saviour holy.

      And our eyes at last shall see him,  
      Through his own redeeming love,  
      For that child so dear and gentle  
      Is our Lord in heaven above;  
      And he leads his children on  
      To the place where he is gone.

      Not in that poor lowly stable  
      With the oxen standing by,  
      We shall see him; but in heaven,  
      Set at God’s right hand on high;  
      Where like stars his children crowned,  
      All in white shall wait around

Words: C.F. Alexander 1818-1895  
Music: H.J. Gauntlett. 1805-1876, arr. David Wilcocks

Reading: Luke 2:1-7
Once in Royal David’s City

Stood a lowly cattle shed,
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Reading: Luke 2:1-7

Mystical Nativity  Sandro Botticelli c 1500
Choir Carol: Nativity Carol

Born in a stable so bare,
Born so long ago,
Born 'neath light of star,
He who loved us so:
Far away, silent he lay,
Born today, your homage pay,
For Christ is born for aye,
Born on Christmas Day.

Cradled by mother so fair,
Tender her lullaby;
Over her son so dear,
Angel hosts fill the sky:
Far away, silent he lay,
Born today, your homage pay,
For Christ is born for aye,
Born on Christmas Day.

Wise men from distant far land,
Shepherds from starry hills,
Worship this babe so rare,
Hearts with his warmth he fills:
Far away, silent he lay,
Born today, your homage pay,
For Christ is born for aye,
Born on Christmas Day.

Love in that stable was born,
Into our hearts to flow,
Innocent dreaming babe,
Make me thy love to know:
Far away, silent he lay,
Born today, your homage pay,
For Christ is born for aye,
Born on Christmas Day.

John Rutter, b.1945
The Art of Christmas

Jane Williams

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Into our hearts to flow,
Innocent dreaming babe,
Make me why love to know:
Far away, silent he lay,
Born today, your homage pay,
For Christ is born for aye,
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John Rutter, b.1945

The Three Wise Men  Ravenna mosaic c 565
Carol:
As with gladness men of old
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 the 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
Unto Christ, 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
Alleluias to our King.

Words: W. Chatterton Dix 1837-1898
Music: C. Kocher 1786-1872, arr. David Wilcocks
Carol: As with gladness men of old

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Music: C. Kocher 1786-1872, arr. David Wilcocks
Reading: Matthew 2:1-12

The Journey of the Magi

TS Eliot

The Rev’d Dr Michael Lloyd
Principal

The Art of Christmas 3

Jane Williams

Choir Carol: The Mummer’s Carol

O mortal man remember well
When Christ our Lord was born:
He was crucified between two thieves,
And crownéd with the thorn,
And crownéd with the thorn.

O mortal man remember well
When Christ was wrapped in clay:
He was taken to a sepulchre,
Where no man ever lay,
Where no man ever lay.

God bless your house, your children too;
Your cattle and your store:
The Lord increase you day by day,
And send you more and more,
And send you more and more.

Words: From English Traditional Songs and Carols
Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958

Prayers

Concluding with the Lord’s Prayer
Carol: Hark the herald angels sing

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! The herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King.

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! The herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King.

Words: C.Wesley, T. Whitfield, M. Madan and others.
Music: Felix Mendelssohn, 1809-1847, arr. David Wilcocks

Blessing

Organ Voluntary

Alistair Reid