

Westminster School Carol Service



Westminster Abbey

Friday 9 December 2011

at 7.00 pm

Retiring Collection Charities

Many thanks to all those who contributed to the £3172.02 raised at the Carol Service last year. The money was evenly divided between 'Waterford Kamhlaba' and 'Westminster PHAB'. Please see below for information on the charities we will be supporting this year.

Westminster House Youth Club. Westminster School has a longstanding association with Westminster House Youth Club in Nunhead Grove, Peckham. Our pupils have been active in the twice-weekly homework club, supporting pre-teens and younger teenagers with their school work. As well as offering assistance to younger people, our volunteers have been well-supported by the club's permanent staff and have enhanced their own life-skills as a result. The club desperately needs our financial support if it is to continue its outstanding services to young people in a challenging area of South London.

Little Books Afghanistan is a small charity based in London working out of the publishing house Little Books. They aim to distribute simple picture and story books to the most deprived children in Afghanistan. In a country where eighty per cent of the adult population are illiterate, being able to educate the younger generation is key to the future stability and peace of this country. Currently only fifty per cent of children attend school, many are forced to work to support their families, and many will never have even seen a book.

Cover illustration from *Evangelia: Arabic et Latine*, Rome, 1591
in Dr Busby's own library

Image courtesy of the School Archive

Music before the Service

Recit de Nazard

Played by Albert Kang WW

Louis-Nicolas Clérambault (1676 – 1749)

Vieux Noel

Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen (Op.122, No.8)

Played by Daniel Marx GG

César Franck (1822 – 1890)

Johannes Brahms (1833 – 1897)

Wachet Auf, Ruft Uns Die Stimme

Nun komm', der Heiden Heiland (BWV 659)

Played by Simon McGregor

Johann Gottfried Walther (1684 – 1748)

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685 – 1750)

Director of Music : Tim Garrard

School Organist : Simon McGregor

Organ Student : Daniel Marx GG

Westminster School Brass Ensemble

Head of Brass : Peter Cameron

Please make sure that you have turned off your mobile phone.

Please take great care when lighting and holding candles.

Please take this service sheet and your candle with you at the end of the service.

Please do join a House for refreshments after the service. Details of where to go can be found at the end of this order of service.

ORDER OF SERVICE

The Congregation stands

Treble 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.

Choir only

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.

The procession enters

All sing

And through all His wondrous childhood
He would honour and obey,
Love and watch the lowly Maiden,
In whose gentle arms He lay:
Christian children all must be
Mild, obedient, good as He.

For he is our childhood's pattern;
Day by day, like us He grew;
He was little, weak and helpless,
Tears and smiles like us He knew;
And He feeleth for our sadness,
And He shareth in our gladness.

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;
When like stars His children crowned
All in white shall wait around.

Mrs Cecil Frances Alexander (1818 - 95)

Verses 1-5 harmonised by A H Mann

Descant and organ part by David Wilcocks

Henry Gauntlett (1805 - 76)

All remain standing. The Very Revd Dr John Hall, Dean of Westminster and Chairman of the Governing Body, says

THE BIDDING PRAYER

BELOVED in Christ, be it this Christmastide our care and delight to hear again the message of the angels, and in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem and see this thing which is come to pass, and the Babe lying in a manger.

Therefore let us read and mark in Holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God from the first days of our disobedience unto the glorious Redemption brought us by this Holy Child.

But first, let us pray for the needs of the whole world; for peace on earth and goodwill among all his people; for unity and brotherhood within the Church he came to build, and especially in this Collegiate Church of St Peter at Westminster.

And because this of all things would rejoice his heart, let us remember, in his name, the poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry, and the oppressed; the sick and them that mourn, the lonely and unloved, the aged and the little children; all those who know not the Lord Jesus, or who love him not, or who by sin have grieved his heart of love.

Lastly, let us remember before God all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore, and in a greater light, that multitude which no man can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom in the Lord Jesus we are for ever one.

These prayers and praises let us humbly offer up to the Throne of Heaven, in the words which Christ himself hath taught us:

All say together

OUR Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, In earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that 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.

All sit for the Choir to sing

DING-dong, ding:
Ding- dong, ding:
Ding-dong, ding-dong:
Ding-a-dong-ding.

Up! good Christen folk, and listen
How the merry church bells ring,
And from steeple bid good people
Come adore the new-born King:

Tell the story how from glory
God came down at Christmastide,
Bringing gladness, chasing sadness,
Show'ring blessings far and wide.

Born of mother, blest o'er other,
Ex Maria Virgine,
In a stable ('tis no fable),
Christus natus hodie.

G R. Woodward

Piae Cantiones (1582)
arr G R Woodward

All remain seated for

THE FIRST LESSON

Genesis 3: 8-15

The Fall

Read by a member of the Fifth Form

The Choir sings

A^DAM lay ybounden,
Bounden in a bond;
Four thousand winter
Thought he not too long.

And all was for an apple,
An apple that he took,
As clerkès finden
Written in their book.

Ne had the apple taken been,
The apple taken been,
Ne had never our lady
A-been heavené queen.

Blessed be the time
That apple taken was.
Therefore we moun singen
Deo gratias!

Anon (15th century)

Boris Ord

OF the Father's heart begotten,
Ere the world from chaos rose,
He is Alpha: from that Fountain
All that is and hath been flows;
He is Omega, of all things
Yet to come the mystic Close,
Evermore and evermore!

By his word was all created;
He commanded and 'twas done;
Earth and sky and boundless ocean,
Universe of three in one,
All that sees the moon's soft radiance,
All that breathes beneath the sun,
Evermore and evermore!

This is he, whom seer and sybil
Sang in ages long gone by;
This is he of old revealed
In the page of prophecy;
Lo! he comes, the promised Saviour;
Let the world his praises cry!
Evermore and evermore!

Sing, ye heights of heaven, his praises;
Angels and Archangels, sing!
Wheresoe'er ye be, ye faithful,
Let your joyous anthems ring,
Every tongue his name confessing,
Countless voices answering.
Evermore and evermore!

Prudentius (348 - 413)
tr R F Davis

Divinum Mysterium
Sanctus trope, 11th century

All sit for

THE SECOND LESSON

Isaiah 9: 2, 6-7

The prophet Isaiah foretells the coming of the Saviour

Read by a member of the Lower Shell

The Choir sings

O magnum mysterium,
et admirabile sacramentum,
ut animalia viderent Dominum natum,
jacentem in praeseptio!
Beata Virgo, cujus viscera
meruerunt portare
Dominum Christum.
Alleluia!

O great mystery,
and wonderful sacrament,
that animals should see the new-born Lord,
lying in their manger!
Blessed is the Virgin whose womb
was worthy to bear
the Lord Jesus Christ.
Alleluia!

*Fourth of the nine responsories
for Matins of Christmas Day*

Giovanni Gabrieli (c. 1557-1612)

THE THIRD LESSON

Luke 1: 26-35, 38

The Annunciation

Read by a member of the Upper Shell

All remain seated while the Choir sings

ANGELUS ad virginem
Subintrans in conclave.
Virginis formidinem
Demulcens inquit "Ave!
Ave regina virginum,
Caeli terraeque Dominum
Concipies et paries intacta,
Salutem hominum.
Tu porta caeli facta
Medela criminum."

*When the angel came secretly
to the Virgin in her room,
soothing the maiden's fear,
he said: "Hail! Hail, Queen of virgins.
While yet untouched by man
you shall conceive and bear
the Lord of heaven and earth,
salvation for mankind.
You have become the gate of heaven,
a remedy for sins."*

Quomodo conciperem,
Quae virum non cognovi?
Qualiter infringerem,
Quod firma mente vovi?
'Spiritus Sancti gratia
Perficiet haec omnia;
Ne timeas, sed gaudeas, secura,
Quod castimonia
Manebit inte pura
Dei potentia.'

*"How can I conceive,
since I have not known a man?
How can I break the vow
I made with firm intent?"
"The grace of the Holy Spirit
shall bring all this to pass.
Fear not, but rejoice, secure in the
knowledge that pure chastity
shall remain yours
through God's mighty power."*

Ad haec virgo nobilis
Respondens inquit ei;
Ancilla sum humilis
Omnipotentis Dei.
Tibi caelesti nuntio,
Tanti secreti conscio,
Consentiens et cupiens videre
Factum quod audio,
Parata sum parere
Dei consilio.

*To this the noble Virgin
replied, saying:
"I am the lowly handmaiden
of Almighty God.
I bend my will to you,
O celestial messenger,
who share so great a mystery,
and I long to see performed what I now hear.
I am ready to yield myself
to God's design."*

Eia mater Domini,
Quae pacem redidisti
Angelis et homini,
Cum Christum genuisti;
Tuum exora filium
Ut se nobis propitium
Exhibeat, et deleat peccata;
Praestans auxilium
Vita frui beata
Post hoc exsilium.
Deo Gratias

*Ah, mother of the Lord,
who gave back peace
to angels and mankind
when you bore Christ,
pray your son
to show himself gracious to us,
and wipe away our sins,
A very present help,
that we may enjoy a blessed life
after this exile.*

Anon (14th century)

Melody c 1250 arr. Andrew Carter

All remain seated for

THE FOURTH LESSON

Matthew 1: 18-23

The Birth of Jesus

Read by a member of the Sixth Form

The Choir sings

WHAT sweeter music can we bring
Than a carol, for to sing
The birth of this our heavenly King?
Awake the voice! Awake the string!

Dark and dull night, fly hence away,
And give the honour to this day,
That sees December turned to May.

Why does the chilling winter's morn
Smile, like a field beset with corn?
Or smell like a meadow newly-shorn,
Thus, on the sudden? Come and see
The cause, why things thus fragrant be:
'Tis He is born, whose quickening birth
Gives life and luster, public mirth,
To heaven, and the under-earth.

We see him come, and know him ours,
Who, with his sunshine and his showers,
Turns all the patient ground to flowers.
The darling of the world is come,
And fit it is, we find a room
To welcome him. The nobler part
Of all the house here, is the heart.

Which we will give him; and bequeath
This holly, and this ivy wreath,
To do him honour, who's our King,
And Lord of all this revelling.

What sweeter music can we bring,
Than a carol for to sing
The birth of this our heavenly King?

Robert Herrick (1591-1674)

John Rutter (b 1945)

All stand to sing

UNTO us is born a son
King of choirs supernal:
See on earth his life begun,
Of lords the Lord eternal.

Christ, from heav'n descending low,
Comes on earth a stranger;
Ox and ass their owner know,
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.

Upper voices

Of his love and mercy mild
This the Christmas story;
And O that Mary's gentle Child
Might lead us up to glory!

All

O and A and A and O,
Cum cantibus in choro,
Let our merry organ go,
Benedicamus Domino.

Latin 15th century

Piae Cantiones, 1582

Trans. George Ratcliffe Woodward (1859-1934) George Herbert Palmer (1846-1926)

All sit for

THE FIFTH LESSON

Luke 2: 8-16

The Birth is announced to the shepherds

Read by a member of the Remove

GOING through the hills on a night all starry
On the way to Bethlehem,
Far away I heard a shepherd boy piping
On the way to Bethlehem.

‘Tell me, shepherd boy piping tunes so merrily
On the way to Bethlehem,
Who will hear your tunes on these hills so lonely
On the way to Bethlehem?’

*Angels in the sky brought this message nigh:
‘Dance and sing for joy that Christ the newborn King
is come to bring us peace on earth,
and he’s lying cradled there at Bethlehem.’*

‘None may hear my pipes on these hills so lonely
On the way to Bethlehem;
But a King will hear me play sweet lullabies
When I get to Bethlehem.’

*Angels in the sky came down from on high,
Hovered o’er the manger where the babe was lying
cradled in the arms of his mother Mary,
sleeping now at Bethlehem.*

‘Where is this new King, shepherd boy piping merrily,
Is he there at Bethlehem?’
‘I will find him soon by the star shining brightly
In the sky over Bethlehem.’

*Angels in the sky brought this message nigh:
‘Dance and sing for joy that Christ the newborn King
is come to bring us peace on earth,
and he’s lying cradled there at Bethlehem.’*

‘May I come with you, shepherd boy piping merrily,
Come with you to Bethlehem?
Pay my homage too at the new King’s cradle,
Is it far to Bethlehem?’

*Angels in the sky brought this message nigh:
‘Dance and sing for joy that Christ the newborn King
is born this night in lowly stable yonder,
Born for you at Bethlehem.’*

All stand to sing

GOD rest you merry, gentlemen,
Let nothing you dismay,
For Jesus Christ our Saviour
Was born upon this day,
To save us all from Satan's power
When we were gone astray;
*O tidings of comfort and joy,
Comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy.*

Choir only

From God our heav'nly Father
A blessèd angel came.
And unto certain shepherds
Brought tidings of the same,
How that in Bethlehem was born
The Son of God by name:

All

O tidings of comfort and joy...

The shepherds at those tidings
Rejoicèd much in mind,
And left their flocks a-feeding,
In tempest, storm, and wind,
And went to Bethlehem straightway
This blessèd babe to find:
O tidings of comfort and joy...

Choir only

But when to Bethlehem they came,
Whereat this infant lay
They found him in a manger,
Where oxen feed on hay;
His mother Mary kneeling,
Unto the Lord did pray:

All

O tidings of comfort and joy...

Now to the Lord sing praises,
All you within this place,
And with true love and brotherhood
Each other now embrace;
This holy tide of Christmas
All others doth deface:
O tidings of comfort and joy...

English traditional

*English traditional
arr David Willcocks (born 1919)*

All sit for

THE SIXTH LESSON

Matthew 2: 1-12

The Magi visit the infant Christ
Read by a member of the Common Room

All remain seated while the Choir sings

THREE Kings from Persian lands afar
To Jordan follow the pointing star:
And this the quest of the travellers three,
Where the new-born King of the Jews may be.
Full royal gifts they bear for the King;
Gold, incense, myrrh are their offering.

How brightly shines the morning star!
With grace and truth from heaven afar
Our Jesse tree now bloweth.

The star shines out with a steadfast ray;
The kings to Bethlehem make their way,
And there in worship they bend the knee,
As Mary's child in her lap they see;
Their royal gifts they show to the King;
Gold, incense, myrrh are their offering.

Of Jacob's stem and David's line,
For thee, my Bridegroom, King divine,
My soul with love o'erfloweth.

Thou child of man, lo, to Bethlehem
The Kings are trav'ling, travel with them!
The star of mercy, the star of grace,
Shall lead thy heart to its resting place.
Gold, incense, myrrh thou canst not bring;
Offer thy heart to the infant King.

Thy word, Jesu, Inly feeds us,
Rightly leads us, Life bestowing.
Praise, O praise such love o'erflowing.

tr H N Bate

*Peter Cornelius
arr Ivor Atkins*

All stand to sing. During the carol, the candles will be lit.

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.*

Charles Wesley OW (1707 - 88)

*Felix Mendelssohn (1809 - 47)
descant by David Willcocks (born 1919)*

Remain standing for

THE SEVENTH LESSON

John 1:1-14

The Incarnation of the Word of God

Read by the Head Master

All remain standing while the Choir sings

Lux
calida gravisque
pura velut aurum
et canunt angeli
molliter modo natum

LIGHT
*warm and heavy
as pure gold,
and the angels sing softly
to the newborn babe.*

*Edward Esch
Latin tr C Silvestri*

Eric Whitacre (born 1970)

All remain standing. The Dean says

O God, who makest us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of thy only Son, Jesus Christ: grant that, as we joyfully receive him for our redeemer, so we may with sure confidence behold him when he shall come to be our judge; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

CHRISt, who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and Heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

All remain standing to sing

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...

Adeste Fideles
tr Frederick Oakley (1802 - 80)

Anon (probably 18th century)
arr David Willcocks (born 1919)

Please wait until the Procession has passed before leaving your seat.

Candles should be extinguished carefully.

Music after the Service

In dulci jubilo (BWV 729)
Played by Daniel Marx: GG

J S Bach (1685 – 1750)

Nun danket alle Gott (Op. 65)
Played by Sidhu Prabhu – Naik MM

J Siegfried Karg – Elert (1877-1933)

Guests are warmly invited for refreshments as follows:

House	Venue
Ashburnham	Ashburnham (6 Dean's Yard)
Busby's	Busby's
College	College
Dryden's	Dryden's
Grant's	Grant's
Hakluyt's	School
Liddell's	Liddell's
Milne's	Milne's (5a Dean's Yard)
Purcell's	Camden Room (Ground floor Ashburnham House)
Rigaud's	Rigaud's
Wren's	Lecture Room (first floor of Ashburnham House in Little Dean's Yard)

Anyone who is not linked to a particular House will be very welcome up School.