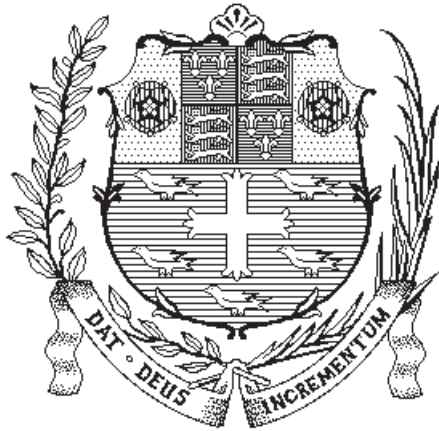
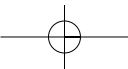
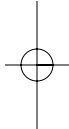
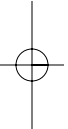


Westminster School Carol Service



Westminster Abbey

Monday 15th December 2008
at 7.00 pm



Music before the Service

La Nativité du Seigneur

Olivier Messiaen (1908 - 1992)

- i La Vierge et L'Enfant (played by July Verkade)*
- ii Les Bergers (played by Jeremy Holt)*
- iii Desseins Eternels (played by Freddie James)*
- iv Le Verbe (played by Freddie James)*
- v Les Enfants de Dieu (played by Freddie James)*
- vi Les Anges (played by July Verkade)*
- vii Jesus Accepte la Souffrance (played by Freddie James)*
- viii Les Mages (played by Freddie James)*

Ave Maria

F. Schubert (1797-1828)

arranged by A. Wilbelmi

Played by Fred Young

Accompanied by Freddie James"

Service played by Simon McGregor

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.

There will be a retiring collection (see the note at the end of this order of 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.

Solo: **O**NCE 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: 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;
 Where like stars His children crowned
 All in white shall wait around.

Mrs Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-95)

Henry Gauntlett (1805-76)
Verses 1-5 harmonised by A H Mann
Descant and organ part by David Willcocks

All remain standing for

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 School and Abbey community.

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

IN dulci júbilo
Let us our homage shew;
Our heart's joy reclineth in praesepio
And like a bright star shineth,
Matris in gremio.
Alpha es et O,
Alpha es et O.

O Jesu parvule! I yearn for thee alway!
Hear me, I beseech thee, O puer optime!
My prayer let it reach thee, O Princeps gloriae!
Trahe me post te!
Trahe me post te!

O Patris caritas, O Nati lenitas!
Deeply were we stained Per nostra crimina;
But thou hast for us gained Coelorum gaudia.
O that we were there!
O that we were there!

Ubi sunt gaudia, If that they be not there?
There are angels singing Nova cantica,
There the bells are ringing In Regis curia:
O that we were there,
O that we were there.

*German traditional
translated by R L Pearsall*

*Old German Tune
arr. R L Pearsall*

All remain seated for

THE FIRST LESSON

Genesis 3: 8-15

The Fall

Read by a member of the Fifth Form

All stand to sing

OF the Father's love 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

All remain seated while the Choir sings

THERE is no rose of such vertu
As is the rose that bare Jesu:
Alleluya.

For in this rose containèd was
Heaven and earth in litel space:
Res miranda.

By that rose we may well see
That he is God in person three:
Pari forma.

The aungels sungen the shepherds to:
"Gloria in excelsis Deo",
Gaudeamus.

Leave we all this werldly mirth,
And follow we this joyful birth:
Transeamus.

Anon, 14th century

DEO gratias!
Adam lay ibounden,
Bounden in a bond,
Four thousand winter
Thought he not to long;
And all was for an appil,
An appil that he tok,
As clerkès finden
Written in their book.

Ne had the appil takè ben,
The appil takè ben,
Ne haddè never our lady
A ben hevenè quene.
Blessèd be the time
That appil takèn was.
Therefore we moun singen:
Deo gratias!

Anon, 15th century

*from A Ceremony of Carols op 28
Benjamin Britten (1913 - 76)*

All stand to sing

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 Rod of Jesse, free
Thine own from Satan's tyranny;
From depths of hell thy people save,
And give them victory o'er the grave.

O come, thou Dayspring come and cheer
Our spirits by thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadow put to flight.

O come, thou Key of David, come,
And open wide our heavenly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery.

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.

*Latin Advent Antiphon
tr John Mason Neale (1818 - 66)*

*Veni Emmanuel
Hymnal Noted 1856
from a 15th century French missal*

All sit for

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

NO wind at the window, no knock on the door,
No light from the lamp stand, no foot on the floor,
No dream born of tiredness, no ghost raised by fear,
Just an angel and a woman and a voice in her ear.

“Oh, Mary, Oh, Mary don't hide from my face,
Be glad that you're favored and filled with God's grace.
The time for redeeming the world has begun,
And you are requested to mother God's son.”

“This child must be born that the Kingdom might come,
Salvation for many, destruction for some
Both end and beginning, both message and sign,
Both victor and victim, both yours and divine.”

No payment was promised, no promises made,
No wedding was dated, no blue print displayed,
Yet Mary, consenting to what none could guess,
Replied with conviction, "tell God I say yes."

Iona Community

*Irish traditional
arr G Hopkins*

All stand to sing

OLittle town of Bethlehem,
How still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by;
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
The everlasting light;
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee tonight.

O morning stars, together
Proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the King,
And peace to men on earth;
For Christ is born of Mary,
And, gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep
Their watch of wondering love.

Solo: How silently, how silently,
The wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of his heaven.
Choir only: No ear may hear his coming;
But, in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive him, still
The dear Christ enters in.

All: O holy child of Bethlehem,
Descend to us, we pray,
Cast out our sin, and enter in,
Be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas Angels
The great glad tidings tell:
O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Emmanuel.

Bishop Phillips Brooks

English traditional
arr Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872 - 1958)

All remain seated for

THE FOURTH LESSON

Matthew 1: 18-23
The Birth of Jesus

Read by the Master of the Queen's Scholars

All remain seated while the Chamber Choir sings (accompanied by Freddie James)

CHILD of the stable's secret birth,
the Lord by right of the lords of earth,
let angels sing of a King newborn,
the world is weaving a crown of thorn:
a crown of thorn for that infant head
cradled soft in the manger bed.

Eyes that shine in the lantern's ray;
a face so small in its nest of hay,
face of a child who is born to scan
the world he made through the eyes of man:
and from that face in the final day
earth and heaven shall flee away.

Voice that rang through the courts on high,
 contracted now to a wordless cry,
 a voice to master the wind and wave,
 the human heart and the hungry grave:
 the voice of God through the cedar trees
 rolling forth as the sound of seas.

Infant hands in a mother's hand,
 for none but Mary may understand
 whose are the hands and the fingers curled
 but his who fashioned and made the world;
 and through these hands in the hour of death
 nails shall strike to the wood beneath.

Child of the stable's secret birth,
 the Father's gift to a wayward earth,
 to drain the cup in a few short years
 of all our sorrows, our sins, and tears--
 ours the prize for the road he trod:
 risen with Christ; at peace with God.

Word by Timothy Dudley-Smith

*Music by Antobny Caesar
 (based on the tune Newtown St Luke's)*

All remain seated for

THE FIFTH LESSON

Luke 2: 8-16

The Birth is announced to the shepherds

Read by members of the Sixth Form

HODIE Christus natus est, noe,
 Hodie Salvator apparuit, alleluia.
 Hodie in terra canunt angeli,
 Laetantur archangeli, noe,
 Hodie exsultant justi, dicentes:
 Gloria in excelsis Deo,
 Noe, noe, noe.

*Hear the glad news today:
 Jesus Christ is born.
 Hear the glad news today:
 our Saviour on earth appeared, Alleluia.
 Hear the glad news today:
 angels are singing o'er the earth,
 archangels on high rejoice:
 Glory to God in the highest heavens,
 Nowell, nowell, nowell.*

Antiphon at Christmas Day Vespers

*translation by John Rutter
 J P Swellick (1562 - 1621)*

All stand to sing

GOOD King Wenceslas looked out,
On the Feast of Stephen,
When the snow lay round about,
Deep and crisp and even;
Brightly shone the moon that night,
Tho' the frost was cruel,
When a poor man came in sight,
Gath'ring winter fuel.

All Tenors & Basses: "Hither, page, and stand by me,
If thou know'st it, telling,
Yonder peasant, who is he?
Where and what his dwelling?"

All Sopranos & Altos: "Sire, he lives a good league hence,
Underneath the mountain;
Right against the forest fence,
By Saint Agnes' fountain."

All Tenors & Basses: "Bring me flesh, and bring me wine,
Bring me pine logs hither:
Thou and I will see him dine,
When we bear them thither."

All: Page and monarch, forth they went,
Forth they went together;
Thro' the rude wind's wild lament
And the bitter weather.

All Sopranos & Altos: "Sire, the night is darker now,
And the wind blows stronger;
Fails my heart, I know not how,
I can go no longer."

All Tenors & Basses: "Mark my footsteps, good my page;
Tread thou in them boldly:
Thou shalt find the winter's rage
Freeze thy blood less coldly."

All: In his master's steps he trod
Where the snow lay dinted;
Heat was in the very sod
Which the saint had printed.
Therefore, Christian men, be sure,
Wealth or rank possessing,
Ye who now will bless the poor,
Shall yourselves find blessing.

J M Neale (1818-66)

*from Piaie Cantiones
arr Reginald Jacques (1894-1969)*

All sit while the Choir sings

IL est né le divin enfant,
Jouez hautbois, résonnez musettes;
Chantons son avènement.

Depuis plus de quatre mille ans,
Nous le promettaient les prophètes,
Depuis plus de quatre mille ans,
Nous attendions cet heureux temps.

Une étable est sôn logement
Un peu de paille est sa couchette,
Pour un Dieu quel abaissement!

French traditional

Maya Amin-Smith (HH)

All remain seated for

THE SIXTH LESSON

Matthew 2: 1-12

The Magi visit the infant Christ

Read by members of the Remove

All remain seated while the Choir sings

IN the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan,
Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,
In the bleak midwinter, long ago.

Our God, Heaven cannot hold Him, nor earth sustain;
Heaven and earth shall flee away when He comes to reign.
In the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed
The Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ.

Enough for Him, whom cherubim, worship night and day,
Breastful of milk, and a mangerful of hay;
Enough for Him, whom angels fall before,
The ox and ass and camel which adore.

Angels and archangels may have gathered there,
Cherubim and seraphim thronged the air;
But His mother only, in her maiden bliss,
Worshipped the beloved with a kiss.

What can I give Him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
If I were a Wise Man, I would do my part;
Yet what I can I give Him: give my heart.

Christina Rossetti (1830 - 1894)

Harold Darke (1888- 1976)

All stand. The candles will be lit during the singing of the following hymn.

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 on Christmas morning,
Jesu, to thee be glory given;
Word of the Father,
Now in flesh appearing:
O come...

Adeste Fideles
tr Frederick Oakley (1802 - 80)

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

All 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 for the Collect and Blessing.

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

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:

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:

Charles Wesley OW (1707 - 88)

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

During the last carol the Procession will leave the Abbey. The Congregation are asked to wait until the Procession has passed before they leave their seats.

Candles should be extinguished carefully.

Music after the Service

Final Movement from La Nativité du Seigneur

Dieu Parmi Nous

Olivier Messiaen (1908 - 1992)

RETIRING COLLECTION

This year the retiring collection will be divided equally between:

Julian Walton (OW) has been involved in setting up a school in Freetown, Sierra Leone. It offers nursery facilities and education to young children who previously had no access to education. We will be helping to fund the teachers' salaries and to buy useful equipment. There are also plans to expand the school to accept older students, and to make the school reasonably self-sufficient.

The Young People's Unit at University College Hospital in Euston Road is for people aged 13-19, some of whom have life-threatening conditions but not cancer. It is the 'poor relation' to the Teenage Cancer Trust in terms of facilities and furnishings for patients. YPU patients used to be able to use the facilities and entertainments in the Teenage Cancer Trust part of that floor but that has been stopped by infection control concerns. Westminster pupils would like us to help to redress the balance!

Guests are warmly invited for refreshments as follows:

House	Venue
Ashburnham	Ashburnham (6 Dean's Yard)
Busby's	Busby's
College	College
Dryden's	School
Grant's	Grant's
Hakluyt's	School
Liddell's	Liddell's
Milne's	Milne's (5a Dean's Yard)
Purcell's	School
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.

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