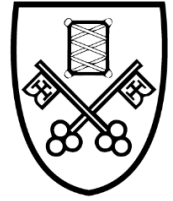




The Cathedral Church of St Peter Bradford



Carols for All 16th December 2024 7pm

Bradford District and Craven
Health and Care Partnership



Welcome to Bradford Cathedral

The seat of the Bishop of Leeds and a Centre of Worship and Mission

One of three Cathedrals – Bradford, Ripon & Wakefield – in the Anglican Diocese of Leeds

Welcome to Bradford Cathedral, particularly if you are visiting or are with us for the first time.

Large print copies are available from the Stewards at the main door. You are invited to join in the words in **bold type** in this order of service, the hymns, and to sit or stand as directed as you are able.

Please either switch off or silence your phone and do not take pictures or videos during the service – this is not permitted for safeguarding reasons.

Lavatories, including disabled facilities, are available towards the back of church.

If you use a hearing aid, please turn it to the T position.

BSL interpretation is available at the front of the Cathedral. The BSL interpreter is Bex Walls.

In the event of an emergency, please remain calm and seated. Stewards will direct you out of the Cathedral. If you have any concerns, please speak to a Churchwarden or member of the Clergy.

Bradford Cathedral Choir is conducted by Graham Thorpe, Organist and Director of Music. The Organ is played by Anthony Gray, Sub-Organist and Assistant Director of Music. The City of Bradford Brass Band is conducted by Lee Skipsea.

Carols for All brings together the City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council's City Carol Service and the Bradford District and Craven Health and Care Partnership Carol Service into one shared event.

Weaving Jesus into the rich fabric of the city and beyond

 **Bradford Cathedral, 1 Stott Hill, Bradford, BD1 4EH**

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6.30pm Organ Voluntaries

6.45pm Introductory Brass Music

7pm Welcome

The Very Reverend Andy Bowerman, Dean of Bradford.

After the welcome, we stand and then keep silence.

Processional Carol

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 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.

All **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.**

*Words: Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-1895)
Music: 'Irby', Henry John Gauntlett (1805-1876)
arr. Arthur Henry Mann (1850-1929) and David Valentine Willcocks (1919-2015)
100 CFC 61*

We sit.

Opening Prayer

Almighty God,
you make us glad with the yearly remembrance
of the birth of your Son Jesus Christ:
grant that, as we joyfully receive him as our redeemer,
we may with sure confidence behold him
when he comes to be our judge;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

Reading

Kerrie-lee Barr, Development Director for the VCS Alliance

The Birth of John the Baptist Foretold

In the days of King Herod of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly order of Abijah. His wife was a descendant of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. Both of them were righteous before God, living blamelessly according to all the commandments and regulations of the Lord. But they had no children, because Elizabeth was barren, and both were getting on in years.

Once when he was serving as priest before God and his section was on duty, he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to enter the sanctuary of the Lord and offer incense. Now at the time of the incense-offering, the whole assembly of the people was praying outside. Then there appeared to him an angel of the Lord, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. When Zechariah saw him, he was terrified; and fear overwhelmed him. But the angel said to him, 'Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will name him John. You will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, for he will be great in the sight of the Lord...' Zechariah said to the angel, 'How will I know that this is so? For I am an old man, and my wife is getting on in years.' The angel replied, 'I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. But now, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time, you will become mute, unable to speak, until the day these things occur.'

Meanwhile, the people were waiting for Zechariah, and wondered at his delay in the sanctuary. When he did come out, he could not speak to them, and they realized that he had seen a vision in the sanctuary. He kept motioning to them and remained unable to speak. When his time of service was ended, he went to his home.

After those days his wife Elizabeth conceived, and for five months she remained in seclusion. She said, 'This is what the Lord has done for me when he looked favourably on me and took away the disgrace I have endured among my people.'

Luke 1.5-15,18-25

Choir Carol

A tender shoot has started up from a root of grace,
as ancient seers imparted from Jesse's holy race:
It blooms without a blight, blooms in the cold bleak winter,
turning our darkness into light.

This shoot Isaiah taught us, from Jesse's root should spring;
The Virgin Mary brought us the branch of which we sing;
Our God of endless might gave her this child to save us,
Thus turning darkness into light.

*Words: English text by William Bartholomew (1793-1867)
Music: Otto Goldschmidt (1829-1907)*

Reading

Dr Lorraine O'Donnell, Chief Executive of City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council

The Birth of Jesus Foretold

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.' But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I am a virgin?' The angel said to her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.' Then Mary said, 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.' Then the angel departed from her.

Luke 1.26-38

Thanks be to God.

Brass Reflection

The Kingdom Triumphant

Eric Ball (1903-1989)

Reading

Therese Patten, Place Lead for Bradford District and Craven Health and Care Partnership and Chief Executive for Bradford District Care NHS Foundation Trust

Mary Visits Elizabeth

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.'

Luke 1.39-49

Thanks be to God.

Congregational Carol

We stand.

**See him lying on a bed of straw:
a draughty stable with an open door;
Mary cradling the babe she bore
the prince of glory is his name.**

*O now carry me to Bethlehem
to see the Lord of love again:
just as poor as was the stable then,
the prince of glory when he came.*

**Star of silver, sweep across the skies,
show where Jesus in the manger lies;
shepherds, swiftly from your stupor rise
to see the saviour of the world!**

O now carry me...

**Angels, sing again the song you sang,
sing the glory of God's gracious plan;
Sing that Beth'lem's little baby can
be the saviour of us all.**

O now carry me...

**Mine are riches, from your poverty,
from your innocence, eternity;
mine, forgiveness by your death for me,
child of sorrow for my joy.**

O now carry me...

Michael Perry (1942-96) © Mrs B Perry/Jubilate Hymns

We sit.

Reading

Cllr Susan Hinchcliffe, Leader of City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council

The Birth of John the Baptist

Now the time came for Elizabeth to give birth, and she bore a son. Her neighbours and relatives heard that the Lord had shown his great mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her.

On the eighth day they came to circumcise the child, and they were going to name him Zechariah after his father. But his mother said, 'No; he is to be called John.' They said to her, 'None of your relatives has this name.' Then they began motioning to his father to find out what name he wanted to give him. He asked for a writing-tablet and wrote, 'His name is John.' And all of them were amazed. Immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue freed, and he began to speak, praising God. Fear came over all their neighbours, and all these things were talked about throughout the entire hill country of Judea. All who heard them pondered them and said, 'What then will this child become?' For, indeed, the hand of the Lord was with him.

Then his father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke this prophecy:

'Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,
for he has looked favourably on his people and redeemed them.
He has raised up a mighty saviour for us
in the house of his servant David.'

Luke 1.57-70

Thanks be to God.

Choir Carol

Nova! Nova!
Gabriel of high degree,
He came down from the Trinity
From Nazareth to Galilee,

He met a maiden in a place;
He kneeled down before her face;
He said: "Hail, Mary, full of grace!"

When the maiden saw all this,
She was sore abashed, ywis,
Lest that she had done amiss.

Then said the angel: "Dread not you,
You shall conceive in all virtue
A child whose name shall be Jesu."

Then said the maid: "Verily,
I am your servant truly,
Ecce ancilla Domini."
Nova! Nova!

*Words: English traditional
Music: Iain Farrington (b. 1977)*

Reading

Elaine Appelbee, Independent Chair for Bradford District and Craven Health and Care Partnership

The Birth of Jesus

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.

Luke 2.1-7

Thanks be to God.

Brass Reflection

O Magnum Mysterium

Morten Lauridsen (b.1943), arr. Phillip Littlemore (b.1967)

Reading

Cllr Beverley Mullaney, Lord Mayor of Bradford

The Shepherds and the Angels

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!'

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Luke 2.8-20

Thanks be to God.

Congregational Carol

We stand.

**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.'**

Words: Nahum Tate (1652–1715)

Music: WINCHESTER OLD, in Thomas Este's Psalter (1592), arr. David Willcocks (1919-2015)

100 CFC 99

We sit.

Address

The Very Revd Andy Bowerman, Dean of Bradford

Choir Carol

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 mid-winter,
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 mid-winter
a stable-place sufficed
the Lord God Almighty
Jesus Christ.

Enough for him, whom Cherubim
 worship night and day,
a breastful of milk,
 and a mangerful of hay;
enough for him, whom Angels
 fall down before,
the ox and ass and camel
 which adore.

Angels and archangels
 may have gathered there,
cherubim and seraphim
 thronged the air;
but only his mother
 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.

Words: Christina Rossetti (1830–94)

Music: Gustav Holst (1874-1934) arr. Mack Wilberg (b. 1955)

Prayers

*The Revd Dr George Williams, Lord Mayor's Chaplain and The Revd Stephen Lees,
Spiritual, Pastoral and Religious Care Practitioner, Bradford Teaching Hospitals*

Unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given.
Let us bring before God the needs of the world.

Wonderful counsellor,
give your wisdom to the rulers of the nations.
We pray for...

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

Mighty God,
make the whole world know that the government is on your shoulders.
We pray for...

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

Everlasting Father,
establish your reign of justice and righteousness for ever.
We pray for...

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

Prince of peace,
bring in the endless kingdom of your peace.
We pray for...

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

Almighty Lord,
**hear our prayer
and fulfil your purposes in us,
as you accomplished your will
in our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us.

**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.**

Congregational Carol

We stand.

**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 th'angelic host proclaim,
Christ is born in Bethlehem.
*Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King.***

**Christ, by highest heav'n adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold him come
Offspring of a virgin's womb:
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,
Hail th'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 heav'n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
Ris'n 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: Charles Wesley (1707–88)
Music: Felix Mendelssohn (1809–47), arranged by David Willcocks (1919–2015)
100 CFC 23*

We remain standing.

Blessing

The Very Reverend Andy Bowerman, Dean of Bradford

May the joy of the angels,
the eagerness of the shepherds,
the perseverance of the wise men,
the obedience 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.
Amen.

We remain standing as the choir and clergy leave.

Retiring Collection

There will be a retiring collection towards the costs of putting on this service. Please give as generously as you are able, using the gift aid envelopes if possible. Contactless giving is available via the card machine near the North Porch. Alternatively, you can also make a donation using this QR code.



Recessional Brass Music

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