



*Christmas Carol  
Service 2009  
General Hospital Chapel*

*Monday 14th December  
5.45 p.m.*

*With the Cantabile Ensemble*

*Conductor Nick Freeland  
Organist Kenneth Francis*

Choir Introit Gabriel's Message

Welcome & opening prayers

Lord's prayer

**Carol Once in royal David's city**

**FIRST VERSE: CHOIR 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.

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

**Carol O Come, all ye faithful**

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, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,  
O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!*

See how the shepherds, summoned to his cradle,  
Leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear;  
We too will thither\_  
Bend our joyful footsteps:  
*O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,  
O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!*

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,  
Sing all ye citizens of heaven above;  
Glory to God in the highest.  
*O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,  
O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!*

**Christmas blessing**

**Carol****Hark! The herald-angels sings**

Hark! The herald angels sing,  
 Glory to the newborn 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.

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 newborn 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 newborn King.

**Prayers****Reading**

Isaiah 9:2, 6, 7

**Carol****Unto us is born a Son**

Unto us is born a Son  
 King of quires supernal:  
 See on earth his life begun,  
 Of lords the Lord eternal,  
 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,  
 Be-cradled in the manger.

**MEN**

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.

**LADIES**

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.

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

**Reading Luke 1:26-38**

Choir In Dulci Jubilo

Reading Luke 2:1-20

Carol **While shepherds watched their flocks**

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 swaddling 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:  
Goodwill henceforth from heaven to men  
Begin and never cease.'

Reading Matthew 2:1-12

Choir The Coventry Carol

Reading John 1.1-14

Carol **Ding Dong! Merrily on high**

Ding dong! Merrily on high  
In heav'n the bells are ringing:  
Ding dong! Verily the sky  
Is riven with angel singing.  
*Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!*  
*Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!*

E'en so here below, below,  
Let steeple bells be swungen,  
And I— o, I— o, I—o,  
By priest and people sungen.  
*Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!*  
*Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!*

Pray you, dutifully prime  
Your matin chime, ye ringers;  
May you beautifully rime  
Your evetime song, ye singers.  
*Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!*  
*Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!*

Christmas Thought