

Lincoln Cathedral

Yesterday, Today, Forever

Enduring faith, inspiring stories, living history



The Festal Eucharist of Christmas Day



Wednesday 25th December 2024
10.30 am

Welcome to Lincoln Cathedral

We are delighted to welcome you to Lincoln Cathedral for this Christmas Morning service. Whether you are a visitor, a newcomer or a regular, we are glad to be worshipping with you this morning.

If you need any help or directions about the service, the facilities or anything else, please ask one of the stewards (wearing a blue sash). They will be pleased to help you.

Members of all Christian Churches who receive communion in their own church are warmly invited to do so here this morning – please wait for the stewards to direct you to your closest communion station. If you would prefer to receive a blessing, please come forward as the stewards direct and hold this service paper as a signal to the priest.

If you need a gluten-free wafer, please tell a steward. They will direct you to receive holy communion from the appropriate station.

The mass is sung by the cathedral choir. This morning's setting is Franz Josef Haydn's *Missa Cellensis*.

Cameras, mobile phones and recording devices of any kind may not be used before or during the service.

This order of service is available in larger print.
Please ask a steward if you would like a copy.

Retiring Collection

A collection will be taken as you leave the service. This will support the ministry of the Cathedral (we receive no public funding). If you are a taxpayer, you can enhance the value of your contribution substantially by taking a few moments to complete the Gift Aid Envelope which you should have found on your seat and sealing your contribution inside. This will enable us to reclaim 25% of your gift from HMRC. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

*Donations can also be made online
by using the QR code:*



The Gathering

*The choir sings the introit, **Ding Dong! Merrily on High.***

The organist plays a fanfare, and all stand to sing the opening hymn

**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 ...

**Hail the heav'n-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 ...

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-88) and others

Music: Felix Mendelssohn, descant and organ part by D. Wilcocks

GREETING

President In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

All **Amen.**

President Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you

All **and also with you.**

PRAYERS OF PENITENCE

The president invites the congregation to confess their sins and then all pray

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us, forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name.
Amen.**

The choir sings the Kyrie eleison:

Kyrie eleison

Lord, have mercy.

Christe eleison

Christ, have mercy.

Kyrie eleison

Lord, have mercy.

Setting: Missa Cellensis Haydn

The president gives the absolution, to which all respond

Amen.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS *sung by the choir.*

*Gloria in excelsis Deo
et in terra pax hominibus bonae
voluntatis.*

*Laudamus te, benedicimus te,
adoramus te, glorificamus te
gratias agimus tibi propter magnam
gloriam tuam.*

*Domine Deus, Rex caelestis
Deus Pater omnipotens.
Domine Fili unigenite, Iesu Christe
Domine Deus, Agnus Dei, Filius Patris,
qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis;*

*qui tollis peccata mundi,
suscipe deprecationem nostram;
qui sedes ad dexteram Patris,
miserere nobis.*

*Quoniam tu solus sanctus,
tu solus Dominus,
tu solus Altissimus, Iesu Christe,
cum Sancto Spiritu
in gloria Dei Patris. Amen.*

Glory be to God on high,
in earth peace, good will towards men.

We praise thee, we bless thee,
we worship thee, we glorify thee,
we give thanks to thee for
thy great glory,

O Lord God, heavenly King,
God the Father almighty.
O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesu Christ.
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of
God the Father, have mercy upon us.

For thou only art holy;
thou only art the Lord;
thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,
art the Most High,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Setting: Missa Cellensis Haydn

COLLECT

*The president introduces a time of silent prayer and then prays the Collect of
the day, to which all respond*

Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

Sit

FIRST READING

ISAIAH 9.2-7

At the end the reader says

This is the word of the Lord.

All

Thanks be to God.

Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Choir Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

All **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

Choir

I bring you news of great joy:
today a Saviour has been born to us
who is Christ the Lord.

All

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

GOSPEL READING

LUKE 2.1-14

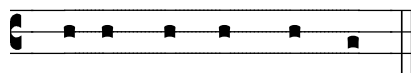
Gospeller The Lord be with you

All

and also with you.

Gospeller

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Luke.



All

Glory to you, O Lord.

At the end of the Gospel the reader says

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

A musical score for the Alleluia. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The melody is written in the treble clef and the accompaniment in the bass clef. The lyrics are: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

All **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

Sit

SERMON The Very Rev'd Dr Simon Jones, Dean of Lincoln

A brief period of silent reflection is kept.

Stand

THE APOSTLES' CREED

All I believe in God
the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.

Sit

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

During these, the following response is used

Reader Holy God

All **hear our prayer.**

At the conclusion of the prayers the reader may say

All Merciful Father,
accept these prayers for the sake of your Son
our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Stand

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

THE PEACE

The President introduces the Peace and then says these words

The peace of the Lord be always with you
All **and also with you.**

We offer each other a sign of peace.

All join in singing the following carol.

**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 heav’nly 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 heav’n to earth
begin and never cease.”**

Words: Nahum Tate (1652-1715)

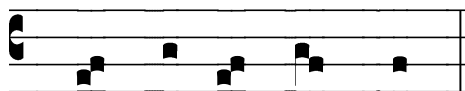
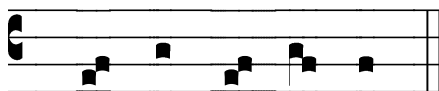
Music: Este’s Psalter

PRAYER AT THE PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

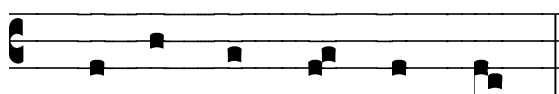
The president says the prayer of preparation, at the end of which all respond

All **Amen.**

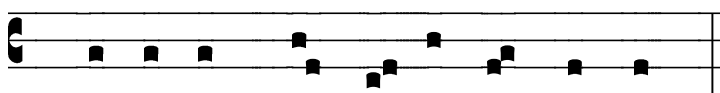
EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER



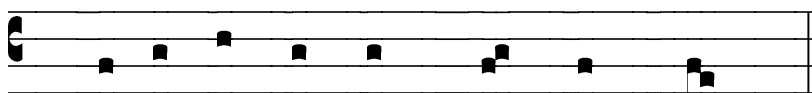
President The Lord be with you. *All* **and al - so with you.**



President Lift up your hearts. *All* **We lift them to the Lord.**



President Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



All **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

*The president praises God for his mighty acts, and the choir sings the **Sanctus***

Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus

Holy, holy, holy,

Dominus Deus Sabaoth.

Lord God of hosts.

Pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua.

Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.

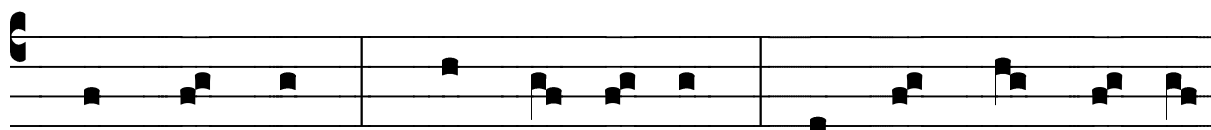
Hosanna in excelsis.

Glory be to thee, O Lord most high.

Setting: Missa Cellensis Haydn

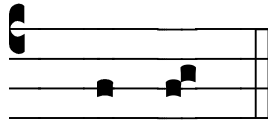
The president recalls the Last Supper, and this acclamation is sung

Great is the mystery of faith:



Christ has died. Christ is ris-en. Christ will come a-gain.

*The Prayer continues and leads into the doxology, which ends
...for ever and ever.*



All **A - men.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

President Rejoicing in the presence of God here among us,
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray

All **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.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

President We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.

All **Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

THE GIVING OF COMMUNION

The president invites the people to receive communion
God's holy gifts
for God's holy people.

All **Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

Sit

All baptised Christians who usually receive communion are invited to do so. Please follow the directions of the stewards. If you would prefer to receive a blessing, please carry this service booklet as a signal to the priest.

Those who wish to receive communion in both kinds are reminded that intinction (dipping an individual host into the wine) is not permitted in order to prevent the spread of infection and contamination for those who are gluten intolerant. Also, please assist those administering the chalice by gently guiding the chalice to your lips and tilting it sufficiently.

ORGAN MUSIC DURING COMMUNION Noel Henri Mulet

BENEDICTUS QUI VENIT

*Benedictus qui venit
in nomine Domini.
Hosanna in excelsis.*

Blessed is he that cometh
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Setting: Missa Cellensis Haydn

AGNUS DEI

*Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata
mundi, miserere nobis
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata
mundi miserere nobis
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata
mundi dona nobis pacem.*

O Lamb of God, that takest away the
sins of the world: have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the
sins of the world: have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the
sins of the world: grant us thy peace.

Setting: Missa Cellensis Haydn

During distribution of communion the choir sing a selection of carols.

Stand

PRAYERS AFTER COMMUNION

After a time of silence, all stand and the president prays the post-communion prayer after which all join in praying

**We thank you, Lord, that you have fed us in this sacrament,
united us with Christ, and given us a foretaste of the
heavenly banquet prepared for all peoples.
Amen.**

The Dismissal

The congregation join in singing the final carol

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare Him room,
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n, and heav'n, and nature sing.**

**Joy to the earth, the Saviour reigns!
Your sweetest songs employ;
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.**

**He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders, of His love.**

Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1763)

Music: G.F. Handel

BLESSING

President The Lord be with you

All **and also with you.**

The president gives the blessing, to which all respond

Amen.

Gospeller Go in peace. Proclaim the Word made flesh.

All **Glory, thanks and praise to God.**

CONCLUDING VOLUNTARY Fête *Jean Langlais*

Other Services Today

Rejoicing at Christ's birth: love dwelling among us.

12 30pm HOLY COMMUNION *(a quiet, said service)*

3 45pm FESTAL EVENSONG

Services for Epiphany-tide 2025

*Remembering the visit of the Magi, and
the gifts that symbolise Christ as God, King and Saviour*

Saturday 4th January: The Eve of Epiphany

5 30pm CHORAL EVENSONG

7pm ORGAN RECITAL: Olivier Messiaen's 'La
Nativité', performed by Jeffrey Makinson

Sunday 5th January: The Feast of the Epiphany

10 30am SUNG EUCHARIST

3 45pm FESTAL EVENSONG

Sunday 19th January: The Second Sunday of Epiphany

3 45pm EPIPHANY CAROL SERVICE

Sunday 2nd February: The Feast of the Presentation (Candlemas)

*Celebrating Christ as a light for all peoples and
marking the end of the Christmas season!*

10 30am SUNG EUCHARIST

3 45pm FESTAL EVESNONG

**We wish you all a joyful and blessed Christmas
and a happy New Year.**

Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England *and* Common Worship:
Times and Seasons *material from which is included in this service, is copyright*
© The Archbishops' Council 2000.

*Text from The Book of Common Prayer, the rights in which are vested in the Crown,
is reproduced by permission of the Crown's Patentee, Cambridge University Press.
Reproduction of the hymns falls within the provisions of either CCL 901658 or Calamus 1455.*