

Sunday 31 December 2017 First Sunday of Christmas

Processional Hymn

Joy to the world! The Lord is come
Let earth receive her King!
Let ev'ry 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
Let us our 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 and wonders of His love

Words: Isaac Watts

Tune: ANTIOCH

Collect

God in Trinity,
eternal unity of perfect love:
gather the nations to be one family,
and draw us into your holy life
through the birth of Emmanuel,
our Lord Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Old Testament Reading Isaiah 61: 10 – 62: 3

Psalm 148. 8 - end

O praise the name of the Lord.

O praise the name of the Lord.

Praise the Lord from the earth,
you sea monsters and all deeps;
Fire and hail, snow and mist,
tempestuous wind, fulfilling his word;

O praise the name of the Lord.

Kings of the earth and all peoples,
princes and all rulers of the world;
Young men and women,
old and young together;
let them praise the name of the Lord.

O praise the name of the Lord.

For his name only is exalted,
his splendour above earth and heaven.
He has raised up the horn of his people
and praise for all his faithful servants,
the children of Israel, a people who are near him. Alleluia.

O praise the name of the Lord.

New Testament Reading Galatians 4: 4-7

Gradual Hymn

1. What child is this, who, laid to rest,
on Mary's lap is sleeping?

Whom angels greet with anthems
sweet

while shepherds watch are keeping?

This, this is Christ the king,
whom shepherds guard and angels
sing;

Come greet the infant Lord,
The babe, the son of Mary!

2. Why lies he in such mean estate
where ox and ass are feeding?

Good Christians, fear; for sinners
here

the silent word is pleading.

Nails, spear shall pierce him
through,

the cross be borne for me, for you;
hail, hail the word made flesh,
the babe, the son of Mary!

3. So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh;
come rich and poor to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings;
let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high,
the Virgin sings her lullaby;
joy, joy, for Christ is born,
the babe, the son of Mary!

Words: W.C. Dix

Tune: GREENSLEEVES

Gospel Reading Luke 2: 15-21

Offertory Hymn

1. Unto us a boy is born!
King of all creation,
came he to a world forlorn,
the Lord of ev'ry nation,
the Lord of ev'ry nation.

2. Cradled in a stall was he
watched by cows and asses;
but the very beasts could see
that he the world surpasses,
that he the world surpasses.

3. Then the fearful Herod cried:
'Pow'r is mine in Jewry!'
So the blameless children died
The victims of his fury,
The victims of his fury.

4. Now may Mary's son, who came
long ago to love us,
lead us all with hearts aflame
unto the joys above us,
unto the joys above us.

5. Omega and Alpha he!
Let the organ thunder,
while the choir with peals of glee
shall rend the air asunder,
shall rend the air asunder.

Words: Latin, 15th century

Tune: PUER NOBIS

Music during communion:

The holy boy (John Ireland)

Post Communion Prayer

Heavenly Father,
whose blessed Son shared at Nazareth the life of an earthly home:
help your Church to live as one family,
united in love and obedience, and bring us all at last to our home in heaven;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn

The first Nowell the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
in fields where they lay, keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter's night that was so deep:

*Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel.*

They lookèd up and saw a star,
shining in the east, beyond them far:
and to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and night:

And by the light of that same star,
three Wise Men came from country far;
to seek for a king was their intent,
and to follow the star wherever it went:

This star drew nigh to the north-west;
o'er Bethlehem it took its rest,
and there it did both stop and stay
right over the place where Jesus lay:

Then entered in those Wise Men three
full rev'rently upon their knee,
and offered there in his presence
their gold and myrrh and frankincense.

Then let us all with one accord
sing praises to our heav'nly Lord,
that hath made heaven and earth of naught,
and with his blood mankind hath bought:

Words: trad.

Tune : THE FIRST NOWELL

Organ Voluntary

Variations on Adeste Fideles (Marcel Dupré)