

**CHORAL EUCHARIST**  
**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2021**  
**11.00am**  
**The Third Sunday of Advent**

*Welcome to the Cathedral Church of St Anne, Belfast. Face coverings **must be worn** when entering and exiting the building, and when singing the hymns. We request members of the congregation to wear face coverings throughout the service. Please follow the instructions from the Churchwardens. Under government guidance for the purposes of keeping Contact Tracing Records it is essential that you complete the following information. These will be retained for 21 days, after which they will be destroyed. Thank you.*

**PLEASE PLACE THIS PAGE OF THE ORDER OF SERVICE IN THE BOX  
AT THE WEST END OF THE CATHEDRAL AS YOU LEAVE**

**Name(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone contact:** \_\_\_\_\_



## **INSTRUCTIONS FOR RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION**

Baptised members of Christian churches are welcome to join in this Eucharist.

It is the Lord's table and this invitation is given in his name.

The Eucharist will be celebrated and distributed in accordance with the Covid precautions as laid down by the Church of Ireland. As a result, Communion will be in **one kind only** today.

If you wish to receive communion, please move to the Quire Steps when directed by the cathedral wardens. Those seated on the North (left) side of the Nave will move first, then those seated on the South (right) side afterwards.

Please keep 1m social distance at all times and continue wearing your face covering until you return to your seat. Only then remove your face covering to take the wafer bread.

Please indicate if you require a Gluten-free wafer.

If you wish to receive a blessing only, please keep your hands by your side or cross your arms.

*Please do not make video recordings or take photographs during the service*  
***Due to Child Protection Regulations no photographing of the choristers whatsoever is permitted***

**Organ Prelude:** Nun komm, der heiden heiland *Heinrich von Herzogenberg*  
(1843-1900)



## THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE



Please stand to sing **HYMN 646\***:



**Glorious things of thee are spoken,  
Zion, city of our God;  
he whose word can ne'er be broken  
formed thee for his own abode.  
On the rock of ages founded,  
what can shake thy sure repose?  
With salvation's walls surrounded,  
thou may'st smile at all thy foes.**

**See, the streams of living waters,  
springing from eternal love,  
well supply thy sons and daughters,  
and all fear of want remove.  
Who can faint while such a river  
ever flows their thirst to assuage:  
grace which, like the Lord the giver,  
never fails from age to age?**

**Blest inhabitants of Zion,  
washed in the Redeemer's Blood;  
Jesus, whom their souls rely on,  
makes them kings and priests to God.  
'Tis his love his people raises  
over self to reign as kings;  
and, as priests, his solemn praises  
each for a thank-offering brings.**

*Words: John Newton (1725-1807) based on Psalm 87:2 & 46:4*

*Tune: ABBOT'S LEIGH Cyril V. Taylor (1907-91)*

## **LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH**

People of God: return! You are called to be God's own. From the mountains announce the good news. God comes in justice and peace to all who follow his ways. You are God's children.

**Lord, make us one in the peace of Christ, today and for ever. Amen.**

## **THE GREETING**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

The glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together.

*Isaiah 40:5*

## **THE COLLECT FOR PURITY**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden; cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **PENITENCE**

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ says: You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it. You shall love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the law and the prophets.

**Lord, have mercy on us, and write these your laws in our hearts.**

When the Lord comes, he will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness, and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Therefore, in the light of Christ let us confess our sins.

*Please kneel or sit whilst the choir sings the* **KYRIE:**

Kyrie eleison.

*Lord, have mercy.*

Christe eleison.

*Christ, have mercy.*

Kyrie eleison.

*Lord, have mercy.*

*Setting: Mass for four voices, William Byrd (c1540-1623)*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned in thought and word and deed, and in what we have left undone. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may walk in newness of life to the glory of your name. **Amen.**

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy on you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

O Lord Jesus Christ, who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare your way before you: Grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way, by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight; for you are alive and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

### **THE ADVENT COLLECT**

Almighty God, Give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**



### **PROCLAIMING AND RECEIVING THE WORD**



*Please sit for the* **EPISTLE READING:** Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please remain seated as the choir sings* **PSALM 146:1-10:**

Praise the Lord, O my soul; while I live will I praise the Lord:  
yea, as long as I have any being, I will sing praises unto my God.

O put not your trust in princes, nor in any child of man:  
for there is no help in them.

For when the breath of man goeth forth he shall turn again to his earth:  
and then all his thoughts perish.

Blessed is he that hath the God of Jacob for his help:  
and whose hope is in the Lord his God;

Who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that therein is:  
who keepeth his promise for ever.

Who helpeth them to right that suffer wrong:  
who feedeth the hungry.

The Lord looseth men out of prison:  
the Lord giveth sight to the blind.

The Lord helpeth them that are fallen:  
the Lord careth for the righteous.

The Lord careth for the strangers; he defendeth the fatherless and widow:  
as for the way of the ungodly, he turneth it upside down.

The Lord thy God, O Sion, shall be King for evermore:  
and throughout all generations.

*Please stand for the **GLORIA:***

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son:  
and to the Holy Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be:  
world without end. Amen.

*Tone VIII*

*Please remain standing to sing the **ALLELUIA:***



The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me: he has sent me to bring good news  
to the oppressed. *Isaiah 61:1*

*Please remain standing*

**THE GOSPEL READING:** Luke 3:7-18

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



John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.'

And the crowds asked him, 'What then should we do?' In reply he said to them, 'Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.' Even tax-collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, 'Teacher, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.'

Soldiers also asked him, ‘And we, what should we do?’ He said to them, ‘Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.’

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**SERMON** by the Reverend Dr Maithrie White

*Please stand and face east to say the **NICENE CREED:***

We believe in one God, **the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**



## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE



*Please kneel or sit*

Let us pray that the way of the Lord may be followed in the Church and the world.

We pray that the Church shall never rest complacently on past blessings but shall for ever desire to know and to fulfil her present calling, and so be renewed for future generations. Give her ministers wisdom to instruct all who come for guidance.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bring harmony in the disputes and jealousies that keep people apart. Bless with the spirit of justice those who govern, and help them to do their duty according to what is right.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Guide us in our daily work and in all our relationships, so that the faith we profess shall be seen in our lives. As tomorrow we begin this year's Cathedral Sit-out, make us thankful for all we possess and generous to share with those in need.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Have mercy on all who are oppressed and unjustly treated. Relieve all who are crushed by heavy taxation and kept poor by the greed of those who rule them.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We rejoice in the memory of the souls of the departed who in this life sought to bear good fruit in the name of their Master. Gather us in our time into the harvest of heaven where all doubts are ended and all truth made plain.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We ask that you stand with all whose lives have been touched by personal experience of Covid-19, especially those suffering at present and those who have lost loved ones. Bless all who work in healthcare, the fields of research and vaccination, and those with leadership responsibilities in these challenging times.

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



## THE PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

We do not presume to come to this your table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness but in your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord, whose nature is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him and he in us. Amen.

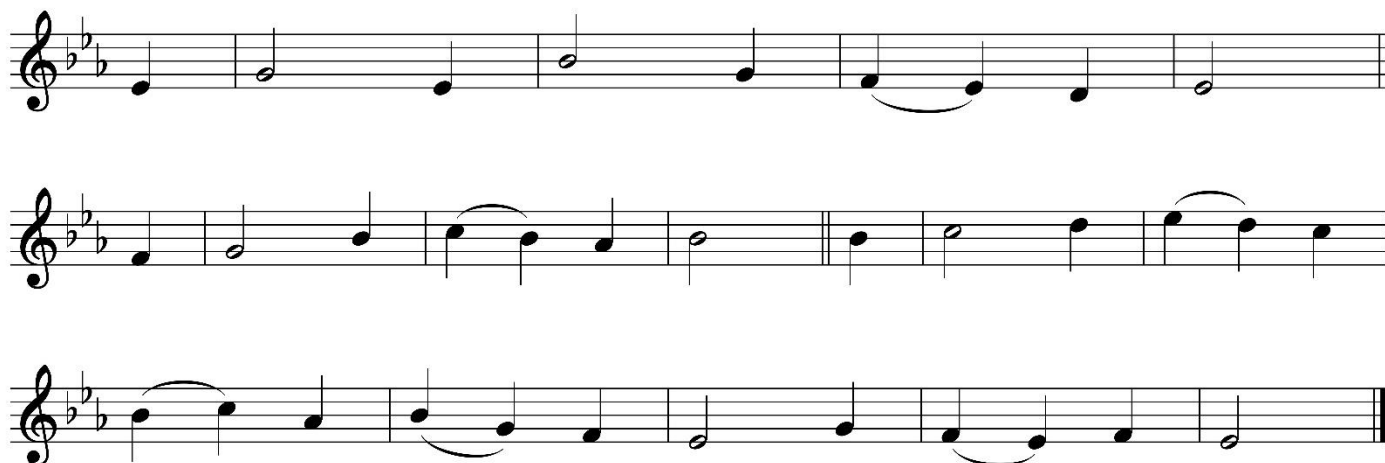
*Please stand*

## THE PEACE

In the tender mercy of our God, the dayspring from on high shall break upon us, to give light to those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace. *Luke 1:78-79*

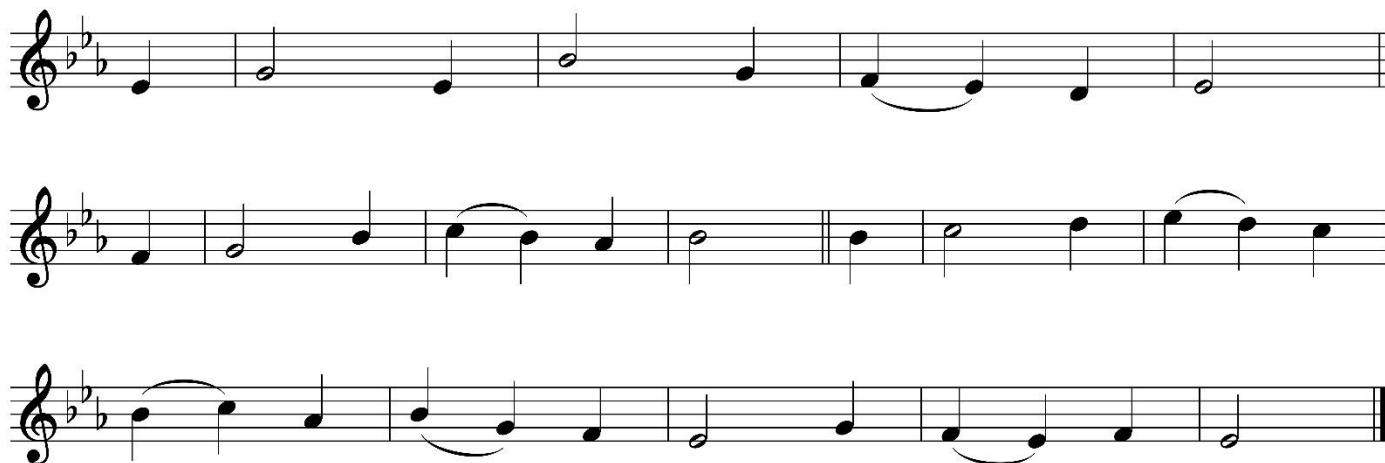
The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**and also with you.**

*Please stand to sing* **HYMN 419\*:**



**I am not worthy, holy Lord,  
that you should come to me;  
but speak the word; one gracious word  
can set the sinner free.**

**I am not worthy; yet, my God,  
shall I turn you away  
when you have giv'n your flesh and blood  
my ransom-price to pay?**



**O come! in this appointed hour  
feed me with food divine;  
and fill with all your love and power  
this worthless heart of mine.**

*Words: Henry Williams Baker (1821-77) based on Matthew 8:8*

*Tune: ST BOTOLPH Gordon Slater (1896-1979)*



## **CELEBRATING AT THE LORD'S TABLE**

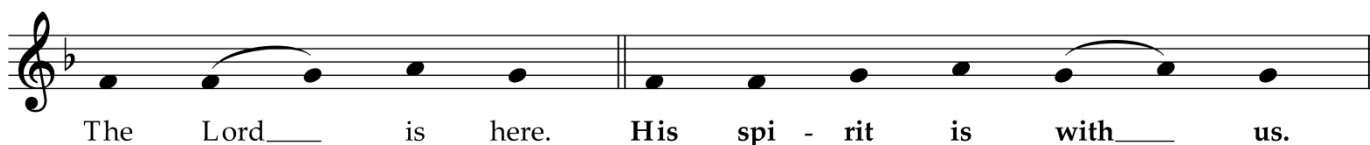


*Please remain standing*

Look upon us in mercy not judgement; draw us from hatred to love; make the frailty of our praise a dwelling place for your glory. **Amen.**

## **THE TAKING OF THE BREAD AND WINE**

Christ our passover has been sacrificed for us  
**therefore let us celebrate the feast.**



Father, almighty and everliving God, at all times and in all places it is right to give you thanks and praise:

*Salvation is your gift through the coming of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, and by him you will make all things new when he returns in glory to judge the world:*

And so with all your people, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and saying:

*The choir sings the* **SANCTUS:**

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus

Dominus Deus Sabaoth.

Pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua.

Hosanna in excelsis.

Benedictus qui venit

in nomine Domini.

Hosanna in excelsis.

*Holy, Holy, Holy*

*Lord God of Hosts.*

*Heaven and earth are full of your glory.*

*Hosanna in the highest.*

*Blessed is he who comes*

*in the name of the Lord.*

*Hosanna in the highest.*

*Setting: Mass for four voices, William Byrd (c1540-1623)*

Blessed are you, Father, the creator and sustainer of all things; you made us in your own image, male and female you created us; even when we turned away from you, you never ceased to care for us, but in your love and mercy you freed us from the slavery of sin, giving your only begotten Son to become man and suffer death on the cross to redeem us; he made there the one complete and all-sufficient sacrifice for the sins of the whole world: he instituted, and in his holy Gospel commanded us to continue, a perpetual memory of his precious death until he comes again:

On the night that he was betrayed he took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup; and when he had given thanks to you, he gave it to them, saying, Drink this, all of you, for this is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Therefore, Father, with this bread and this cup we do as Christ your Son commanded: **we remember his passion and death, we celebrate his resurrection and ascension, and we look for the coming of his kingdom.**

**Accept through him, our great high priest, this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; and as we eat and drink these holy gifts, grant by the power of the life-giving Spirit that we may be made one in your holy Church and partakers of the body and blood of your Son, that he may dwell in us and we in him:**

**Through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, Almighty Father, for ever and ever. Amen.**

*Please kneel or sit*

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

**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**

The bread which we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.

**We being many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.**

Jesus Christ is the Lamb of God, who has taken away the sins of the world. Happy are those who are called to his supper. **Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and I shall be healed.**

*Please sit whilst the choir sings the* **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.

*Lamb of God, you take away the sins of  
the world, have mercy on us.*

*Lamb of God, you take away the sins of  
the world, have mercy on us.*

*Lamb of God, you take away the sins of  
the world, grant us peace.*

*Setting: Mass for four voices, William Byrd (c1540-1623)*

## **THE COMMUNION**

*Please observe the guidance of the Church Wardens and follow the directions as printed at the beginning of this order of service.*

**Organ music:** Voluntary on 'Winchester New' C.S. Lang (1891-1971)

*During communion the choir sings the* **ANTHEM:**

This is the record of John,  
when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him,  
Who art thou?  
And he confessed and denied not, and said plainly,  
I am not the Christ.

And they asked him, What art thou then? Art thou Elias?  
And he said, I am not.  
Art thou the prophet?  
And he answered, No.

Then said they unto him,  
What art thou? that we may give an answer unto them that sent us.  
What sayest thou of thyself?  
And he said, I am the voice of him that crieth in the wilderness,  
Make straight the way of the Lord.

*Words: John 1:19-23 (King James Version)  
Setting: Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625)*

## THE GREAT SILENCE

*When all have received communion, the presiding minister, other ministers and people keep silence for reflection.*



## GOING OUT AS GOD'S PEOPLE



## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Father, we give you thanks for these heavenly gifts. Kindle us with the fire of your Spirit that when Christ comes again we may shine as lights before his face; who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.**

*Please remain standing to sing **HYMN 281**\*:*



**Rejoice, the Lord is King!  
Your Lord and King adore;  
mortals, give thanks and sing,  
and triumph evermore:**

***Lift up your heart, lift up your voice;  
Rejoice! Again I say: Rejoice!***



**Jesus the Saviour reigns,  
the God of truth and love;  
when he had purged our stains,  
he took his seat above:**

**Rejoice in glorious hope;  
Jesus the Judge shall come,  
and take his servants up  
to their eternal home.**

***We soon shall hear the archangel's voice;  
the trump of God shall sound: Rejoice!***

*Words: Charles Wesley (1707-88) based on Philippians 4:4*

*Tune: GOPSAL G. F. Handel (1685-1759)*

## **THE BLESSING**

Christ the sun of righteousness shine upon you, gladden your hearts and scatter the darkness from before you: and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be with you and remain with you always.  
**Amen.**

## **THE DISMISSAL**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

**Organ Postlude:** Fantasia g-moll, BWV 542, i J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

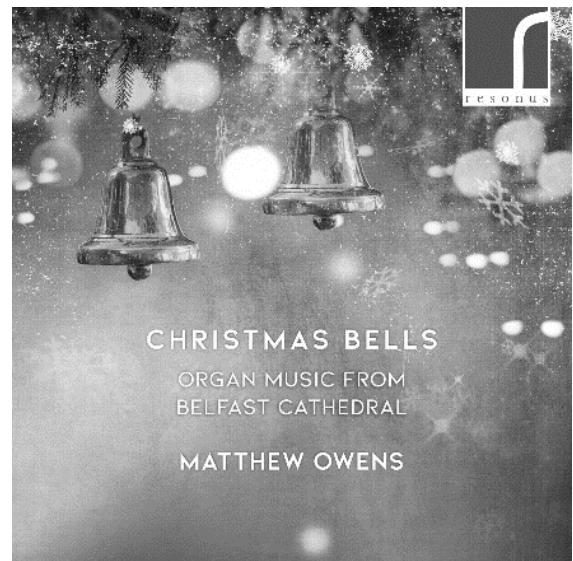
*Please remain in your place until the Churchwardens direct you to move*

## Musical Purchases for Christmas 2021!

Belfast Cathedral Choir has released their CD **A Belfast Christmas**, a varied programme of familiar seasonal carols and fresh festive offerings from composers including John Rutter, Philip Stopford, Philip Wilby, Philip Ledger and Bob Chilcott.

A second CD is **Christmas Bells**, featuring Organ Music from Belfast Cathedral, with Matthew Owens.

Both CDs will be available to purchase following this service.



### Volunteer Choir Librarian

We are seeking for a suitably qualified and experienced person, with time on their hands, to help with the choir library. If interested please contact the Director of Music via [matthew.owens@belfastcathedral.org](mailto:matthew.owens@belfastcathedral.org)



## NOTICES



**Please join us today at 3.30pm for Choral Evensong:**

*Reger Wachet auf, ruft uns die stimme*

*Ayleward Preces and Responses*

*(with Stone Lord's Prayer)*

*Psalm 66 (chant by Havergal)*

*Stanford Evening Service in G*

*Wood O thou, the central orb*

*Francis Jackson CBE Toccata-Prelude on 'Wachet Auf'*

**No Lunchtime Prayer during the Sit Out**

**Friday 1.00-2.00pm** The Church's Ministry of Healing Service

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2021: The Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**11.00am Choral Eucharist**

*Preacher: The Reverend Janice Elsdon*

**3.30pm Crib Service for Children**

*with an Invitation to All,*

**featuring Belfast Cathedral Children's Choir & Songbirds**

### **Belfast Cathedral Christmas Services 2021**

Thursday 23 December 7.30pm - Lessons & Carols of Christmas.

Friday, Christmas Eve 7.30pm - Lessons & Carols of Christmas

11.00pm - First Eucharist of Christmas.

Saturday, Christmas Day Festival Choral Eucharist, 11.00am

Sunday 26 December Service of the Word (said), 11.00am

NO 3.30pm service

*If you wish to attend the Carol Services or First Eucharist of Christmas  
it is essential to contact Reception in order to confirm capacity*

**028 9032 8332 or [admin@belfastcathedral.org](mailto:admin@belfastcathedral.org)**

**Please remember to make your  
FWO (Free Will Offering) contribution to the Cathedral  
as you leave the cathedral this morning or via Online Banking**

*Thank you for your continuing financial support for Belfast Cathedral*

*Bible passages in this service are from the New Revised Standard Version.*

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