

Christmas at St George's

**choral service*

Christmas Eve - Tuesday 24th December

18h00 Family Eucharist
With carols around the Crib for the whole family

22h00 Midnight Mass of Christmas *
& Blessing of the Crib
followed by a champagne reception

Christmas Day - Wednesday 25th December

08h30 Holy Communion
Using the 1662 Book of Common Prayer

10h30 Solemn Eucharist *
followed by a reception in the Parish Hall

16h30 Messe Malgache
avec un vin d'honneur dans la salle paroissiale

Our Sunday services are:

18h00 L'eucharistie en français (*samedi soir*)
45 minutes avec des chants et une homélie

08h30 Holy Communion *1662 Book of Common Prayer*
30 minutes long with no sermon or singing

10h30 Sung Eucharist *
*75 minutes long this service includes a sermon, hymns,
Sunday School and incense*

For more details about our chaplaincy please find us at
www.stgeorgesparis.com

St George's Paris

1800h Sunday 15th December 2024

A Festival of Lessons and Carols

with the choir of St George's Anglican Church, Paris

Choirmaster: Dr Peter Hicks
Organist: Mr Malcolm Weisner
Clergy: The Rev'd Mark Osborne, Chaplain
The Very Rev'd Jeffrey John, Assistant Chaplain

Please stand for the carols and sit for the readings. When the bell rings please stand for the procession. There will be a collection during the final hymn.

(Choir only) **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 only) **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
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.**

(All) **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.**

Welcome and Bidding Prayer

First Lesson:

Isaiah 9. 2, 6-7

The Prophet Isaiah foretells the Messiah's birth



O little town of Bethlehem,
How still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep,
the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting light;
The hopes and fears
of all the years are met in thee tonight.

O morning stars
together proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the King
and peace to men on earth;
For Christ is born of Mary;
and gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wondering love.

How silently, how silently,
the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts
the blessing of his heaven.
No ear may hear his coming;
but in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive him,
still the dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem
descend to us we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in,
be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
the great glad tidings tell:
O come to us, abide with us,
O Lord Emmanuel.

Choir carol:

Bogoroditse Devo (Ave Maria)
Sergei Rachmaninov (1873-1943)

Second Lesson:

Isaiah 11. 1-9
The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown

In the bleak mid-winter 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;



*Hark the herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King.*

**Hail the heaven-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 sing
Glory to the new-born King.***

The Collect

The Blessing

Organ Voluntary: In dulci jubilo (BMV 729) J.S. Bach

You are warmly invited to join us for mulled wine and mince pies in the parish hall.

**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 breast full 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.**

Choir carol:

Angel Gabriel from heaven came
Basque: Birjina gaztettobat zegoen

Third Lesson:

St Luke I. 26-38
The angel Gabriel visits the Virgin Mary

Choir Carol:

Carol of the Bells
*The music is from the song 'Shchedryk' written by Ukrainian composer Mykola
Leontovych (1877-1921) in 1914; the English-language lyrics were written in 1936
by Peter Wilhousky.
L'adieu des Bergers
Hector Berlioz (1803-1869)*

**While shepherd 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 on the earth be peace;
Good-will henceforth from heaven to men
Begin and never cease.'

Fourth Lesson:

Saint Luke 2.1-7
St Luke tells of the birth of Jesus

Choir carol:

What sweeter music
John Rutter (b. 1945)

Fifth Lesson:

St Luke 2. 8-16
The shepherds go to the manger

Choir carols:

Cowboy Carol
Cecil Broadhurst (1908-1981)
Voici donc l'heure
Léo Delibes (1836-1891)

Sixth Lesson:

St Matthew 2.1-11
The wise men are led by a star to Jesus

Choir carol:

A virgin most pure
Anon

It came upon the midnight clear,
That glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth
To touch their hearts of gold:
'Peace on the earth, good-will to men,
From heaven's all gracious King!
The world in solemn stillness lay
To hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come,
With peaceful wings unfurled;
And still their heavenly music floats
O'er all the weary world;
Above its sad and lowly plains
They bend on hovering wing;
And ever o'er its Babel sounds
The blessed angels sing.

Yet with the woes of sin and strife
The world has suffered long;
Beneath the angel-strain have rolled
Two thousand years of wrong;
And man, at war with man, hears not
The love-song which they bring:
O hush the noise, ye men of strife,
And hear the angels sing!

For lo! the days are hastening on,
By prophet bards foretold,
When, with the ever-circling years,
Comes round the age of gold;
When peace shall over all the earth
Its ancient splendours fling,
And the whole world give back the song
Which now the angels sing.

Seventh Lesson:

Saint John 1. 1-14
Saint John unfolds the mystery of the Incarnation

Choir carol:

Adam lay y-bounden
Boris Ord (1897-1961)

A collection will be taken during the congregational carol. You have the opportunity to use a SumUP which means you can give using your carte bleu. St George's receives no outside financial support and is very grateful for your generosity tonight.

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

**Christ by highest heaven adored,
Christ the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold him come
Offspring of a virgin's womb:
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,
Hail the incarnate deity!
Pleased as man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.**