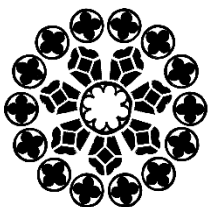


Carols with Pride

Wednesday 18th December

7.30pm



Truro
Cathedral

All are invited to join in the words in **bold type**

The Light and peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Beloved ones, we gather here, as many have gathered on this sacred ground through the centuries, to hear the story of Eternal Love; a love that reached down from heaven into a loveless world. This was not a journey bristling with privilege and power, but a message held in the eyes of a helpless child. We journey from the from the love that made us, breathing life into our lifeless clay, through the promises of prophets, to see the child who comes to save us from our selfishness, defeating even death, and we will hear the promise, that love never ends.

**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...***

**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...***

1-The Creation of Adam.

Genesis 2:4b-7, 15-18

Read by Dave Wheeler

At the beginning of the book of Genesis in the Hebrew scriptures Adam (literally the "earthling") is created. At this point the Adam is, many Jewish scholars believe, non-binary. In any case they are alone, so Eve is created from Adam's side. "Adonai" is the Hebrew word which is used when scripture is read aloud to avoid speaking the name of God.

Here is the history of the heavens and the earth when they were created. On the day when *Adonai*, God, made earth and heaven, there was as yet no wild bush on the earth, and no wild plant had as yet sprung up; for *Adonai*, God, had not caused it to rain on the earth, and there was no person to cultivate the ground. Rather, a mist went up from the earth which watered the entire surface of the ground. Then *Adonai*, God, formed a person from the dust of the ground and breathed into their nostrils the breath of life, so that they became a living being.

Adonai, God, took the person and put them in the garden of 'Eden to cultivate and care for it. *Adonai*, God, gave the person this order: "You may freely eat from every tree in the garden except the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. You are not to eat from it, because on the day that you eat from it, it will become certain that you will die." *Adonai*, God, said, "It isn't good that the person should be alone. I will make for them a companion suitable for helping them." Thanks be to God.

Carol for Choir and Congregation

**In the bleak midwinter
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 midwinter, long, long ago**

Chamber Choir: Our God, Heaven cannot hold Him
Nor earth sustain
Heaven and earth shall flee away
When He comes to reign
In the bleak mid-winter
A stable-place sufficed
Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ

**Enough for Him whom cherubim
Worship night and day
A breastful of milk, and a mangerful of hay
Enough for Him whom angels fall down before
The ox and ass and camel
Which adore**

Chamber Choir: What can I give Him
Poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would give a lamb
If I were a wise man, I would do my part
Yet what I can, I give Him
Give my heart

100 CFC p173 Harold Darke (1888-1976)

Christina Rossetti (1830-94)

2 - Naomi and Ruth (the grandmother of King David).

Ruth 1:3-18

Read by Revd Johanna Clare

At the beginning of the book of Ruth Naomi has lost her husband and her sons. Her daughter in law Ruth refuses to leave her, and so she marries a relative of Naomi's in Bethlehem. Ruth's loyalty to Naomi, resulting in the birth of her great-grandchild King David, is the reason Mary and Joseph journey to Bethlehem many years later. This reading is sometimes used at blessing ceremonies after civil partnerships.

Naomi said, "Turn back, my daughters. Why will you go with me? Do I still have sons in my womb that they may become your husbands?..."

But Ruth said, "Do not press me to leave you, to turn back from following you! Where you go, I will go; where you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people and your God my God.

Where you die, I will die, and there will I be buried.

May the Lord do thus to me, and more as well, if even death parts me from you!"

When Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more to her. So the two of them went on until they came to Bethlehem.

Thanks be to God.

Congregational Carol

Sung to the tune of "O little Town of Bethlehem"

**A million miles from Palestine
Love waits in an old man's eyes,
And walking through each darkened avenue
Are angels in disguise
Beneath the tower-blocks is rising
A light too strong to die
Of God, embracing human hearts
And waiting for you and I.**

**How silently, how silently,
He calls our hearts to care
For all the shattered, broken lives
Of people standing here.
You know our silent longings
The hot tears we have cried
Our hopes, our hurts,
Our desperate search
For truth within the lies.**

**The bright stars of the universe
Still dance to the baby's cry
And every atom in the Earth
Is praising God on high.
For Christ has kissed our human lives
Within a baby's breath
And God was born to humankind
To rescue us from death.**

**The centuries are sliding by
And Christmases come and go
And sometimes the Eternal Dream
Is crushed by Santa's snow.
Yet in the silence the singing
Still fill the glistening air
And for those souls who long to know
The Christ-child will still be there**

Tune: "O Little Town" English traditional 100CFC p234

Words: SMW 1995

3 - Jay Hulme Part 1 (poems and stories)

Congregational Carol

**God rest you merry gentleth,
let nothing you dismay,
for Jesus Christ our Saviour
was born on Christmas Day,
to save us all from Satan's pow'r
when we were gone astray.
O tidings of comfort and joy
Comfort and joy
O tidings of comfort and joy**

**God rest you, queer and questioning,
your anxious hearts be still.
Believe that you are deeply known
and part of God's good will.
For all to live as one in peace;
the global dream fulfilled.
O tidings of comfort and joy
Comfort and joy
O tidings of comfort and joy**

**God rest your mind, O humankind,
let strife and conflict cease.
Remember love is active here,
and only to increase,
to carry us to well-springs of
God's joyous hope and peace.
O tidings of comfort and joy
Comfort and joy
O tidings of comfort and joy**

God rest you merry p83 100 CFC

Text:V1 P.E. Bright, v2-3 Jeffrey Wilson (Creative Commons)

4 – Love, peace and justice will come

Isaiah 9:2, 6, 7

Read by Kristina Costar

The people walking in darkness will see a great light; those who are living in the land of the shadow of death, on them a light will shine. For to us a Child is born, to us a Son is given; and the government will be upon his shoulders. And his name will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. There will be no end to the growth of his rule, nor to the peace he will bring. He will rule as king on David's throne and over David's kingdom. He will make it strong by ruling with justice and goodness both now and forever. *Adonai*, God All-Powerful will do this because of the power of his love for his people. Thanks be to God.

Gaudete
Sung by Vocal Presence

Gaudete, Gaudete
Christus est natus
Ex Maria virgine, Gaudete.

Rejoice, rejoice,
Christ is born
from the Virgin Mary, rejoice.

Now this sacred time is here
people God has chosen;
let us sing our songs of joy
and dances of devotion.

Prophet's dreams in ancient times
saw this celebration:
Heaven's door is open wide,
a baby of salvation.

God on high became a boy
saving human nature;
and the world is made anew
by Jesus in a manger.

The universe will sing his praise
to the age of ages;
multitudes will follow him
through history's brief pages.

5 - Jay Hulme part 2
(poems and stories)

Congregational Carol

1. Ding Dong! merrily on high
In heav'n the bells are ringing
Ding, dong! verily the sky
Is riv'n with angel singing
Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis

2. E'en so here below, below
Let steeple bells be swungen
And i-o, i-o, i-o
By priest and people be sungen
Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis

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

*100 CFC p82 16th century French melody George Ratcliffe Woodward (1848-1934)
arranged by Charles Wood (1866-1926)*

6 - Nothing can separate us from the love of God

Romans 8:31-35,37-39

read by Lee Moscato, Diocesan Director of Education

If God is for us, who can be against us? He who gave up his son for all of us, will he not also give us all things? Who will bring an accusation against God's chosen? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus? The one who died, but now, raised from the dead sits at God's right hand and intervenes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will troubles or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?... No, in all these things we more than conquer through him who loved us! For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. Thanks be to God.

Choir Carol

Sung by Truro Chamber Choir

1 Love came down at Christmas,
Love all lovely, Love divine;
Love was born at Christmas;
star and angels gave the sign.

2 Worship we the Godhead,
Love incarnate, Love divine;
worship we our Jesus,
but wherewith for sacred sign.

3 Love shall be our token;
love be yours and love be mine;
love to God and others,
love for plea and gift and sign.

Text: Christina Rossetti (1830-1894)

Music: Philip Stopford (b.1977)

Congregational Carol

**Joy to the world the Lord is come
Let earth receive her king
Let every heart prepare Him room
And heaven and nature sing
And heaven and nature sing
And heaven and Heaven and nature sing
Joy to the world the savior reigns
Let all their songs employ
While fields and floods rocks hills and plains
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**

p202 100 CFC Lowell Mason (1792-1872) after Handel (1685-1759)

Text: Isaac Watts (1674-1748)

7 - The birth of Jesus

Luke 2:1-7

Read by Kate Kennally, Chief Executive, Cornwall Council

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David.

He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no place in the guest room. Thanks be to God.

Congregational Carol

**Silent night, Holy night
All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and child
Holy Infant so tender and mild
Sleep in heavenly peace
Sleep in heavenly peace**

**Silent night, holy night
Shepherds first saw the sight;
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heavenly hosts sing alleluia
Christ the Saviour is born
Christ the Saviour is born**

**Silent night, holy night
Son of God, love's pure light
Radiance beams from Thy holy face
With the dawn of redeeming grace
Jesus Lord, at thy birth
Jesus Lord, at thy birth**

100 CFC 293 Music: Stille Nacht Franz Gruber (1787-1863)

Text: based on Joseph Mohr (1792-1848)

Lesson 8 – shepherds

Luke 2:8-19

Matthew Kenworthy Gomes Cornwall Pride CIO

Now in that same region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid, for see, I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

“Glory to God in the highest heaven,

and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them, and Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. Thanks be to God.

9 – What is love?

1 Corinthians 13:1-8, 11-13

Read by Dean Simon

If I speak in the tongues of humans and of angels but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers and understand all mysteries and all knowledge and if I have faith enough to move mountains but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions and if I hand over my body so that I may boast but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable; it keeps no record of wrongs; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see only a reflection, as in a mirror, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love remain, these three, and the greatest of these is love.

Christmas Prayer

Eternal God, in the stillness of this night
you sent your almighty Word
to pierce the world's darkness with the light of salvation:
give to the earth the peace that we long for
and fill our hearts with the joy of heaven
through our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Carol of the bells Vocal Presence

Hark how the bells, sweet silver bells
All seem to say throw cares away
Christmas is here bringing good cheer
To young and old, meek and the bold
Ding, dong, ding, dong, that is their song
With joyful ring all caroling.
One seems to hear, words of good cheer
From ev'rywhere, filling the air
On on they send, on without end
Their joyful tone to every home.
Merry, merry, merry, merry Christmas
Merry, merry, merry, merry Christmas

Music: Traditional Ukranian

Text: Peter Joseph Wilhousky (1902 –1978)

Prayers

Our Father in Heaven,
Maker of the starry skies
Who loves us with a mother's love
Hallowed be Your name,
In wonderment and worship

Your kingdom come, Your will be done,
We long for new creation
On Earth as in Heaven.

For Heaven to come on Earth.

Give us today our daily bread.

So hungry mouths have food to eat

Forgive us our sins and selfishness

Our self-destructive tendencies

As we forgive those who sin against us

that we might break the cycles of violence

Lead us not into temptation

When selfish greed entraps us

But deliver us from evil.

Deliver our world,

Deliver the suffering,

Deliver the starving.

For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours

now and for ever. Amen.

Blessing
The Dean

May the breath of the Spirit;
who melts our frozen hearts and raises us to life
transform your every waking moment with a love that knows no end;
and the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Spirit,
Embrace you and remain with you forever. **Amen.**

Congregational Carol

**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 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 th'incarnate Deity!
Pleased as man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.
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 Bishop, Dean, Chapter, and all at Truro Cathedral wish you a very blessed Christmas and peaceful New Year.

We hope you enjoyed the service. There is an opportunity to contribute to the collection as you leave. Thank you for supporting your cathedral, and please come again soon. You are always welcome here!

Christmas Services at Truro Cathedral

23rd December

9 Lessons and Carols – Monday 23rd December - 7pm

Christmas Eve

9 Lessons and Carols – Tuesday 24th December - 7pm
Midnight Mass – Tuesday 24th December at 11.00 pm.

Christmas Day

BCP Holy Communion – 8 am
Choral Festal Eucharist– 10 am
Mid-Day Prayer – 12.15 pm

Saturday 28th December

Children and Pets Carol Service – 2 pm