



ADVENT EVENSONG



WINCHESTER
CATHEDRAL

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Winchester Cathedral

On weekdays, there will be a retiring collection following the service.
On weekends, a collection will be taken during the final carol.

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ORDER OF SERVICE

THE ANTIPHON

From the transept, the Choir sings

Repent ye:

For the kingdom of Heav'n is at hand.

The night is far spent and the day is at hand:

Let us therefore cast off the works of darkness,
and let us put on the armour of light.

William Prendergast (1868-1933)

Stand for the entrance of the Choir and Clergy

THE BIDDING

The Officiant welcomes the congregation and says

As we enter into this solemn season of Advent, looking forward expectantly to the birth of the Christ child, let us renew in ourselves that vision of God's perfect kingdom which is the end of all our strivings and the consummation of God's loving purposes for us.

In sorrow and penitence we confess our failures and shortcomings, and seek pardon for those sins which frustrate his redemptive purposes and hinder the advent of his reign of love.

In prayer, praise and song we give voice to the hope set forth in the Scriptures, that his kingdom shall come; and, as we prepare for that day to dawn upon us from on high, so we commend ourselves and the whole human family to his keeping.

May he guide us into the way of peace, give light to those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death, and kindle in us the fire of his love. **Amen, come Lord Jesus.**

THE PRECES AND RESPONSES

Remain standing. The Cantor and Choir sing

O Lord, open thou our lips;
and our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

O God, make speed to save us;
O Lord, make haste to help us.

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.

Praise ye the Lord.
The Lord's name be praised.

THE PSALMODY

Sit while the Choir sings the appointed psalm. Stand again for the Gloria at the end

THE FIRST LESSON

Sit for the Old Testament reading

MAGNIFICAT

Stand as the Song of Mary is sung by the Choir

My soul doth magnify the Lord:
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.
For he hath regarded:
the lowliness of his hand-maiden.
For behold, from henceforth:
all generations shall call me blessed.
For he that is mighty hath magnified me:
and holy is his name.
And his mercy is on them that fear him:
throughout all generations.
He hath shewed strength with his arm:
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat:
and hath exalted the humble and meek.
He hath filled the hungry with good things:
and the rich he hath sent empty away.
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel:
as he promised to our forefathers,
Abraham and his seed for ever.

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.

Luke 1:46-55

THE SECOND LESSON

Sit for the New Testament reading

NUNC DIMITTIS

Stand as the Song of Simeon is sung by the Choir

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace,
according to thy word.
For mine eyes have seen thy salvation,
which thou hast prepared before the face of all people.
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles,
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

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.

Luke 2:29-32

THE ADVENT WREATH

The Officiant says

God our Father, the Angel Gabriel told the Virgin Mary that she was to be the mother of your Son. Though Mary was afraid, she responded to your call with joy. Help us, whom you call to serve you, to share like her in your great work of bringing to our world your love and healing. We ask this through Jesus Christ, the Light who is coming into the world.

As the Advent Wreath is lit, the Choir sings

Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight,
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.

All say together

Lord Jesus, Light of the World,
Blessed is Gabriel who brought good news;
Blessed is Mary your mother and ours:
Bless your Church preparing for Christmas;
and bless us your children who long for your coming.
Amen.

THE LESSER LITANY

The Lord be with you;
And with thy spirit.

Kneel or sit

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us;
Christ, have mercy upon us;
Lord, have mercy upon us.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, which art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done,
in earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive them that trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
Amen.

THE VERSICLES AND RESPONSES

O Lord, show thy mercy upon us:
And grant us thy salvation.

O Lord, save the King:
And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Endue thy ministers with righteousness:
And make thy chosen people joyful.

O Lord, save thy people:
And bless thine inheritance.

Give peace in our time, O Lord:
Because there is none other that fighteth for us,
but only thou, O God.

O God, make clean our hearts within us:
And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

THE COLLECTS

An Advent Collect is sung, and then

Almighty God, you make us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of your Son Jesus Christ: grant that, as we joyfully receive him as our redeemer, we may with sure confidence behold him when he shall come to be our judge; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed; Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give; that both our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee we being defended from the fear of our enemies may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour. *Amen.*

Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

THE FLEURY PRAYER

God bless this Cathedral Church,
the Diocese of Winchester,
the Benedictine Community of Fleury,
and the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus. *Amen.*

THE ANTHEM

Sit for the Anthem sung by the Choir

THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Kneel or sit

THE GRACE

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with us all evermore. *Amen.*

THE HYMN

Stand to sing the announced hymn from the green hymn book. At weekends, a collection will be taken for the mission and ministry of the Cathedral during the hymn

THE BLESSING

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you
and scatter the darkness from before your path;
and make you ready to meet him
when he comes in glory;
and the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you
this night and for evermore.

Amen.

A closing response may be sung

Remain standing as the Choir and Clergy recess. All are invited to remain to listen to the organ voluntary which is offered as a part of the act of worship



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WINCHESTER
CATHEDRAL

Christmas Services

Christmas Eve Services

Wednesday 24th December

8.00am - Stillness and Morning Prayer

8.30am - Holy Eucharist

11.00am & 3.00pm - The Big Nativity

sung by the Junior Choir

5.30pm - Carols with Blessing of the Crib

sung by the Boy Choristers

11.00pm - Midnight Mass

*sung by the Senior Girl Choristers and Lay Clerks,
with former Girl Choristers*

Christmas Day Services

Thursday 25th December

8.00am - Holy Communion

9.45am - Festal Mattins

sung by the Girl Choristers, Boy Choristers and Lay Clerks

11.15am - Festal Eucharist

sung by the Boy Choristers and Lay Clerks

3.30pm - Festal Evensong with Procession from the Tree

sung by the Boy Choristers and Lay Clerks