



**SOLEMN EUCHARIST
OF CHRISTMAS DAY**

**Saturday 25 December 2021
at 11.00 am**

Information about this Service

- ◆ The service will be sung by the Choir of York Minster.
- ◆ York Minster is keeping a number of safety measures in place to help keep our worshippers, visitors, staff and volunteers safe.
- ◆ It is now mandatory for all those attending worship to wear a face covering unless exempt.
- ◆ We encourage everyone to leave seats between their households and maintain physical distancing.
- ◆ We have reduced the capacity for all services.
- ◆ When we anticipate a high level of demand, services will be fully ticketed, in order to keep to a safe capacity and enable physical distancing.
- ◆ Hand sanitisers are placed around the building for use at any time.
- ◆ We have various measures to enable people to enter and exit the building safely.
- ◆ Please follow the safety announcements and directions of our Stewards to help everyone stay safe this winter.
- ◆ Currently, Holy Communion is administered in one kind only. If you normally receive communion in your own church, you are very welcome to receive communion here. If you do not wish to take communion but would like to receive a blessing, please come forward and let the minister know.
- ◆ Gluten-free communion wafers are available from the communion station at the front, nearest the altar. Please follow the directions of the Stewards. When the time comes to receive communion, please ask the minister for a gluten-free wafer.
- ◆ This service is being live-streamed, but care is taken to focus on the clergy and not the congregation. For licensing and safeguarding reasons, please do not record this service on your own devices.
- ◆ If you would like to make a donation to support the mission and ministry of York Minster, there are contactless donation points and collection boxes available as you leave.

The service is sung to the MISSA BREVIS by John Rutter (b. 1945)

The Archbishop and Preacher is the Most Reverend and Right Honourable Stephen Cottrell, Archbishop of York.

Please join in singing the hymns and saying together the words printed in bold type.

The Gathering

Processional Hymn



Christians, awake! salute the happy morn,
whereon the Saviour of the world was born;
rise to adore the mystery of love
which hosts of angels chanted from above;
with them the joyful tidings first begun
of God incarnate and the Virgin's Son.

Then to the watchful shepherds it was told,
who heard the angelic herald's voice, 'Behold,
I bring good tidings of a Saviour's birth
to you and all the nations on the earth:
this day hath God fulfilled his promised word,
this day is born a Saviour, Christ the Lord.'

He spake; and straightway the celestial choir
in hymns of joy, unknown before, conspire;
the praises of redeeming love they sang,
and heaven's whole orb with alleluias rang:
God's highest glory was their anthem still,
peace upon earth, and unto men goodwill.

Like Mary let us ponder in our mind
God's wondrous love in saving lost mankind;
trace we the babe, who hath retrieved our loss,
from his poor manger to his bitter cross;
then may we hope, angelic hosts among,
to sing, redeemed, a glad triumphal song.

Words J Byrom (1691–1763)

Tune YORKSHIRE, NEH 24, J Wainwright (1723–68)

The Archbishop says:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Please remain standing as the Christmas candle is lit.

The Archbishop says:

God our Father,
today the Saviour is born
and those who live in darkness are seeing a great light.
Help us, who greet the birth of Christ with joy,
to live in the light of your Son,
and to share the good news of your love.
We ask this through Jesus Christ,
the Light who has come into the world. **Amen.**

Please remain standing.

Prayers of Penitence

The Deacon says:

Christ the Light of the World
has come to dispel the darkness of our hearts.
In his light let us examine ourselves and confess our sins.

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry
and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

The Archbishop says:

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

Gloria in Excelsis

The choir sings:

Gloria in excelsis Deo, et in terra pax
hominibus bonae voluntatis.
Laudamus te, benedicimus te, adoramus te,
glorificamus te, gratias agimus tibi propter
magnam gloriam tuam.

Domine Deus, Rex coelestis, Deus
Pater omnipotens. Domine Fili unigenite,
Jesu Christe: Domine Deus, Agnus Dei,
Filius Patris, qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis, qui tollis peccata mundi,
suscipe deprecationem nostram. Qui sedes ad
dexteram Patris, miserere nobis.

Quoniam tu solus sanctus,
tu solus Dominus,
tu solus altissimus, Jesu Christe,
cum Sancto Spiritu,
in gloria Dei Patris. Amen.

Please remain standing.

The Collect

The Archbishop says:

Let us pray.

Silence is kept.

Almighty God,
you have given us your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him
and as at this time to be born of a pure virgin:
grant that we, who have been born again
and made your children by adoption and grace,
may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please sit.

*Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his
people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father, we worship you,
we give you thanks, we praise you for your
glory.*

*Lord Jesus Christ,
only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the
Father: receive our prayer.*

*For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord, you alone are the
Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.*

The Liturgy of the Word

Old Testament Reading

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

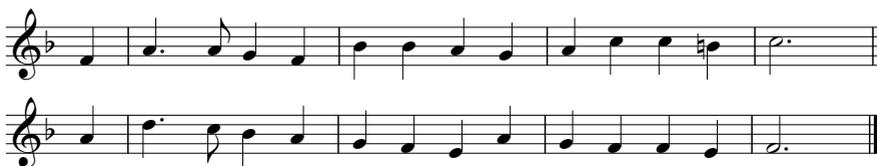
The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.
You have multiplied the nation,
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.
For the yoke of their burden,
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.
For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.
For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders;
and he is named
Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
His authority shall grow continually,
and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.
He will establish and uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time onwards and for evermore.
The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

ISAIAH 9. 2-7

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

Gradual Hymn



While shepherds 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.’

Words Nahum Tate (1652–1715), after Luke 2.8–14

Tune WINCHESTER NEW, NEH 42, Thomas Este’s *Psalter* (1592)

Please sit.

New Testament Reading

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to Titus.

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ. He is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

TITUS 2.11-14

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

The Gospel may be heralded by music played on the organ.

When the Gospel is announced the reader says:

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

In those days a decree went out from Emperor 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 for them in the inn.

In that 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 Saviour, 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 favours!’

LUKE 2.1-14

After the Gospel the reader says:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Music is played to honour the Gospel.

Please sit for the sermon.

Sermon

The Archbishop of York

After the sermon, the organist improvises a reflective response.

Please stand.

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 from the Holy Spirit and 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.

Please kneel or sit.

Prayers of Intercession

This response is used:

Holy God,
hear our prayer.

The prayer ends:

Father, angels and shepherds worshipped at the manger throne.
Receive the worship we offer in fellowship with Mary, Joseph and the saints
through him who is your Word made flesh,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Please stand.

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

The Archbishop says:

Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given,
and his name shall be called the Prince of Peace.

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

The Deacon invites the congregation to exchange a sign of peace.

Offertory Hymn

During the hymn, the altar is prepared and a collection is taken.



1. 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!*

2. 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...

4. 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...

3. See how the shepherds,
 summoned to his cradle,
 leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear;
 we too will thither
 bend our joyful footsteps:
O come, let us adore him...

5. Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
 born this happy morning,
 Jesu, to thee be glory given;
 Word of the Father,
 Now in flesh appearing:
O come, let us adore him...

Words Adeste fideles, translated by Frederick Oakeley (1802–80)
Tune ADESTE FIDELES, NEH 30, attributed to J F Wade (1711–86)

The Eucharistic Prayer

The following dialogue is said or sung:



The Lord be with you and also with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give thanks and praise.

All glory and honour be your always and everywhere,
mighty Creator, ever-living God.
We give you thanks and praise for your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who for love of our fallen race humbled himself,
and was born of the Virgin Mary by the power of your Spirit,
and lived as one of us.
In this mystery of the Word made flesh
you have caused his light to shine in our hearts,
to give knowledge of your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.
In him we see our God made visible
and so are caught up in the love of the God we cannot see.
Therefore with all the angels of heaven
we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name
and sing our joyful hymn of praise:

The choir sings:

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus,
Dominus Deus Sabaoth,
pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua.
Hosanna in excelsis.

Benedictus qui venit in nomine
Domini. Osanna in excelsis.

*Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
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.*

The congregation is invited to sit or kneel.

We praise and bless you, loving Father,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;
and as we obey his command,
send your Holy Spirit,
that broken bread and wine outpoured
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.
On the night before he died he had supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he praised you.
He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:
Drink this, all of you;
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.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice
made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,
we proclaim his death and resurrection
until he comes in glory.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

Lord of all life,
help us to work together for that day
when your kingdom comes
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people,
gather us in your loving arms
and bring us with the Blessed Virgin Mary,
Peter the Apostle, William of York, and all the saints,
to feast at your table in heaven.
Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,
for ever and ever.

Amen.

A short silence is kept.

Please kneel or sit. A short silence is kept.

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**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 glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

The Archbishop breaks the consecrated bread, saying:

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
**Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

Giving of Communion

The President says an invitation to communion:

God's holy gifts
for God's holy people.
**Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

Communion is administered at a number of places. You will be guided by the Stewards.

*Authorised words of administration are said, to which the communicant responds:
Amen.*

During the distribution of Communion the choir sings:

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi: *Lamb of God, you take away the sin of
miserere nobis. the world, have mercy on us.*

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi: *Lamb of God, you take away the sin of
dona nobis pacem. the world, grant us peace.*

and

Hodie Christus natus est:	<i>Today Christ is born:</i>
Hodie Salvator apparuit:	<i>Today the Saviour appeared:</i>
Hodie in terra canunt Angeli, laetantur Archangeli	<i>Today on earth the angels sing, Archangels rejoice:</i>
Hodie exsultant justi, dicentes:	<i>Today the righteous rejoice, saying:</i>
Gloria in excelsis Deo. Alleluia.	<i>Glory to God in the highest. Alleluia.</i>

*Words Antiphon to the Magnificat, 2nd Vespers of Christmas Day
Music Francis Poulenc (1899–1963)*

Prayer after Communion

The Archbishop invites the congregation to stand and says:

God our Father,
whose Word has come among us
in the Holy Child of Bethlehem:
may the light of faith illumine our hearts
and shine in our words and deeds;
through him who is Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

The Dismissal

Hymn



1. 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.*

2. 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:

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

3. 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 Blessing

The Archbishop says:

Christ, who by his incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly,
fill you with peace and goodwill
and make you partakers of the divine nature;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always.

Amen.

The Deacon says:

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

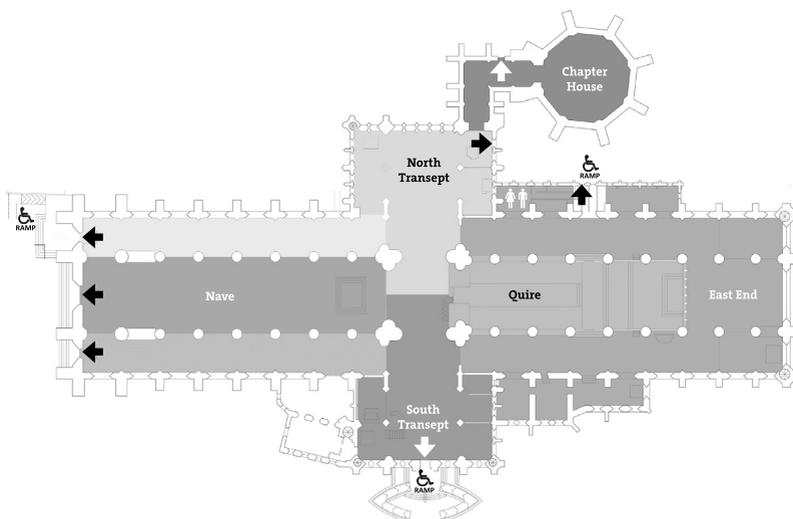
As the procession moves from the Nave, the choir sings Psalm 150.

Organ Voluntary

Carillon-Sortie

Henri Mulet (1878–1967)

In the unlikely event, that we need to evacuate the building, the exit routes are:



York Minster Choristers

A life-changing opportunity for children who love to sing

We are looking for girl and boy choristers to join the York Minster Choir from September 2022. All choristers are educated at St Peter's School and develop key skills and a passion for music that will last a lifetime.

Please visit our website to find out more and apply:
www.stpetersyork.org.uk/york-minster-choristers



Material in this Order of Service is taken from *Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England* and *Common Worship: Times and Seasons*, copyright © 2000–2006 the Archbishops' Council. This compilation is copyright © 2021 The Chapter of York.