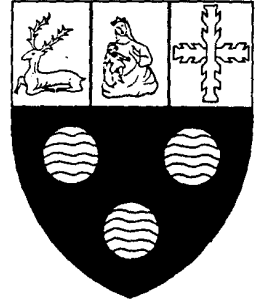


**Southwell
Minster**

THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF
THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY



CATHEDRAL EUCHARIST

The First Sunday of Christmas

Sunday 31 December 2023

10.00am

Welcome to Southwell Minster



As you prepare for worship, please be sensitive to the needs of those around you who may wish to pray in silence. Please switch off mobile telephones and do not use photographic, video or recording equipment at any time.



A loop system is in operation throughout the Minster. Hearing aids that are equipped to do so should be switched to the 'T' position or the loop setting appropriate to your equipment.



Large print orders of service are available. Please ask a Churchwarden, Sidesman or Verger for a copy.



Toilet facilities (including disabled access) are situated in the Archbishop's Palace, opposite the South Door of the Minster.



We are a Fairtrade cathedral, committed to continuing and increasing our use of fairly traded goods wherever possible.



This Order of Service is printed on sustainably produced paper.

The President of the Eucharist is the Very Revd Nicola Sullivan, *Dean of Southwell*.

The Deacon is the Revd Paul Rattigan, *Canon Missioner*.

The Preacher is the Revd David McCoulough, *Priest Vicar*.

The congregation is invited to join in all texts printed in **bold**.

This service will be live-streamed to the internet, and will be available at www.southwellminster.org/worship-online and on the Minster's YouTube channel for one week. Live-streaming allows those joining from home to participate in the same act of worship as those in the Cathedral.

A collection for the mission and ministry of the Cathedral will be taken during the Offertory Hymn at this service. If you are a UK taxpayer, you are invited to fill in your



details on the Gift Aid envelopes provided so that we can reclaim your income tax and thus increase your donation by 25p for every £1 given. Cash donations can also be placed in the donation box near each entrance or card donations made using the contactless card station. Alternatively, to make a donation online, please scan this QR code or visit www.southwellminster.org/donate. Please give generously.

Communion

Holy Communion will be offered in both kinds (bread and wine) but please feel free to leave the altar rail after receiving the bread if you prefer. The Church teaches that Holy Communion is received fully in either the consecrated wafer or the wine. **Please do not intinct (dip your wafer in the wine) as this carries an increased risk of transmitting infection.** The ministrant will not offer you the chalice to intinct, but only to drink from. Gluten-free wafers are available — please speak to a Churchwarden or vergier before the service (if possible) to request one.

Children's activities

This week, our regular children's activity, Minster Kids, will not be meeting. Instead, there are children's activity bags available in our Children's Chapel (near the font) and at the door; please ask if you would like one. Children of all ages are very welcome at all our services.

Standing, Sitting and Kneeling

Throughout this booklet, you will find various references to posture. We stand to praise or sing together; sit to listen and to receive (for example, during Bible readings – except the Gospel – and the sermon), and we may kneel for personal prayer. Adopting the same posture is a way of showing that we are worshipping God together, as his people. However, please always feel free to adopt a different posture if you need to. For example, if standing for long periods is difficult, you may wish to sit during the Gospel and the Eucharistic Prayer.

Acknowledgements

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ORDER OF SERVICE

The President welcomes the congregation.

THE GATHERING

Please stand at the start of the opening hymn.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN *during which the altar party enter.*



**1. A great and mighty wonder,
A full and holy cure!
The virgin bears the infant
With virgin-honour pure.
Repeat the hymn again!
*'To God on high be glory,
And peace on earth to men!'***

**2. The Word becomes incarnate
And yet remains on high!
And Cherubim sing anthems
To shepherds from the sky.
*Repeat the hymn again!...***

**3. While thus they sing your Monarch,
Those bright angelic bands,
Rejoice, ye vales and mountains,
Ye oceans clap your hands.
*Repeat the hymn again!...***

**4. Since all he comes to ransom,
By all be he adored,
The infant born in Bethl'em,
The Saviour and the Lord.
*Repeat the hymn again!...***

**5. And idol forms shall perish,
And error shall decay,
And Christ shall wield his sceptre,
Our Lord and God for ay.
*Repeat the hymn again!...***

*Words: Greek, St Germanus (634-734)
trans. John Mason Neale (1818-66) et al.
harm. Michael Praetorius (1571-1621)*

*Tune: ES IST EIN ROS ENTSPRUNGEN NEH 21
German carol melody*

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

GREETING

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

The President introduces the Eucharist.

PRAYERS OF PENITENCE

Deacon Hear the words of the angel to Joseph:
'You shall call his name Jesus,
for he will save his people from their sins.'
Therefore let us seek the forgiveness of God
through Jesus the Saviour of the world.

Silence is kept.

**Most merciful God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
we confess that we have sinned in thought, word and deed.
We have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
In your mercy forgive what we have been,
help us to amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be;
that we may do justly, love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God.
Amen.**

ABSOLUTION

President May God who loved the world so much
that he sent his Son to be our Saviour
forgive us our sins
and make us holy to serve him in the world,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Organ *All*



Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high- est.



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his peo-ple on earth.



Lord God, heav'n-ly King, al-migh-ty God and Fa - ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est.



Lord, Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world: have



mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the right



hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est.
 For you a-lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
 You a-lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly
 Spi - rit, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.
 Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est.

*Music: from MASS OF ST THOMAS
 David Thorne (b. 1950)*

Please remain standing

COLLECT

President Let us pray.

Silence is kept.

Almighty God,
 who wonderfully created us in your own image
 and yet more wonderfully restored us
 through your Son Jesus Christ:
 grant that, as he came to share in our humanity,
 so we may share the life of his divinity;
 who is alive and reigns with you,
 in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
 one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

Please sit

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING *read by Martin Burge*

Galatians 4: 4-7

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, 'Abba! Father!' So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN



**1. See amid the winter's snow,
Born for us on earth below,
See, the Lamb of God appears,
Promised from eternal years!**

Hail, thou ever-blessèd morn!

Hail, redemption's happy dawn!

Sing through all Jerusalem:

Christ is born in Bethlehem!

**2. Lo, within a manger lies
He who built the starry skies,
He who, throned in height sublime,
Sits amid the cherubim.**

Hail, thou ever-blessèd morn!...

**3. Sacred infant, all divine,
What a mighty love was thine,
Thus to come from highest bliss
Down to such a world as this!**

Hail, thou ever-blessèd morn!...

Words: *Edward Caswall (1814-78)*

Tune: *HUMILITY (OXFORD) CP 67*
John Goss (1800-80)

Please stand and turn to face the Gospel reader

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Deacon Alleluia, alleluia.

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us,
and we have seen his glory.

All **Alleluia.**

GOSPEL READING

Luke 2: 15–21

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



Glo-ry to you, O Lord.

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. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Praise to you, O Christ.

Please turn back to face the altar, and sit when invited by the preacher.

SERMON *given by the Revd David McCoulough*

Please stand

PROFESSION OF FAITH

President Let us declare our faith in God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**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 sit or kneel when invited

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION *led by Celia Burge*

One of the following responses may be used:

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Lord, hear us.
Lord, graciously hear us.

and at the end:

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

Please stand

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

THE PEACE

President 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 share a sign of peace.

OFFERTORY HYMN *during which the table is prepared and a collection is taken for the mission and ministry of the Cathedral*

The musical score consists of four staves of music. The first three staves contain the main melody, and the fourth staff contains the refrain. The lyrics are written below the staves.

Refrain
No - well, — No -
well, No - well, No - well, Born is the King of Is - ra - el!

The first Nowell the angel did say
 Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
 In fields where they lay, keeping their sheep,
 On a cold winter's night that was so deep:
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel!

They lookèd up and saw a star,
 Shining in the east, beyond them far;
 And to the earth it gave great light,
 And so it continued both day and night:
Nowell, Nowell...

And by the light of that same star,
 Three wise men came from country far;
 To seek for a king was their intent,
 And to follow the star whersoever it went:
Nowell, Nowell...

This star drew nigh to the north-west;
 O'er Bethlehem it took its rest,
 And there it did both stop and stay
 Right over the place where Jesus lay:
Nowell, Nowell...

Then entered in those wise men three,
Full rev'rently upon their knee,
And offered there in his presence
Their gold and myrrh and frankincense:
Nowell, Nowell...

Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heav'nly Lord,
That hath made heaven and earth of naught,
And with his blood mankind hath bought:
Nowell, Nowell...

Words: Traditional

*Tune: THE FIRST NOWELL NEH 36
English, mode iii
Harmony by John Stainer (1840-1901)*

PRAYER AT THE PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

President Let us pray.

Word made flesh, life of the world,
in your incarnation you embraced our poverty:
by your Spirit may we share in your riches.
Amen.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord is here.
His Spirit is with us.

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 yours 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:

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

Ho - ly, Ho - ly Ho - ly Lord, God of power and
might, Heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na,
Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bles - sed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na, Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*Music: from MASS OF ST THOMAS
David Thorne (b. 1950)*

President Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
and according to your holy will,
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
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 gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:
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.

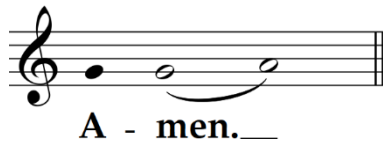
Deacon Great is the mystery of faith:

All 
Christ has died: Christ is ri - sen: Christ will come__ a-gain.

President And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world;
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.
As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,
we bring before you this bread and this cup
and we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.
Send the Holy Spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we, in the company of the Blessed Virgin Mary and all the saints,
may praise and glorify you for ever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,
for ever and ever.

All



Please sit or kneel

THE LORD'S PRAYER

President Rejoicing in the presence of God here among us,
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.**

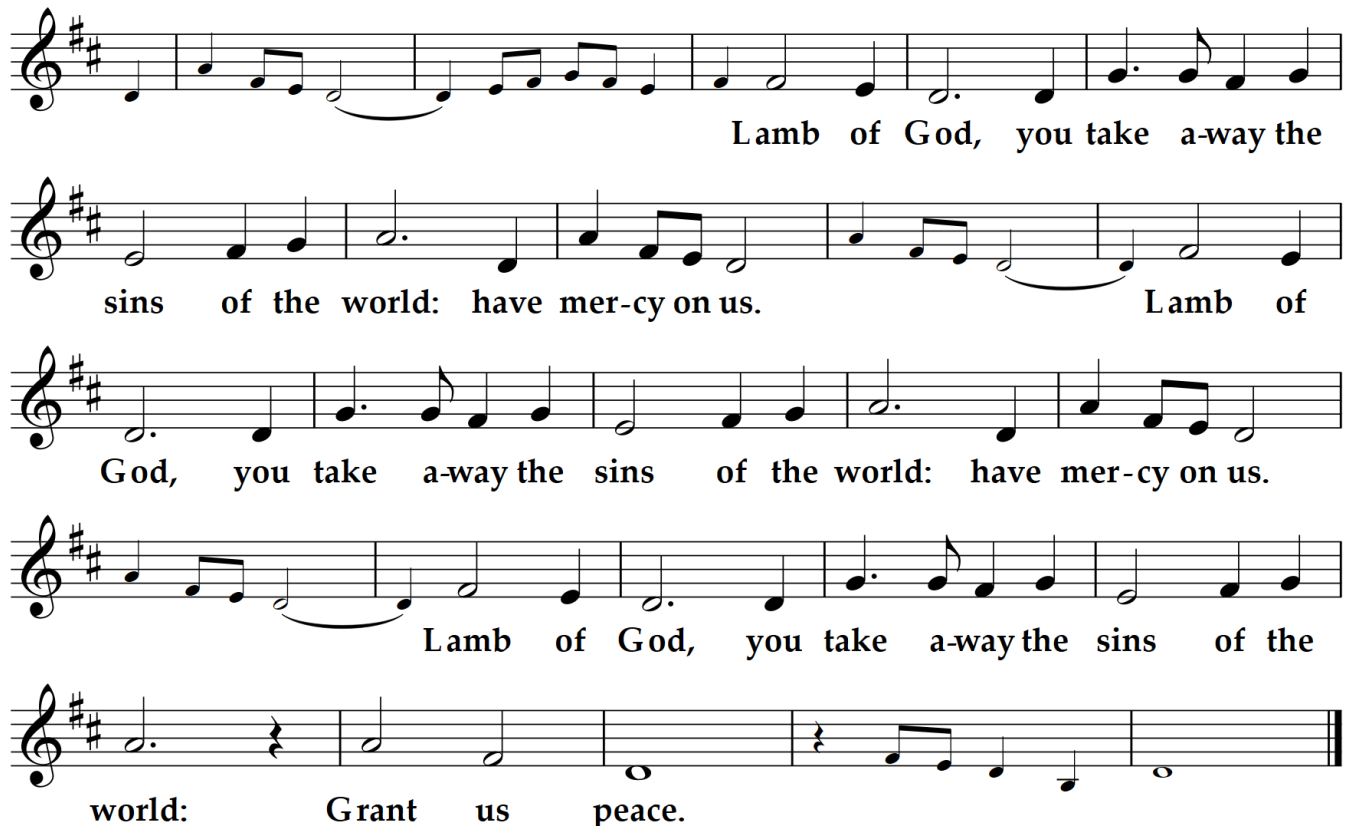
Amen.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

We break the bread of life,
and that life is the light of the world.

**God here among us,
light in the midst of us,
bring us to light and life.**

AGNUS DEI



Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sins of the world: have mer-cy on us. Lamb of
God, you take a-way the sins of the world: have mer-cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the
world: Grant us peace.

*Music: from MASS OF ST THOMAS
David Thorne (b. 1950)*

GIVING OF COMMUNION

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed 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.**

All baptised, communicant members of Christian churches are invited to receive Communion.

Holy Communion will be offered in both kinds (bread and wine). If you prefer to receive in one kind please feel free to leave after receiving the bread. The Church teaches that Holy Communion is received fully in either the consecrated wafer or the wine. Please do not intinct (dip your wafer in the wine) as this carries an increased risk of transmitting infection. The ministrant will not offer you the chalice to intinct, but only to drink from. Thank you.

Please follow the instructions of Churchwardens to approach to receive Communion.

Gluten-free wafers are available on request. If you would prefer to receive a blessing (without physical contact), please bring this order of service with you as an indication. If you are unable to move to the altar, please inform a Churchwarden and the President will come to you.

Please sit or kneel on your return from Communion.

COMMUNION HYMN *Please remain seated*



What child is this, who, laid to rest
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds worship and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring him praise
The Babe, the son of Mary.

Why lies he in such mean estate,
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Come, have no fear, God's son is here,
His love all loves exceeding:
Nails, spear, shall pierce him through,
The cross be borne for me, for you:
Hail, hail the Saviour comes,
The Babe, the son of Mary.

So bring him incense, gold and myrrh,
All tongues and peoples own him,
The King of kings salvation brings,
Let every heart enthrone him:
Raise, raise your song on high
While Mary sings a lullaby,
Joy, joy, for Christ is born,
The Babe, the son of Mary.

Words: W. Chatterton Dix (1837-98)

Tune: GREENSLEEVES NEH 40
English traditional

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

President Let us pray.

Heavenly Father,
whose blessed Son shared at Nazareth the life of an earthly home:
help your Church to live as one family,
united in love and obedience,
and bring us all at last to our home in heaven;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Notices are given.

THE DISMISSAL

Please stand

BLESSING

President Christ, the Son of God, born of Mary,
fill you with his grace to trust his promises and obey his will;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

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

FINAL HYMN *during which the altar party leave in procession.*

Refrain

Come

and wor - ship Christ the new-born King, Come

and wor-ship, wor-ship Christ the new-born King.

**1. Angels from the realms of glory,
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Ye who sang creation's story
Now proclaim Messiah's birth:**

*Come and worship, Christ the new-born King,
Come and worship, worship Christ the new-born King.*

**2. Shepherds in the field abiding,
Watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with man is now residing;
Yonder shines the infant light.**

Come and worship...

**3. Sages, leave your contemplations;
Brighter visions beam afar;
See the great desire of nations;
Ye have seen his natal star.**

Come and worship...

**4. Though an infant now we view him,
He shall fill his father's throne,
Gather all ye nations to him;
Every knee shall then bow down.**

Come and worship...

Words: James Montgomery (1771-1854)

Tune: IRIS A&M 59
Traditional French carol
harmonised by Martin Shaw (1875-1958)

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