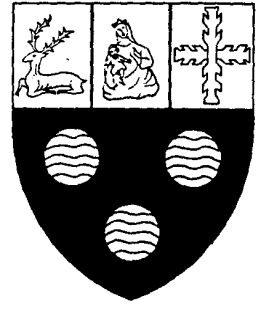


**Southwell
Minster**

THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF
THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY



CHRISTMAS CRIB SERVICE

Make Room for Jesus

Christmas Eve

Sunday 24 December 2023

2.00pm

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

This service is led by the Revd Prof. Alison Milbank, *Canon Theologian*, and the Revd Dr Richard Frith, *Canon Precentor*.



A retiring collection will be taken to support of the mission and ministry of the Cathedral. 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 in every £1 given. Alternatively, to make a donation online, please scan this QR code or visit www.southwellminster.org/donate. Please give generously.

Welcome!

We are delighted that you have been able to join us for one of our Christmas services. It is a fabulous time of the year and though extremely busy, it is great to be able to share and celebrate the truth that God became flesh and blood in Jesus. It may be that as you have been with us you have thought about exploring further what it means to believe in the God who is shown to us in Jesus. At the Cathedral we offer many ways where this can happen and here are just a few:

- If you would like to join us as we mark the next part of this story, then we shall remember the visit of the Wise Men or Magi on **Sunday 14 January at 3.30pm** with our **Epiphanytide Procession**. You are most welcome to come and join us.
- Next year, the Minster will have been a Cathedral for 140 years, so we are hosting a special exhibition, **CATHEDRAL 140: The Story of Us**, which will showcase 140 objects over 10 months, exploring the Minster's history as both a building and a community of faith. Why not come and visit, any time between February and November, and learn more about our story and how you can be part of it?
- Finally if you would like to know more about being a Christian then please do contact me below.

I do hope you are able to join us for some of these times that we might get to know you better and together seek to follow Jesus.

Have a fantastic Christmas and a Blessed New Year.

Paul Rattigan (*Canon Missioner*)

Email: Paul.Rattigan@southwellminster.org.uk

ORDER OF SERVICE

WELCOME

CAROL

Little donkey, little donkey
On the dusty road,
Got to keep on plodding onwards
With your precious load.

Been a long time, little donkey,
Through the winter's night;
Don't give up now, little donkey:
Bethlehem's in sight.

*Ring out those bells tonight,
Bethlehem, Bethlehem;
Follow that star tonight,
Bethlehem, Bethlehem.*

Little donkey, little donkey
Had a heavy day;
Little donkey, carry Mary
Safely on her way.

Do not falter, little donkey:
There's a star ahead.
It will guide you, little donkey,
To a cattle shed.

*Ring out those bells tonight,
Bethlehem, Bethlehem;
Follow that star tonight,
Bethlehem, Bethlehem.*

Little donkey, little donkey
Had a heavy day;
Little donkey, carry Mary
Safely on her way.
Little donkey, carry Mary
Safely on her way.

*Words and music: Eric Boswell (1921-2009)
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THE ANIMALS MAKE ROOM FOR JESUS

including the response:

Leader Welcome, Lord Jesus
All **We will make room for you in our hearts.**

ROOM FOR THE SHEPHERDS

CAROL

**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...

Words: Traditional

*Tune: THE FIRST NOWELL NEH 36
English, mode iii*

Leader Welcome, Lord Jesus
All **We will make room for you in our hearts.**

ROOM FOR THE WISE MEN

CAROL

**We three kings of Orient are;
Bearing gifts we traverse afar,
Field and fountain, moor and mountain,
Following yonder star.**

*O star of wonder, star of light,
Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect light.*

**Born a King on Bethlehem's plain,
Gold I bring to crown him again,
King forever, ceasing never,
Over us all to reign.**

O star of wonder, star of night.....

**Frankincense to offer have I
Incense owns a Deity nigh
Prayer and praising all men raising
Worship Him, God most high**

O star of wonder, star of night.....

**Myrrh is mine it's bitter perfume breathes
A life of gathering gloom
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying
Sealed in the stone cold tomb.**

O star of wonder, star of night.....

**Glorious now behold Him arise
King and God and Sacrifice
Alleluia, alleluia
Heaven to earth replies.**

O star of wonder, star of night.....

Words and music: John H. Hopkins (1820-91)

Leader Welcome, Lord Jesus
All We will make room for you in our hearts.

PRAYERS AT THE CRIB

including the response:

Leader Welcome, Lord Jesus
All **We will make room for you in our hearts.**

CAROL

**Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.**

**The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.**

**Be near me, Lord Jesus I ask Thee to stay
Close by me forever, and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
And take us to heaven, to live with Thee there.**

Words: American, anonymous

Music: William James Kirkpatrick (1838-1921) NEH 22

BLESSING

We wish you, and all whom you love, a very happy Christmas!

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Minster Kids

Minster Kids is the Cathedral's Sunday morning children's programme, taking place during the Cathedral Eucharist on most Sundays. We leave the main congregation following the gospel reading, and through crafts, activities, and storytelling we explore the gospel and what it means for us, rejoining the service in time for communion. During term time we are usually joined by the younger choristers from the Cathedral Choir. Visiting children and new faces are always welcome!

LATER TODAY

7.00pm	Cathedral Carol Service		<i>Nave</i>
11.15pm	Eucharist of Christmas Night	CW	<i>Nave (and live-streamed)</i>

CHRISTMAS DAY

8.00am	Holy Communion with Carols	BCP	<i>Quire</i>
10.00am	Cathedral Eucharist	CW	<i>Nave (and live-streamed)</i>
11.15am	Festal Mattins	BCP	<i>Quire</i>
12.15pm	Holy Communion	BCP	<i>Quire</i>
3.30pm	Evening Prayer with Carols	BCP	<i>Quire</i>



Go to www.churchofengland.org/christmas for details of the Church of England's Advent and Christmas theme:

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Tel.: 01636 812649

office@southwellminster.org.uk

www.southwellminster.org

Facebook: @SouthwellMinster

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Instagram: @SouthwellMinster

Would you like to hear more about news, services, concerts and/or events taking place at the Minster?

Join our mailing list by completing the online form at www.southwellminster.org/newsletter

Acknowledgements

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