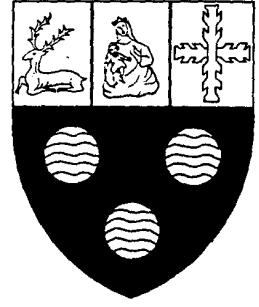


**Southwell  
Minster**  
THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF  
THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY



# HOLY COMMUNION WITH CAROLS

**CHRISTMAS DAY**

Wednesday 25 December 2024

8.00am

## 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, Sidesperson 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**.

**Support the Mission and Ministry of the Cathedral.** A collection for the Cathedral's mission and ministry will be taken during the Offertory Hymn. If you are a UK



taxpayer, please consider using the Gift Aid envelopes provided – this allows us to increase your donation by 25p for every £1 you give at no extra cost to you. Card donations can be made at the contactless stations located near the main exits. You can also donate online by scanning the QR code or visiting [www.southwellminster.org/donate](http://www.southwellminster.org/donate). Thank you for your generous support of the Cathedral and its ongoing work.

## 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 administrant will not offer you the chalice to intinct, but only to drink from.

## Standing, Sitting and Kneeling

Throughout the booklet, you will find various references to posture:

- **Standing** is used for parts of the service where the emphasis is on praising or praying to God together; so we usually stand to sing hymns, and for certain important prayers.
- **Sitting** indicates listening and receiving; so we sit for the first and second readings from the Bible, and for the sermon.
- **Kneeling** is the traditional position for personal prayer. Please speak to one of the Vergers or Sidesmen if you would like a cushion for kneeling.

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, especially if standing or kneeling is uncomfortable.

## Clergy at this Service

The President of the Eucharist is the Revd Prof. Alison Milbank, *Canon Theologian*.

## Music at this Service

The organ is played by Timothy Selman, *Organ Scholar*.

## Organ Music before the Service

*Voluntary on Christmas Carols in C minor*

Alexandre Guilmant (1837-1911)

# ORDER OF SERVICE

*Please stand*

PROCESSIONAL HYMN *during which the Altar Party enters the Quire*



**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...***

**3. 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...***

**4. 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: Latin, 18th century  
trans. Frederick Oakeley (1802-80),  
William Thomas Brooke (1848-1917) et al.*

*Tune: ADESTE FIDELES CC1 26  
John Francis Wade (c. 1711-86)  
arr. David Willcocks (1919-2015)*

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

*President* 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.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
the power, and the glory.  
for ever and ever.  
Amen.

## PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts be open, all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hid:  
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love thee,  
and worthily magnify thy holy name;  
through Christ our Lord.

*All* **Amen.**

## SUMMARY OF THE LAW

Our Lord Jesus Christ said:

Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is one Lord;  
and thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart,  
and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength.  
This is the first commandment.

And the second is like, namely this:

Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

There is none other commandment greater than these.

On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

**Lord, have mercy upon us,**

**and write all these thy laws in our hearts, we beseech thee.**

## COLLECT FOR THE KING

Let us pray.

*Silence is kept.*

Almighty God,  
whose kingdom is everlasting, and power infinite:  
have mercy upon the whole Church;  
and so rule the heart of thy chosen servant  
Charles, our King and Governor,  
that she (knowing whose minister he is)  
may above all things seek thy honour and glory:  
and that we and all his subjects  
(duly considering whose authority he hath)  
may faithfully serve, honour and humbly obey him,  
in thee, and for thee,  
according to thy blessed word and ordinance;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who with thee and the Holy Ghost liveth and reigneth,  
ever one God, world without end.  
**Amen.**

## COLLECT FOR THE DAY

Almighty God, who hast given us thy only-begotten Son  
to take our nature upon him,  
and as at this time to be born of a pure Virgin;  
Grant that we being regenerate,  
and made thy children by adoption and grace,  
may daily be renewed by thy Holy Spirit;  
through the same our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who liveth and reigneth with thee and the same Spirit,  
ever one God, world without end.  
**Amen.**

*Please sit*

## EPISTLE

Hebrews 1: 1–12

God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds; who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high: Being made so much better than the angels, as he hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they. For unto which of the angels said he at any time, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee? And again, I will be to him a Father, and he shall be to me a Son? And again, when he bringeth in the firstbegotten into the world, he saith, and let all the angels of God worship him. And of the angels he saith, who maketh his angels spirits, and his ministers a flame of fire.

But unto the Son he saith, Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom. Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore God, even thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows. And, Thou, Lord, in the beginning hast laid the foundation of the earth; and the heavens are the works of thine hands: They shall perish; but thou remainest; and they all shall wax old as doth a garment; And as a vesture shalt thou fold them up, and they shall be changed: but thou art the same, and thy years shall not fail.

*Please stand*

GOSPEL

John 1: 1–14

The holy Gospel is written in the first chapter of the Gospel according to Saint John, beginning at the first verse.

**Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe. He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father) full of grace and truth.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

*Please turn east (towards the High Altar)*

CREED

**I believe in one God the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
and of all things visible and invisible:  
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of his Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,**



very God of very God, begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven,  
and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man,  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered and was buried,  
and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,  
and ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth on the right hand of the Father.  
And he shall come again with glory  
to judge both the quick and the dead:  
whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost,  
the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceedeth from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together  
is worshipped and glorified, who spake by the prophets.

And I believe one catholic and apostolic Church.  
I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins.  
And I look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come.  
Amen.

*Please sit when invited*

SERMON *given by the Canon Theologian*

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Matthew 5: 16

Let your light so shine before men,  
that they may see your good works,  
and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

*Please stand*

OFFERTORY HYMN *during which the table is prepared and a collection is taken, net proceeds of which will go to Home-Start Newark*



**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*

*Please sit or kneel when invited*

*Tune: WINCHESTER OLD NEH 42*

*from Thomas Este's Psalter, 1592*

## INTERCESSION

*Biddings are followed by:*

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church militant here in earth.

Almighty and ever-living God, who by thy holy apostle hast taught us to make prayers and supplications, and to give thanks, for all men: we humbly beseech thee most mercifully to accept our alms and oblations, and to receive these our prayers, which we offer unto thy divine majesty; beseeching thee to inspire continually the universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord: and grant, that all they that do confess thy holy name may agree in the truth of thy holy word, and live in unity and godly love.

We beseech thee also to save and defend all Christian kings, princes and governors; and specially thy servant Charles our King, that under him we may be godly and quietly governed: and grant unto his whole Council, and to all that are put in authority under him, that they may truly and indifferently minister justice, to the punishment of wickedness and vice, and to the maintenance of thy true religion and virtue.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all Bishops and Curates, that they may both by their life and doctrine set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy sacraments: and to all thy people give thy heavenly grace; and specially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy word; truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

And we most humbly beseech thee of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succour all them, who in this transitory life are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

And we also bless thy holy name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear; beseeching thee to give us grace so to follow their good examples, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

Grant this, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only mediator and advocate. **Amen.**

## INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Ye that do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbours, and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways: draw near with faith, and take this holy sacrament to your comfort; and make your humble confession to almighty God, meekly kneeling upon your knees.

## CONFESSION

**Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
maker of all things, judge of all men:  
we acknowledge and bewail  
our manifold sins and wickedness,  
which we, from time to time, most grievously have committed,  
by thought, word and deed, against thy divine majesty,  
provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us.  
We do earnestly repent,  
and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings;  
the remembrance of them is grievous unto us;  
the burden of them is intolerable.  
Have mercy upon us,  
have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;  
for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,  
forgive us all that is past;  
and grant that we may ever hereafter  
serve and please thee in newness of life,  
to the honour and glory of thy name;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

## ABSOLUTION

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
who of his great mercy  
hath promised forgiveness of sins  
to all them that with hearty repentance and true faith  
turn unto him:  
have mercy upon you;  
pardon and deliver you from all your sins;  
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness;  
and bring you to everlasting life;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

## THE COMFORTABLE WORDS

Hear what comfortable words our Saviour Christ saith  
unto all that truly turn to him:

Come unto me, all that travail and are heavy laden,  
and I will refresh you.

*Matthew 11: 28*

So God loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son,  
to the end that all that believe in him should not perish,  
but have everlasting life.

*John 3: 16*

Hear also what Saint Paul saith:

This is a true saying, and worthy of all men to be received,  
that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

*1 Timothy 1: 15*

Hear also what Saint John saith:

If any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father,  
Jesus Christ the righteous;  
and he is the propitiation for our sins.

*1 John 2: 1, 2*

*Please stand*

## PREFACE

Lift up your hearts:

**We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

**It is meet and right so to do.**

It is very meet, right and our bounden duty,  
that we should at all times, and in all places,  
give thanks unto thee,  
O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Because thou didst give Jesus Christ thine only Son  
to be born as at this time for us;  
who, by the operation of the Holy Ghost,  
was made very man of the substance of the Virgin Mary his mother;  
and that without spot of sin,  
to make us clean from all sin.  
Therefore with angels and archangels,  
and with all the company of heaven,  
we laud and magnify thy glorious name,  
evermore praising thee, and saying:

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts,  
heaven and earth are full of thy glory.  
Glory be to thee, O Lord most high.**

**Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

*Please sit or kneel*

## PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

**We do not presume  
to come to this thy table, O merciful Lord,  
trusting in our own righteousness,  
but in thy manifold and great mercies.  
We are not worthy  
so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy table.  
But thou art the same Lord,  
whose property is always to have mercy:  
Grant us therefore, gracious Lord,  
so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood,  
that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body,  
and our souls washed through his most precious blood,  
and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us.  
Amen.**

## PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
who of thy tender mercy didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ  
to suffer death upon the Cross for our redemption;  
who made there (by his one oblation of himself once offered)  
a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction,  
for the sins of the whole world;  
and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue,  
a perpetual memory of that his precious death,  
until his coming again:

Hear us, O merciful Father, we most humbly beseech thee;  
and grant that we receiving these thy creatures of bread and wine,  
according to thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution,  
in remembrance of his death and passion,  
may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood:

who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread;  
and, when he had given thanks, he brake 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.

Likewise after supper he took the cup;  
and, when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying,  
Drink ye all of this;  
for this is my blood of the new testament,  
which is shed for you and for many for the remission of sins:  
Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me.  
**Amen.**

*All baptised, communicant members of Christian churches are invited to receive 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. Please do not intinct (dip your wafer in the wine) as this carries an increased risk of transmitting infection. The administrant will not offer you the chalice to intinct, but only to drink from.*

*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.*

## ORGAN MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

*Prelude on The Holly and The Ivy*

Herbert Sumsion (1899-1995)

## 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.  
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever.  
Amen.**



*Please stand*

## PRAYER OF OBLATION

O Lord and heavenly Father,  
we thy humble servants entirely desire thy fatherly goodness  
mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving;  
most humbly beseeching thee to grant,  
that by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ,  
and through faith in his blood,  
we and all thy whole Church may obtain remission of our sins,  
and all other benefits of his passion.  
And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord,  
ourselves, our souls and bodies,  
to be a reasonable, holy and lively sacrifice unto thee;  
humbly beseeching thee,  
that all we, who are partakers of this holy communion,  
may be fulfilled with thy grace and heavenly benediction.

And although we be unworthy, through our manifold sins,  
to offer unto thee any sacrifice,  
yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service;  
not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offences,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord;  
by whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost,  
all honour and glory be unto thee, O Father almighty,  
world without end.

**Amen.**

*Please turn east (towards the High Altar)*

## GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Glory be to God on high,  
and in earth peace, goodwill towards men.  
We praise thee, we bless thee,  
we worship thee, we glorify thee,  
we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,  
O Lord God, heavenly King,  
God the Father almighty.  
O Lord, the only-begotten Son Jesu Christ;  
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
that takest away the sins of the world,  
have mercy upon us.  
Thou that takest away the sins of the world,  
have mercy upon us.  
Thou that takest away the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer.  
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,  
have mercy upon us.  
For thou only art holy;  
thou only art the Lord;  
thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,  
art most high  
in the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.

*Please turn back*

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 th'angelic host proclaim,  
Christ is born in Bethlehem.

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

2. Christ, by highest heav'n adored,  
Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
Late in time behold him come  
Off-spring of a Virgin's womb:  
Veiled in flesh the God-head 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.*

3. Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!  
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings,  
Ris'n 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.*

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-88) et al.

Tune: MENDELSSOHN CC1 14  
Felix Mendelssohn (1808-47)

## BLESSING

The peace of God,  
which passeth all understanding,  
keep your hearts and minds  
in the knowledge and love of God,  
and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord:  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost,  
be amongst you and remain with you always.  
**Amen.**

## ORGAN VOLUNTARY *during which the Altar Party departs*

*Vom Himmel hoch, da komm ich her*, BWV 606

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

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***Please take this order of service away with you.***

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