New College Chapel

Sir Joshua Reynolds (1723-92),
detail from West Window, New College antechapel

Midnight Mass
with baptism

Thursday 24th December 2020
11.00 p.m.
Organ music

Before the service

Seasonal music from
Das Orgelbüchlein  J. S. Bach (1685-1750)
Nouveau Livre de Noëls  Louis-Claude Daquin (1694-1772)

After the service

Final (Symphonie I)  Louis Vierne (1870-1937)

Mass setting

Missa VIII “De angelis”

Choir  Collegium Novum, directed by Tom Hammond-Davies
Organist  Robert Quinney
Presiding and Preaching  Rev Dr Erica Longfellow, Dean of Divinity
Taking the Baptism  Rev Susan Bridge, Associate Chaplain
Baptism Candidate  Bradley Hoover, Chapel Graduate Scholar

With grateful thanks to everyone who has made this service possible.
ORDER OF SERVICE

Please stand as the choir sings the introit.

Introit  *Echo Carol* by Philip Wilby (b.1949)

Creator of the starry heights,  
Thy people’s everlasting light,  
Jesu, Redeemer, save us all,  
And hear they servants when they call:  
Alleluia, Alleluia.

Thou, grieving that the ancient curse,  
Should doom to death a universe,  
Hast found the med’cine, full of grace,  
To sace and heal a ruined race:  
Alleluia, Alleluia.

Thou cam’st, the Bridegroom of the bride,  
As drew the world to eventide;  
Proceeding from a Virgin shrine,  
The spotless victim all divine:  
Alleluia, Alleluia.

At whose dread name, majestic now,  
All knees must bend, all hearts must bow;  
All things celestial thee shall own,  
And things terrestrial, Lord alone.  
Alleluia, Alleluia.

President  Welcome all wonders in one sight!  
Eternity shut in a span.  
Summer in winter, day in night,
Heaven in earth and God in man.
Great little one whose all-embracing birth
Brings earth to heaven, stoops heaven to earth.

The choir sings the opening hymn:

Hymn

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!*

God of God, Light of Light
Lo, He abhors not the Virgin's womb
Very God
Begotten, not created
*Refrain*

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God
All glory in the highest
*Refrain*

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee,
born this happy morning
Jesus, to Thee be glory given
Word of the Father
Now in flesh appearing
*Refrain*

*J.F. Wade (c.1711-1786)*
President  Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you

All  and with your spirit.

The President introduces the service.

The choir sings the Gloria.

The Collect

The president introduces the prayer for the day.

President  Let us pray in the peace of this Christmas celebration that our joy in the birth of Christ will last forever.

Silence is kept.

President  Eternal God, who made this most holy night to shine with the brightness of your one true light: bring us, who have known the revelation of that light on earth, to see the radiance of your heavenly glory; 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.

All  Amen.
The Liturgy of the Word

Please sit for the first reading: Isaiah 9.2-3, 6-7
At the end the reader will say

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

The choir sings:

Carol  A child is born in Bethlehem by Samuel Scheidt  
(1587-1654)

A child is born in Bethlehem, Alleluia, Alleluia,  
And joy is in Jerusalem, Alleluia,  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Rejoice, rejoice, sing high, sing low, Alleluia, Alleluia,  
Benedicamus Domino, Alleluia, Alleluia,  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

To thee, O Lord, be glory paid, Alleluia, Alleluia,  
Thou Son of Mary, mother-maid, Alleluia, Alleluia,  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

To Holy Trinity give praise, Alleluia, Alleluia,  
With Deo gracias always, Alleluia, Alleluia,  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Traditional

Please stand as the lights are raised for the Gospel reading, Luke 2.1-20, read by the Associate Chaplain:
The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory. Alleluia.

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

**All**  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At the end the Associate Chaplain will say:*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**All**  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please sit for the homily.*

**Carol**  
*Tomorrow shall be my dancing day* arr. David Willcocks (1919-2015)

Tomorrow shall be my dancing day;  
I would my true love did so chance  
To see the legend of my play,  
To call my true love to my dance;  
*Sing, oh! my love, oh! my love, my love, my love,*  
*This have I done for my true love*

Then was I born of a virgin pure,  
Of her I took fleshly substance  
Thus was I knit to man's nature  
To call my true love to my dance.  
*Refrain*

In a manger laid, and wrapped I was  
So very poor, this was my chance  
Betwixt an ox and a silly poor ass  
To call my true love to my dance.  
*Refrain*

*Trad. English Carol*
The Baptism

Assoc. Ch. Do you wish to be baptized?
Candidate I do.

Assoc. Ch. Are you ready with your own mouth and from your own heart to affirm your faith in Jesus Christ?
Candidate I am.

Assoc. Ch. People of God, will you support Bradley on his journey of faith?
All We will.

The paschal candle is lit.

Assoc. Ch. In baptism, God calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light. To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life with him. Therefore I ask:
Do you turn to Christ?
Candidate I turn to Christ.

Assoc. Ch. Do you repent of your sins?
Candidate I repent of my sins.
Assoc. Ch. Do you renounce evil?
Candidate I renounce evil.

Water is poured into the font. The Associate Chaplain blesses the water:

Blessed are you, sovereign God of all, to you be glory and praise for ever. You are our light and our salvation.
From the deep waters of death
you have raised your Son to life in triumph.
Grant that all who are born anew
by water and the Spirit,
may daily be renewed in your image,
walk by the light of faith,
and serve you in newness of life;
though your anointed Son, Jesus Christ,
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit
we lift our voices of praise.
Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

All  Alleluia. Amen.

The congregation stands.

Assoc. Ch.  Let us affirm, together with Bradley,
our common faith in Jesus Christ.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,
source of all being and life,
the one for whom we exist?

All  I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,
who took our human nature,
died for us and rose again?

All  I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,
who gives life to the people of God
and makes Christ known in the world?

All  I believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.
All This is our faith. We believe and trust in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Bradley, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All Amen.

May God, who has received you by baptism into his Church, pour upon you the riches of his grace, that within the company of Christ’s pilgrim people you may daily be renewed by his anointing Spirit, and come to the inheritance of the saints in glory.

All Amen.

*Bradley is signed with the sign of the cross.*

Christ claims you for his own. Receive the sign of his cross. Do not be ashamed of Christ. You are his forever.

*All* Stand bravely with him against all the powers of evil, and remain faithful to Christ to the end of your life.
May almighty God
deliver you from the powers of darkness,
restore in you the image of his glory,
and lead you in the light and obedience of Christ.

All Amen.

The Peace

President This holy night the angels sang,
‘Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace to all in whom he delights.’
The peace of the Lord be always with you
All and with your spirit.

President Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

The Preparation of the Table

Please sit as the choir sings:

**Carol:** Quelle est cette odeur agréable trad. arr. David Willcocks

Quelle est cette odeur agréable,
Bergers, qui ravit tous nos sens ?
S’exhale-t-il rien de semblable
Au milieu des fleurs du printemps ?
Quelle est cette odeur agréable
Bergers, qui ravit tous nos sens ?

Where is that goodly fragrance flowing
to steal the senses all away?
adorns the air, and nothing like it
the shepherds sensed in fields in May?
Where is that goodly fragrance flowing
to steal the senses all away?
Mais quelle éclatante lumière
Dans la nuit vient frapper nos yeux
L’astre de jour, dans sa carrière,
Fut-il jamais si radieux!
Mais quelle éclatante lumière
Dans la nuit vient frapper nos yeux.

A Bethléem, dans une crèche
Il vient de vous naître un Sauveur
Allons, que rien ne vous empêche
D’adorer votre rédempteur
A Bethléem, dans une crèche,
Il vient de vous naître un Sauveur.

Dieu tout puissant, gloire éternelle
Vous soit rendue jusqu’aux cieux.
Que la paix soit universelle
Que la grâce a bonde en tous lieux.
Dieu tout puissant, gloire éternelle
Vous soit rendue jusqu’aux cieux

---

A light so bright, a beam so piercing it turns our darkness into day.
The light of Christ, it is so radiant, the beam it casts to be our way.
A light so bright, a beam so piercing it turns our darkness into day.

Shepherds to Bethlehem, go hasten!
And in a manger see him lay.
Adore your God and your redeemer;
Saviour of all to win the day
Shepherds to Bethlehem, go hasten!
And in a manger see him lay.

All pow’rful God, and King eternal,
The heavens praise with one accord.
Grace, peace anf truth give to all nations
Spring forth from Jesus Christ our Lord.
All pow’rful God, and King eternal,
The heavens praise with one accord.

---

The president takes the bread and wine and says the following prayer:

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

**All**  
Amen.
The Eucharistic Prayer

Please stand.

The Lord be with you.  

And with your spirit.

Lift up your hearts.  

We lift them up unto the Lord.

Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.

It is meet and right so to do.

President  

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 on this night 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 the Sanctus. All sit or kneel as the prayer continues.*

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.

Great is the mystery of faith.

*All*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**
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 Amen.
The Lord’s Prayer

As our Saviour Christ hath commanded and taught us, we are bold to say:

Our Father, who art in heav’n, Hallow’d be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth, as it is in heav’n; 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 the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

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

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

All remain seated as the choir sing the Agnus Dei.
Together with those joining online, let us pray that Christ may be born in the hearts of all who have come to receive this wondrous gift.

Come Lord Jesus, dwell in us and send your Holy Spirit that we may hear the Christmas angels and see the star that heralds your coming. As the shepherds and wise men believed in the promise and came to pay you homage, so may those who cannot receive you in bread and wine, entertain you in their hearts through this offering of prayer. O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel! Alleluia! Amen.

The body of Christ. The blood of Christ.

Amen.

All who seek to follow Christ are invited to receive communion. There will be two communion stations, at the altar and under the organ loft. Please come forward at the direction of the ushers. Communion is in one kind – there is no common cup. Please use the hand sanitizer provided. The priest will place the wafer into your outstretched hands. Please keep silence, remove your face covering to consume the host and then replace your face covering. If you wish to receive a gluten-free wafer please come to the altar where there will be a sign for you to indicate. If you prefer to receive a blessing, please cross your arms across your chest.
During the distribution the choir will sing:

**Still, still, still**  
trad. arr. Philip Ledger (1937-2012)

Still, still, still,  
Weil's Kindlein schlafen will.  
Maria tut dich niedersingen  
Und ihr treues Herz darbringen.  
Still, still, still,  
Weil's Kindlein schlafen will.

Still, still, still,  
Let all the world be still,  
For Mary lays her son to rest,  
Sings to him softly at her breast,  
Still, still, still,  
Let all the world be still,

Sleep, sleep, sleep,  
mid the oxen and the sheep.  
The shepherds have come who heard the story,  
angels bend low in all their glory.  
Sleep, sleep, sleep,  
mid the oxen and the sheep.

Joy, joy, joy,  
my heart is filled with joy!  
The God of love has left his throne,  
Made his humble world his own,  
Joy, joy, joy,  
My heart is filled with joy!

Trad. German Carol  
Trans. M, Peacocke
A spotless Rose
Herbert Howells (1893-1983)

A Spotless Rose is blowing,
Sprung from a tender root,
Of ancient seers' foreshowing,
Of Jesse promised fruit;
Its fairest bud unfolds to light
Amid the cold, cold winter,
And in the dark midnight.

The Rose which I am singing,
Whereof Isaiah said,
Is from its sweet root springing
In Mary, purest Maid;
For through our God's great love and might,
The Blessed Babe she bare us
In a cold, cold winter's night.

14th Century

Post-Communion Prayer
After a brief silence the president says the post-communion prayer:

President
God our Father,
in this night you have made known to us again
the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ:
confirm our faith and fix our eyes on him
until the day dawns
and Christ the Morning Star rises in our hearts.

All
To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.
Blessing of the Crib

*The President reads the Gospel of Christmas Day, John 1.1-5, 14*

Hear the good news of the Word made flesh according to John.

All  **Glory to you, O Lord.**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father’s only son, full of grace and truth.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All  **Praise to you, O Christ.**
The President blesses the crib:

God our Father,
on this night your Son Jesus Christ
was born of the Virgin Mary
for us and for our salvation: bless this crib,
which we have prepared to celebrate that holy birth;
may all who see it be strengthened in faith
and receive the fullness of life he came to bring,
who is alive and reigns for ever.

All
Amen.

The choir will sing:

Carol Ding dong! merrily on high 16th-century French harmonized by Charles Wood (1866-1926)

Ding, dong! Merrily on high
In heav’n the bells are ringing
Ding, dong! Verily the sky
Is riv’n with angel singing
Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis.

E’en so here below, below
Let steeple bells be swungen
And i-o, i-o, i-o
By priest and people sungen
Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis.

Pray ye dutifully prime
Your matin chime, ye ringers
May ye beautifully rime
Your evetime song, ye singers
Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis.

G.R. Woodward (1848-1934)
Blessing and Dismissal

*President*  May the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the perseverance of the wise men, the obedience of Joseph and Mary, and the peace of the Christ child be yours this Christmas; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

*All*  Amen.

The choir and congregation process out to the main quad to sing carols (please see separate booklet). If you have joined us on the livestream may you have a blessed Christmas.