



MERTON COLLEGE

The Chapel of St Mary and St John

EPIPHANY CAROL SERVICE
5.45pm Sunday 15 January

Welcome to Merton College Chapel for this evening's Epiphany Carol Service. A particular welcome to Roxanna Panufnik, the composer of *Sleep, Jesus, sleep*, and Dr Thomas Allain Chapman who wrote the text for *The Beloved* by Richard Allain. This evening's service will be sung by the College Choir and Girl Choristers.

In the western church, the Epiphany ('manifestation') became an occasion to celebrate one element in the story of Christ's birth, the visit of the far-travelled Magi, understood as the manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles. St Matthew's account, which we shall hear this evening, speaks simply of 'wise men from the east'; later tradition fixed their number at three, made them kings and recalled their resonant names—Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar. In the eastern churches, the Epiphany is, rather, the celebration of Christ's baptism at the hands of John, when the heavens were opened and a voice from heaven declared Jesus to be God's beloved Son. The miracle at Cana in Galilee, where Jesus 'first manifested his glory', follows immediately:

Manifest at Jordan's stream,
Prophet, priest and King supreme;
and at Cana wedding-guest
in thy Godhead manifest.

(Christopher Wordsworth)

This carol service begins by recalling that the Christ who was born at Christmas is the 'word made flesh' and goes on to celebrate the three manifestations of his glory associated with the visit of the Magi, his baptism in the Jordan and the wedding feast at Cana.

The Epiphany season concludes at Candlemas, the commemoration of Christ's presentation in the Temple, which we shall celebrate on Sunday 29 January.

Visitors are welcome to take photos before and after the service. Filming and photography are not permitted during the service.



Please be aware that this service is being livestreamed.

The recording will be published, transmitted or broadcast on YouTube and may be published in official University or College publications and in University or College publicity materials, including University-or College-affiliated websites and may be circulated to the press and other broadcast media and websites for publication, transmission or broadcast. If you do not wish to appear in the Livestream, please speak to the Verger.

PRELUDES

Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern BWV 739 *JS Bach (1685-1750)*

Trio 'Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern' *Karl Richter (1926-1981)*

Les mages *Olivier Messiaen (1908-92)*

Helft mir Gotts Güte preisen BWV 613 *JS Bach (1685-1750)*

Das alte Jahr vergangen ist BWV 614 *JS Bach (1685-1750)*

Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern *Samuel Scheidt (1587-1654)*

THE INCARNATION

The bell rings, the Chapel lights are dimmed and the congregation remains seated as the College Choir sings the Introit from the Ante-Chapel.

Choir *God is with us* John Tavener (1944-2013)

God is with us.

Hear ye people, even to the uttermost end of the earth.

The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light.

The people that dwell in the shadow of death,

upon them the light has shined.

For unto us a child is born!

For unto us a son is given!

And the government shall be upon his shoulder;

And his name shall be called Wonderful! Counsellor!

The mighty God, the everlasting Father, the Prince of peace.

Hear ye people, even to the uttermost end of the earth.

God is with us. Christ is born.

Orthodox Great Compline of Christmas Eve

The priest praises God for the light of the incarnation.

The prayer concludes

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
both now and for evermore.

All

Amen.

All stand to sing the processional hymn as the choirs and clergy enter the Chapel.

Tr. F. Oakeley, W. T. Brooke
and others

Composer unknown (probably 18th c.)
arranged by David Willcocks



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.*

Lo! star-led chieftains,
Magi, Christ adoring,
offer him incense, gold and myrrh;
we to the Christ Child
bring our hearts' oblations:

O come, let us adore him . . .

Child, for us sinners
poor and in a manger,
fain we embrace thee, with awe and love;
who would not love thee,
loving us so dearly?

O come, let us adore him . . .

Sing, choirs of angels,
sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;
glory to God
in the highest:

O come, let us adore him . . .

Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
born that happy morning,
Jesu, to thee be glory giv'n;
Word of the Father,
now in flesh appearing:

O come, let us adore him . . .

*Latin, 18th century
tr. Frederick Oakley (1802-80) and others*

*The priest reads the Bidding Prayer
and all say together the Lord's Prayer.*

All Our Father, who art in heaven,
 hallowed by 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 the glory,
 for ever and ever.
 Amen.

All sit.

Choir

Sleep, Jesus, sleep

Roxanna Panufnik (b. 1945)

Sleep, Jesus, sleep.
Go to sleep!
I will rock you 'til you're dreaming,
Sing to you 'til you're sleeping:
hushaby, dearest, hushaby.

Sleep, Jesus, sleep,
Sleep, my flower, sleep,
rest your head, fall deep.
Mary's arms will hold you closely,
Soothing you, she strokes you gently:
hushaby, dearest, hushaby.

Sleep, Jesus, sleep,
Open up your heart,
let me rest my soul beside you,
Here on earth and in heaven too.
Sleep, Jesus, little one:
sleep, sweetheart, sleep.

Sleep, Jesus, sleep,
Close your eyes.
Do not ask what life will do,
when a cross is made for you
Hushaby, dearest, hushaby:
sleep, Jesus, sleep.

Ukrainian traditional

This carol has been written to benefit The Refugee Council, which helps refugees of all nationalities find their feet in the UK.

THE VISIT OF THE MAGI

Reading Matthew 2.1-11
The Magi are led by the star to Jesus

Choir *The Three Kings* Peter Cornelius (1824–74)
arr. Ivor Atkins (b. 1869–1953)

Three kings from Persian lands afar
To Jordan follow the pointing star:
And this the quest of the travellers three,
Where the new-born King of the Jews may be.
Full royal gifts they bear for the King;
Gold, incense, myrrh are their offering.

The star shines out with a steadfast ray;
The kings to Bethlehem make their way,
And there in worship they bend the knee
As Mary's child in her lap they see.
Their royal gifts they show to the King;
Gold, incense, myrrh are their offering.

Thou child of man, lo, to Bethlehem
The kings are travelling; travel with them!
The star of mercy, the star of grace,
Shall lead thy heart to its resting place.
Gold, incense, myrrh thou canst not bring;
Offer thy heart to the infant King.

During the last verse the chorus sings

How brightly shines the morning star!
With grace and truth from heav'n afar
Our Jesse tree now bloweth.
Of Jacob's stem and David's line,
For thee, my Bridegroom, King divine,
My soul with love o'erfloweth.
Thy word, Jesu,
Inly feeds us,
Rightly leads us,
Life bestowing.
Praise, O praise such love o'erflowing.

chorale text by Philipp Nicolai (1556–1608)

All stand for the hymn, during which incense is brought into the Chapel, symbolising the offering of the Magi. The altar and people are censed.

THREE KINGS OF ORIENT 88 446 and refrain

J. H. Hopkins 1820-1891



Caspar, Melchior & Balthazar

We three kings of Orient are,
bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain,
following yonder star:

All ***O star of wonder, star of night,
star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding,
guide us to thy perfect light.***

Caspar Born a king on Bethlehem plain,
gold I bring to crown him again:
king for ever, ceasing never,
over us all to reign.

All ***O star of wonder, star of night . . .***

Melchior Frankincense to offer have I,
incense owns a deity nigh;
prayer and praising all men raising:
worship him, God most high.

All ***O star of wonder, star of night . . .***

Balthazar Myrrh is mine: its bitter perfume
breathes a life of gathering gloom;
sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,
sealed in a stone-cold tomb.

All ***O star of wonder, star of night . . .***

Caspar, Melchior & Balthazar

Glorious now, behold him arise,
King and God and sacrifice!
Heaven sings 'Alleluia',
'Alleluia' the earth replies.

All *O star of wonder, star of night...*

JH Hopkins (1820-91)

All sit.

Reading *Journey of the Magi*

TS Eliot (1888-1965)

Choir

Omnes de Saba

Orlande de Lassus (1530/32-94)

All they from Sheba shall come:
they shall bring gold and incense;
and they shall show forth the praises of the Lord. Alleluia.
The Kings of Tharsis and of the isles shall give Him presents;
the Kings of Arabia and Sheba shall bring gifts. Alleluia.

Isaiah 60.6; Psalm 72.10

Gradual and Offertory at Mass, the Epiphany of Our Lord

Homily

The Revd Lyndon Webb
Associate Chaplain

THE BAPTISM OF CHRIST

All stand. The congregation lights their hand-held candles and follows the choirs and clergy into the Ante-Chapel to gather round the font.

HYMN

MOSCOW 664 66 64

Adapted from a tune by F. Giardini 1716-96
in Madan's *Collection* 1769



Thou whose almighty word
chaos and darkness heard,
and took their flight;
hear us, we humbly pray,
and where the gospel day
sheds not its glorious ray,
let there be light.

Thou, who didst come to bring
on thy redeeming wing
healing and sight,
health to the sick in mind,
sight to the inly blind,
O now to all mankind
let there be light.

Spirit of truth and love,
life-giving, holy Dove,
speed forth thy flight;
move o'er the water's face,
bearing the lamp of grace,
and in earth's darkest place
let there be light.

Blessed and holy Three,
glorious Trinity,
Wisdom, Love, Might;
boundless as ocean's tide
rolling in fullest pride,
through the earth far and wide
let there be light!

John Marriott (1780-1825)

HYMN

Samuel Sebastian Wesley 1810-76

HEREFORD LM



The sinless one to Jordan came
to share our fallen nature's blame;
God's righteousness he thus fulfilled
and chose the path his Father willed.

Uprising from the waters there,
the voice from heaven did witness bear
that he, the Son of God, had come
to lead his scattered people home.

Above him, see the heavenly Dove,
the sign of God the Father's love,
now by the Holy Spirit shed
upon the Son's anointed head.

How blest that mission then begun
to heal and save a race undone;
straight to the wilderness he goes
to wrestle with his people's foes.

Dear Lord, let those baptized from sin
go forth from you, a world to win,
and send the Holy Spirit's power
to shield them in temptation's hour.

On you shall all your people feed,
and know you are the Bread indeed,
who gives eternal life to those
that with you died, and with you rose.

GB Timms (1910-97)

Reading Matthew 3.13-end
St Matthew tells of the baptism of Jesus.

Choir *The Beloved* Richard Allain (b. 1965)

Above him
The dove will linger in flight,
As the Light is bathed in water,
The water bathed in light.
And a voice will tear the heavens apart
He alone hears now within his heart:
The Father,
Well-pleased,
Whispering his delight.

Tu es Filius meus dilectus in te conplacuit mihi
You are my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased
Thomas Allain (b. 1969) and Mark 1.11

The priest pours water into the font.

All Praise God who made heaven and earth,
who keeps his promise for ever.

All Let us give thanks to the Lord our God,
It is right to give thanks and praise.

The priest praises God for the water of baptism, concluding

All For all might, majesty, dominion and power are yours,
now and for ever.
Amen.

*All join in an act of penitence and dedication.
This response is made after each petition:*

All From all our sins, O Lord;
wash us, and we shall be clean.

After the last petition, the congregation is sprinkled with water as a symbol of the baptism which unites all Christian people.

Choir

A New Year Carol

Benjamin Britten (1913–76)

Here we bring new water from the well so clear,
For to worship God with, this happy New Year.

*Sing levy-dew, sing levy-dew,
the water and the wine,
The seven bright gold wires
and the bugles that do shine.*

Sing reign of Fair Maid, with gold upon her toe,
Open you the West Door, and turn the Old Year go.

*Sing levy-dew, sing levy-dew,
the water and the wine,
The seven bright gold wires
and the bugles that do shine.*

Sing reign of Fair Maid, with gold upon her chin,
Open you the East Door, and let the New Year in.

*Sing levy-dew, sing levy-dew,
the water and the wine,
The seven bright gold wires
and the bugles that do shine.*

Walter de la Mare (1873–1956)

*The act of thanksgiving concludes with a final prayer to which
all respond*

All

Amen.

THE WEDDING FEAST

The congregation returns to their places in the Chapel. The choirs, servers, and clergy follow them.

ST EDMUND 77 77 D

Charles Steggall 1826-1905



HYMN

Songs of thankfulness and praise,
Jesu, Lord, to thee we raise,
manifested by the star
to the sages from afar;
branch of royal David's stem
in thy birth at Bethlehem:
anthems be to thee address,
God in man made manifest.

Manifest at Jordan's stream,
Prophet, Priest, and King supreme;
and at Cana wedding-guest
in thy Godhead manifest;
manifest in power divine,
changing water into wine:
anthems be to thee address,
God in man made manifest.

Manifest in making whole
palsied limbs and fainting soul;
manifest in valiant fight,
quelling all the devil's might;
manifest in gracious will,
ever bringing good from ill:
anthems be to thee address,
God in man made manifest.

Grant us grace to see thee, Lord,
mirrored in thy holy word;
may we imitate thee now,
and be pure, as pure art thou;
that we like to thee may be
at thy great Epiphany;
and may praise thee, ever blest,
God in man made manifest.

Christopher Wordsworth (1807-85)

All sit.

Reading

John 2.1-11

Jesus reveals his glory at the wedding feast.

Choir

Benedicamus Domino!

Peter Warlock (1894-1930)

A boy comes forth,
Come then, this is our time,
from the womb of a virgin,
Glory! Praise! God is made man and immortal.
Without the seed of man
Come then, this is our time,
he is born of a virgin.

Without the means of a man
Come then, this is our time,
he is born of Mary.

On this appointed feast,
Come then, this is our time,
let us bless the Lord!

Anon.

DISMISSAL

All stand and face the altar as the priest prays the Collect of the Epiphany, to which all respond

All Amen.

All The Lord be with you
and also with you.

All *The priest gives the blessing to which all respond*
Amen.

All Go in the light and peace of Christ.
Thanks be to God!

The procession leaves the Chapel as all sing the final hymn

WAS LEBET 13 10 13 10

Melody from the *Rheinhardt MS 1754*

vv. 1,5

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness!
Bow down before him, his glory proclaim;
with gold of obedience, and incense of lowliness,
kneel and adore him, the Lord is his name!

Low at his feet lay thy burden of carefulness,
high on his heart he will bear it for thee,
comfort thy sorrows, and answer thy prayerfulness,
guiding thy steps as may best for thee be.

Fear not to enter his courts in the slenderness
of the poor wealth thou wouldst reckon as thine:
truth in its beauty, and love in its tenderness,
these are the offerings to lay on his shrine.

These though we bring them
in trembling and fearfulness,
he will accept for the name that is dear;
mornings of joy give for evenings of tearfulness,
trust for our trembling and hope for our fear.

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness!
Bow down before him, his glory proclaim;
with gold of obedience, and incense of lowliness,
kneel and adore him, the Lord is his name!

JSB Monsell (1811-75)

VOLUNTARY *Dieu parmi nous* Olivier Messiaen (1908-92)

*The organ voluntary is part of the service.
Please feel free to stay in the Chapel to listen to it, if you would like to.*

*Our retiring collections this term will be given to support
Young Minds, the UK's leading charity fighting for children and young
people's mental health .*

The collection plate is in the Ante-Chapel.

SERVICES THIS WEEK

Monday

- 8.15 Morning Prayer
- 6.00 Choral Vespers

Tuesday

- 8.15 Morning Prayer
- 12.30 Eucharist *followed by lunch*
- 6.15 Choral Evensong
music by Ešenvalds & Allain

Wednesday

- 8.15 Morning Prayer
- 6.15 Choral Evensong
music by Stanford & Darke

Thursday

- 8.15 Morning Prayer
- 6.15 Choral Evensong
music by Sumsion & Elgar
- 9.45 Night Prayer

Friday

- 8.15 Morning Prayer

Appointment of Chaplain as Interim Dean of Lincoln

It was announced on Thursday that the Chaplain has been appointed Interim Dean of Lincoln. The College has agreed for Simon to be seconded to Lincoln from the end of March until Christmas 2023 to enable Simon to take up this post.

Arrangements are being put in place to cover the various aspects of Simon's role during this period.

CHAPEL NOTES

- If you haven't already received a **Chapel Card** or this term's **Chapel Services and Music booklet**, please pick one up from the table in the Ante-Chapel.
- If you would like to receive the weekly **Chapel email**, please email jennifer.crompton@merton.ox.ac.uk to be added to the email list.
- This term our popular **book group** will be reading reading *How Beautiful We Were* by Imbolo Mbue. Billed as one of the top works of fiction to come out in 2022, the novel traces the vexed relationship between a small African community and a large oil corporation as they fight for very different stakes in the land. We will meet in the **Hawkins Room from 3-4pm on Fridays in weeks 1-7**; and yes, there will be cake! For more information, and to order your free copy of the book, contact Lyndon (lyndon.webb@merton.ox.ac.uk).
- If you are interested in **reading** or **serving** in Chapel on Sundays or during the week, or assisting in chapel in any other way, please have a word with one of the Chaplains.
- If you are interested in being **baptized** and / or **confirmed** in the Chapel, please speak to one of the Chaplains.
- The Chapel can be found on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram where we post updates about everything that is happening in Chapel. Please like and follow us! **Our social media hub** can be accessed by scanning the QR code



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