



MERTON COLLEGE

The Chapel of St Mary and St John

CHORAL EUCHARIST

*The Second Sunday before Advent*

5.45pm Sunday 19 November

**Welcome** to Merton College Chapel and to this evening's service.

This term's Chapel collections will be donated to *Asylum Welcome*, a charity offering information, advice and practical support to asylum seekers, refugees and vulnerable migrants living in Oxfordshire. The collection plate is on the table as you move into the Ante-Chapel.

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. wish to appear in the Livestream, please speak to the Verger.

**PRELUDE** Fantasia Quarta *Girolamo Frescobaldi (1583-1643)*

**SETTING** Messe Sollenelle *Jean Langlais (1907-1991)*

### Services next weekend

**Saturday 5.30pm** Advent Carol Service I

**Sunday 9.00am** College Eucharist  
*followed by breakfast*

**5.30pm** Advent Carol Service II



# The Gathering

*The bell rings and all stand to sing*

WOLVERCOTE 76 76 D

William H Ferguson 1874-1950



O Jesus, I have promised  
To serve thee to the end;  
Be thou for ever near me,  
My Master and my Friend;  
I shall not fear the battle  
If thou art by my side,  
Nor wander from the pathway  
If thou wilt be my guide.

O let me hear thee speaking  
In accents clear and still,  
Above the storms of passion,  
The murmurs of self-will;  
O speak to reassure me,  
To hasten or control;  
O speak, and make me listen,  
Thou guardian of my soul.

O Jesus, thou hast promised  
To all who follow thee,  
That where thou art in glory  
There shall thy servant be;  
And, Jesus, I have promised  
To serve thee to the end;  
O give me grace to follow,  
My Master and My Friend.

O let me see thy footmarks,  
And in them plant mine own;  
My hope to follow duly  
Is in thy strength alone;  
O guide me, call me, draw me,  
Uphold me to the end;  
And then in heaven receive me,  
My Saviour and my Friend.

*John Bode (1816-74)*

## The Greeting

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

Grace, mercy and peace  
from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ  
be with you  
*All* **and also with you.**

## Prayers of Penitence

*The people remain standing as the priest introduces  
a period of silence in which all call to mind their sins.*

*All* Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
we have sinned against you  
and against our neighbour  
in thought and word and deed,  
through negligence, through weakness,  
through our own deliberate fault.  
We are truly sorry  
and repent of all our sins.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
who died for us,  
forgive us all that is past  
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life  
to the glory of your name.  
Amen.

*The priest gives the absolution,  
and all respond*

*All* Amen.

## Gloria in Excelsis

Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.

## The Collect

*The people remain standing as the priest introduces a period of silent prayer with the words 'Let us pray'.*

*The Collect is said, and all respond*  
**All Amen.**

*All sit for the reading.*

## *The Liturgy of the Word*

**First Reading**  
Zephaniah 1.7, 12-end

*At the end the reader says*

This is the word of the Lord.

*All* **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 90.1-8, 12**

*The congregation remains seated as the choir sings*

- 1 Lord, thou hast been our refuge :  
from one generation to another.
- 2 Before the mountains were brought forth,  
or ever the earth and the world were made :  
thou art God from everlasting, and world without end.
- 3 Thou turnest man to destruction :  
again thou sayest, Come again, ye children of men.
- 4 For a thousand years in thy sight are but as yesterday :  
seeing that is past as a watch in the night.
- 5 As soon as thou scatterest them they are even as a sleep :  
and fade away suddenly like the grass.
- 6 In the morning it is green, and groweth up :  
but in the evening it is cut down, dried up, and withered.
- 7 For we consume away in thy displeasure :  
and are afraid at thy wrathful indignation.
- 8 Thou hast set our misdeeds before thee :  
and our secret sins in the light of thy countenance.
- 12 So teach us to number our days :  
that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.

**Second Reading**  
1 Thessalonians 5.1-11

*At the end the reader says*

This is the word of the Lord.

*All* **Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Acclamation

*All stand to sing the Gospel Acclamation.*



Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

*All* **Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

*Choir* Speak Lord, your servant is listening,  
You have the words of eternal life.

*All* **Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

## Gospel Reading

Matthew 25.14-30

*All* The Lord be with you  
**and also with you.**

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

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

*At the end*

*All* This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The Alleluia is repeated after the Gospel.*

## Sermon

The Revd Canon Dr Victoria Johnson  
*Acting Chaplain*



*All stand and turn to face east to say together*

## The Creed

*All* 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.

## Prayers of Intercession

*The priest introduces the intercessions.*

*The people kneel or sit as prayers are offered.*

*After each petition, all respond*

Lord, hear us.

*All* **Lord, graciously hear us.**

*After the last petition, a time of silence is kept for personal prayer.*

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

## *The Liturgy of the Sacrament*

### The Peace

*All stand as the priest introduces the Peace,  
and says*

*All* The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**and also with you.**

*All may exchange a sign of peace.*

## Preparation of the Table Taking of the Bread and Wine

*A hymn is sung as the altar is prepared and the gifts of bread and wine are offered to God.*

CORVEDALE 87 87 D

Maurice Bevan (1921-2006)



There's a wideness in God's mercy  
Like the wideness of the sea;  
There's a kindness in his justice  
Which is more than liberty.  
There is no place where earth's sorrows  
Are more felt than up in heaven;  
There is no place where earth's failings  
Have such kindly judgement given.

For the love of God is broader  
Than the measure of man's mind;  
And the heart of the Eternal  
Is most wonderfully kind.  
But we make his love too narrow  
By false limits of our own;  
And we magnify his strictness  
With a zeal he will not own.

There is plentiful redemption  
 In the blood that has been shed;  
 There is joy for all the members  
 In the sorrows of the Head.  
 There is grace enough for thousands  
 Of new worlds as great as this;  
 There is room for fresh creations  
 In that upper home of bliss.

If our love were but more simple,  
 We should take him at his word;  
 And our lives would be all gladness  
 In the joy of Christ our Lord.

*F. W. Faber 1814-63*

## The Eucharistic Prayer

The\_ Lord be\_ with\_ you R. and\_ al - so\_ with\_ you.

Lift\_\_\_\_\_ up your\_ hearts.\_\_\_\_\_ R. **We lift them to\_ the Lord.**\_\_\_\_\_

Let us give thanks to the Lord\_\_\_\_\_ our God.

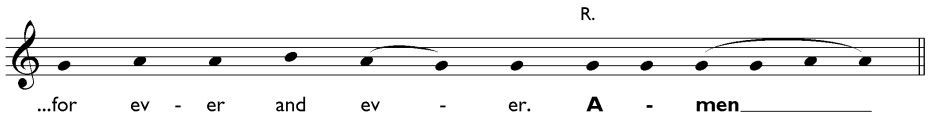
R. **It is right to give thanks\_ and praise.**\_\_\_\_\_

*The priest praises God for his mighty acts and the choir sings the Sanctus.*

*The people remain standing as the priest recalls the Last Supper.*

Great is the mystery of faith:  
*All* Christ has died:  
Christ is risen:  
Christ will come again.

*The Prayer continues and leads into the doxology*



## The Lord's Prayer

*All* Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be 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.

## Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread  
to share in the body of Christ

*All* **Though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.**

*As the consecrated bread is broken, the choir sing the Agnus Dei.*

## Giving of Communion

God's holy gifts  
for God's holy people:

*All* **Jesus Christ is holy,  
Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.**

*ALL CHRISTIANS who have been baptized and are communicants  
in their own churches are welcome to receive Holy Communion.  
Those not receiving communion are invited to come forward for  
a blessing. Please follow the directions of the stewards.*

*One of the ministers delivers the bread and cup to each  
communicant, saying*  
The body of Christ.      The blood of Christ.

*The communicant replies each time **Amen**  
and then receives.*

*During communion, the organ plays Elévation (Hommage a Frescobaldi) by Langlais. The choir sings O salutaris hostia by Eriks Ešvalds (b. 1977).*

O saving Victim! opening wide  
The gate of heaven to man below  
Our foes press hard on every side.  
Thine aid supply, Thy strength bestow.

To Thy great name be endless praise  
Immortal Godhead, One in Three;  
Oh, grant us endless length of days,  
In our true native land with Thee.  
Amen.

## Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

*All stand. The priest says the post communion prayer,  
and the people respond*

*All* **Amen.**

# The Dismissal

PRAISE, MY SOUL 87 87 87

John Goss 1800-80



Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;  
To his feet thy tribute bring.  
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,  
Who like me his praise should sing?  
Praise him! Praise him!  
Praise the everlasting King.

Praise him for his grace and favour  
To our fathers in distress;  
Praise him still the same for ever,  
Slow to chide, and swift to bless.  
Praise him! Praise him!  
Glorious in his faithfulness.

Father-like, he tends and spares us;  
Well our feeble frame he knows;  
In his hands he gently bears us,  
Rescues us from all our foes.  
Praise him! Praise him!  
Widely as his mercy flows.

Angels, help us to adore him;  
Ye behold him face to face;  
Sun and moon, bow down before him;  
Dwellers all in time and space.  
Praise him! Praise him!  
Praise with us the God of grace.

*H.F. Lyte (1793-1847)*



The Lord be with you  
*All* **and also with you.**

*The priest gives the blessing,  
and the people respond*  
*All* **Amen.**

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

**VOLUNTARY**     *Toccata (Mosaici di Ravenna)*

Francis Pott (b. 1957)

*All are invited to stay for drinks after the service.*

*This term's Chapel collections will be given to **Asylum Welcome**.  
The collection plate is in the Ante-Chapel, near the Screen.  
Please give generously.*

## SERVICES THIS WEEK

### Monday

- 8.15 Morning Prayer
- 6.00 Choral Vespers  
*music by Archer & Mendelssohn*

### Tuesday

- 8.15 Morning Prayer
- 12.30 Eucharist  
*followed by lunch*
- 6.15 Choral Evensong  
*music by Byrd & Purcell*

### Wednesday

- 8.15 Morning Prayer
- 6.15 Joint Choral Evensong  
*with Frideswide Voices with music by Dyson and Howells*

### Thursday

- 8.15 Morning Prayer
- 6.15 Choral Evensong  
*music by Dyson & MacMillan*

### Friday

- 8.15 Morning Prayer

*All the College Choir's recordings and Benjamin Nicholas' organ discs are on sale at the Porters' Lodge and on the College website ([www.merton.ox.ac.uk/chapel-choir/recordings](http://www.merton.ox.ac.uk/chapel-choir/recordings)), priced at £14. Members of College and Friends of the Choir can purchase them at a reduced price from the Verger ([jennifer.crompton@merton.ox.ac.uk](mailto:jennifer.crompton@merton.ox.ac.uk)).*

## CHAPEL NOTICES

- At **1.15pm** on **Thursday**, **Owen Chan**, Senior Organ Scholar at Merton will be performing the lunchtime organ recital. All welcome.
- 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 email [eleanor.clark@merton.ox.ac.uk](mailto:eleanor.clark@merton.ox.ac.uk) (readers) or have a word with one of the Chaplains.
- If you are interested in preparing for **baptism / confirmation**, please speak to one of the Chaplains.
- If you would like to receive the weekly **Chapel email**, please email [jennifer.crompton@merton.ox.ac.uk](mailto:jennifer.crompton@merton.ox.ac.uk) to be added to the email list.
- 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.



### CHORISTERSHIPS AND CHORAL SCHOLARSHIPS AT MERTON

If you have a daughter currently in Year 3 who enjoys singing and would like further details of Choristerships at Merton College, please contact Elizabeth Casey, the Choir Manager. by email: [girl.choristers@merton.ox.ac.uk](mailto:girl.choristers@merton.ox.ac.uk)

The Director of Music is always pleased to hear from potential choral and organ scholars for the College Choir. He can be contacted by emailing [choir@merton.ox.ac.uk](mailto:choir@merton.ox.ac.uk)

## ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS AT MERTON

- 25 November    **Advent Carol Services**  
*and*                **Sung by the Merton College Choir**  
26 November    in Merton College Chapel  
5.30pm
- 30 November    **Christmas Carol Service**  
8.30pm            Merton College Chapel
- 3 December     **A Service of Music and Readings for Advent Sunday**  
5.30pm            sung by the Girl Choristers and Lower Voices
- 9 December     **Gabriel Jackson's The Christmas Story**  
7.30pm            sung by the College Choir and Girl Choristers at  
Saint John's, Smith Square, London.  
Tickets on [www.sjss.org.uk](http://www.sjss.org.uk)
- 10 December    **Gabriel Jackson's The Christmas Story**  
7.30pm            sung by the College Choir and Girl Choristers in  
Merton College Chapel  
Tickets available on [www.ticketsoxford.com](http://www.ticketsoxford.com)
- 14 December    **Christmas Carol Service**  
6.00pm            sung by the Girl Choristers and Lower Voices

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