



Carols by Candlelight



Sunday 22nd December 2024 at 5pm

Welcome to Coventry Cathedral

We are delighted that you have been able to join us for our service of
Carols by Candlelight.

The Cathedral Choir is directed by Luke Fitzgerald, Acting Director of
Music. The organists are David Rice, Acting Assistant Director of
Music, and Amelia Parkin, Organ Scholar.

This service follows a traditional pattern of congregational carols, choir
carols and readings. The readers at this service represent different
aspects of the Cathedral's life and work.

There will be no announcements during the service, so please take a
moment to read through this booklet before the service starts.
Instructions about when to stand or sit are printed for you to follow,
but please stay seated if this is more comfortable for you.

Information about how to donate to the Cathedral is at the back of
this booklet. We greatly appreciate your generosity, which is vital to
keep the Cathedral running.

If you would like to talk to someone about the Christian faith, do ask
one of the ministers at the end of the service.

You are welcome to take photographs,
but not until after the service, please.

Before the service begins, David Rice and Amelia Parkin
will play the following organ pieces:

Variations on 'Gelobet seist du, Jesu Christ' by Georg Böhm (1661-1733)

Der Tag, der ist so fredenreich BWV 605 by J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

Christum wir sollen loben schon by Georg Böhm (1661-1733)

*The picture on the front cover is by He Qi, an artist from China.
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The choir and ministers gather in St Michael's Gallery and then process to the West Screen. During the third verse of the opening carol, the procession moves towards the Chancel. Everyone STANDS at the beginning of the third verse.

Carol

Solo: Once in royal David's city
stood a lowly cattle shed,
where a mother laid her baby
in a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little child.

Choir: He came down to earth from heaven
who is God and Lord of all,
and his shelter was a stable,
and his cradle was a stall;
with the poor and mean and lowly
lived on earth our Saviour holy.

All stand to sing: **And through all his wondrous childhood
he would honour and obey,
love and watch the lowly Maiden,
in whose gentle arms he lay:
Christian children all must be
mild, obedient, good as he.**

**For he is our childhood's pattern,
day by day like us he grew,
he was little, weak, and helpless,
tears and smiles like us he knew;
and he feeleth for our sadness,
and he shareth in our gladness.**

**And our eyes at last shall see him,
through his own redeeming love,
for that child so dear and gentle
is our Lord in heaven above;
and he leads his children on
to the place where he is gone.**

**Not in that poor lowly stable,
with the oxen standing by,
we shall see him; but in heaven,
set at God's right hand on high;
where like stars his children crowned
all in white shall wait around.**

Words by C.F. Alexander (1818-1895)

Irby H.J. Gauntlett (1805-1876)

Arr. David Willcocks (1919-2015)

Everyone remains STANDING.

Welcome and Bidding Prayer

The Very Reverend John Witcombe, Dean of Coventry, welcomes the congregation and then leads us in prayer.

Beloved in Christ,
be it this Christmastide our care and delight to hear again
the message of the angels,
and in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem
and see this thing which is come to pass,
and the Babe lying in a manger.
Therefore let us read and mark in Holy Scripture
the tale of the loving purposes of God
from the first days of our disobedience
unto the glorious redemption brought us by this Holy Child.

But first, let us pray for the needs of the whole world;
for peace on earth and goodwill among all God's people;
for unity within the church Christ came to build,
and especially in this city and Diocese of Coventry.

And because this of all things would rejoice Christ's heart,
let us remember, in his name, the poor and helpless,
the cold, the hungry and the oppressed;
the sick and them that mourn,
the lonely and the unloved,
the aged and the little children;

all those who know not the Lord Jesus,
or who love him not,
or who by sin have grieved his heart of love.

Lastly, let us remember before God
all those who rejoice with us,
but upon another shore, and in a greater light,
that multitude which no-one can number,
whose hope was in the Word made flesh,
and with whom in the Lord Jesus we are for ever one.

These prayers and praises let us humbly offer up to the throne
of heaven, in the words which Christ himself has taught us:

**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.**

Everyone SITS.

Choir Carol

In dulci jubilo let us our homage shew;
our heart's joy reclineth *in praesepio*
and like a bright star shineth *Matris in gremio*.
Alpha es et O!

O Jesu parvule! I yearn for thee alway!
Hear me, I beseech thee, *O Puer optime!*
My prayer let it reach thee, *O Princeps gloriae!*
Trahe me post te!

O Patris caritas, O Nati lenitas!
Deep were we stained *per nostra crimina*;
but thou hast for us gained *coelorum gaudia*.
O that we were there!

Ubi sunt gaudia, where, if that they be not there?
There are angels singing *Nova cantica*,
there the bells are ringing *In Regis curia*:
O that we were there!

Words translated by Robert Lucas de Pearsall (1795-1856)
Music arranged by Robert Lucas de Pearsall and Reginald Jacques (1878-1969)

First Lesson

A reading from Genesis, read by Rob Halligan, representing St Michael's Committee.

They heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, 'Where are you?' He said, 'I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.' He said, 'Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?' The man said, 'The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate.' Then the Lord God said to the woman, 'What is this that you have done?' The woman said, 'The serpent tricked me, and I ate.'

The Lord God said to the serpent, 'Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life.'

Genesis 3:8 – 14

Carol

Everyone STANDS to sing.

**All: Unto us is born a Son,
King of quires supernal:
See on earth his life begun,
Of Lords the Lord eternal,
of lords the Lord eternal.**

**Christ, from heav'n descending low,
Comes on earth a stranger;
Ox and ass their owner know,
Becradled in the manger,
becradled in the manger.**

Lower Voices: **This did Herod sore affray,
And grievously bewilder,
So he gave the word to slay,
And slew the little childer,
and slew the little childer.**

Upper Voices: **Of his love and mercy mild
This the Christmas story;
And O that Mary's gentle child
Might lead us up to glory,
might lead us up to glory!**

**All: O and A, and A and O,
Cum Cantibus in choro,
Let out merry organ go,
Benedicamus Domino,
benedicamus Domino.**

*Words translated by G. R. Woodward
Tune from Piae Cantiones, 1582
Arr. David Willcocks (1919-2015)*

Second Lesson

Everyone SITS for a reading from Isaiah, read by Gaurav Shah, Leader of the Phoenix Club.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness - on them light has shined.

For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Isaiah 9:2, 6 – 7

Choir Carol

Ô toute belle Vierge Marie,
Votre âme trouve en Dieu le parfait
amour
Il vous revêt du manteau de la Grâce
comme une fiancée
Parée de ses bijoux.

Alléluia, alléluia. Je vais chanter ta
louange, Seigneur,
Car tu as pris soin de moi,
Car tu m'as enveloppée du voile de
l'innocence,

Vous êtes née avant les collines
Ô sagesse de Dieu, porte du Salut
Heureux celui qui marche dans vos
traces
Qui apprête son cœur à la voix de
vos conseils.

Alléluia, alléluia. Je vais chanter ta
louange, Seigneur,

Car tu m'as faite avant le jour,
Car tu m'as fait précéder le
jaillissement des sources.

Avant les astres vous étiez présente
Mère du Créateur au profond du ciel.
Quand Dieu fixait les limites du
monde
Vous partagiez son cœur étant à
l'œuvre avec lui.

O beautiful Virgin Mary,
in God your soul discovers perfect
love.
It cloaks you with the mantle of Grace
like a betrothed
adorned with her jewels.

Alleluia, alleluia. I will sing your praise,
Lord,
for you have looked after me,
for you have covered me with the veil
of innocence,

You were born before the hills,
O wisdom of God, the way to
salvation.
Happy is he who walks in your
footsteps,
who prepares his heart to listen to
your advice.

Alleluia, alleluia. I will sing your praise,
Lord,

for you have made me before the day,
for you have made me go before the
gushing of fountains.

You were present before the stars,
Mother of the Creator, in the very
depths of heaven.
When God was creating the world,
working with Him you shared His
heart.

*Words by Roland Bouhéret (1930-1995)
Music by Pierre Villette (1926-1998)*

Third Lesson

A reading from Isaiah, read by Elyonnah Kiruthi, Head Chorister.

A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

Isaiah 11:1 – 9

Everyone STANDS to sing.

**O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by:
yet in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting Light;
the hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.**

**O morning stars, together
proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the King,
and peace to men on earth.
For Christ is born of Mary;
and, gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wondering love.**

**How silently, how silently,
the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts
the blessings of his heaven.
No ear may hear his coming;
but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him, still
the dear Christ enters in.**

**O holy Child of Bethlehem,
descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin, and enter in:
be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
the great glad tidings tell:
O come to us, abide with us,
our Lord Emmanuel.**

*Words by Phillips Brooks (1835-1893)
Forest Green Arr. David Willcocks (1919-2015)*

Fourth Lesson

Everyone SITS. A reading from Luke, read by Sandra Brownbridge, Cathedral Day Chaplain.

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.' But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.'

Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I am a virgin?' The angel said to her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.' Then Mary said, 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.' Then the angel departed from her.

Luke 1:26 – 38

Choir Carol

On Christmas night all Christians sing,
to hear the news the angels bring,
news of great joy, news of great mirth,
news of our merciful King's birth.

Then why should men on earth be so sad,
since our Redeemer made us glad,
when from our sin he set us free,
all for to gain our liberty?

When sin departs before his grace,
then life and health come in its place.
Angels and men with joy may sing,
all for to see the new-born King.

All out of darkness we have light,
which made the angels sing this night:
'Glory to God and peace to men,
now and for evermore. Amen.'

*Traditional Carol
Arr. Philip Ledger (1937-2012)*

Fifth Lesson

A reading from Matthew, read by the Reverend Su McClellan, Cathedral Associate Minister.

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.' All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

'Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel',

which means, 'God is with us.'

Matthew 1:18 – 23

Everyone STANDS to sing.

**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 to the earth be peace;
goodwill henceforth from heav'n to men
begin and never cease.'**

Words by Nahum Tate (1652-1715)

Tune CP 76 Winchester Old Thomas Este's Psalter 1592

Descant by Alan Gray (1855-1935)

Sixth Lesson

Everyone SITS. A reading from Luke, read by the Reverend Nitano Muller, Canon for Worship and Welcome.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see – I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.' And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

'Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favours!'

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

Luke 2:8 – 16

Choir Carol

God rest you merry, gentlemen,
Let nothing you dismay,
For Jesus Christ our Saviour
Was born upon this day,
To save us all from Satan's power
When we were gone astray:
O tidings of comfort and joy.

From God our heavenly Father
A blessed angel came,
And unto certain shepherds
Brought tidings of the same,
How that in Bethlehem was born
The Son of God by name:
O tidings of comfort and joy.

The shepherds at those tidings
Rejoiced much in mind,
And left their flocks a-feeding
In tempest, storm and wind,
And went to Bethlehem straightway,
This blessed Babe to find:
O tidings of comfort and joy.

But when to Bethlehem they came,
Whereat this Infant lay,
They found Him in a manger,
Where oxen feed on hay;
His mother Mary kneeling,
Unto the Lord did pray:
O tidings of comfort and joy.

Now to the Lord sing praises,
All you within this place,
And with true love and brotherhood
Each other now embrace;
This holy tide of Christmas
All other doth deface:
O tidings of comfort and joy.

Words by Anonymous

16 *Arranged by David Willcocks (1919-2015)*

Seventh Lesson

A reading from Matthew, read by the Reverend Mary Gregory, Canon for Arts and Reconciliation.

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, ‘Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.’ When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born.

They told him, ‘In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: “And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.” ’

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, ‘Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.’ When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Matthew 2:1 – 12

Everyone STANDS to sing.

**It came upon the midnight clear,
that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth
to touch their harps of gold:
'Peace on the earth, good will to all,
from heaven's all-gracious King!'
The world in solemn stillness lay
to hear the angels sing.**

**Still through the cloven skies they come,
with peaceful wings unfurled;
and still their heavenly music floats
o'er all the weary world:
above its sad and lowly plains
they bend on hovering wing;
and ever o'er its Babel-sounds
the blessed angels sing.**

**Yet with the woes of sin and strife
the world has suffered long;
beneath the angel-strain have rolled
two thousand years of wrong;
and man, at war with man, hears not
the love-song which they bring:
O hush the noise, ye men of strife,
and hear the angels sing.**

**For lo, the days are hastening on,
by prophet-bards foretold,
when, with the ever-circling years,
comes round the age of gold;
when peace shall over all the earth
its ancient splendours fling,
and the whole world give back the song
which now the angels sing.**

*Words by E.H. Sears (1810-1876) Noel English Traditional Melody,
Adapted by Arthur Sullivan (1842-1900); Arr. David Willcocks (1919-2015)*

Eighth Lesson

Everyone remains STANDING. A reading from John, read by the Very Reverend John Witcombe, Dean of Coventry.

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.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

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.

John 1:1 – 14

Carol

**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:**

**See how the shepherds, summoned to his cradle,
leaving their flocks draw nigh with lowly fear;
we too will thither bend our joyful footsteps:**

**Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above:
glory to God in the highest:**

*Words from 18th century Latin
translated by Frederick Oakeley (1802-1880) and others
Adeste Fideles probably by J.F. Wade (1711-1786)
Arr. David Willcocks (1919-2015)*

Address

The preacher, the Very Reverend John Witcombe, Dean, prays and then we SIT. Following the address, we hold a time of silence.

Choir Carol

O n'ihì n'amuworo ayi otu nwa,
Otu nwa nwoke ka e nyewor'ayi
Chinekenke bu dike,
Nnanke bu nna mgbe nile

*For unto us a child is born,
Unto us a son is given,
The mighty God, Prince of Peace,
The Father everlasting.*

*Paraphrased from Isaiah 9:6
By Christian Onyeji (b. 1967)*

Collect

Canon Nitano Muller prays,

Almighty God, you make us glad with the yearly remembrance
of the birth of your son Jesus Christ:
grant that, as we joyfully receive him as our redeemer,
so we may with sure confidence behold him
when he shall come to be our judge;
who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

Carol

Everyone STANDS to sing.

**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 the angelic host proclaim,
“Christ is born in Bethlehem.”**

*Hark, the herald angels sing
glory to the new born King.*

**Christ, by highest heaven adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come,
offspring of a Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see:
hail, the incarnate Deity,
pleased as Man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.**

***Hark, the herald angels sing
glory to the new born King.***

**Hail, the heaven born Prince of Peace,
hail, the sun of Righteousness.
Light and life to all he brings,
risen 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.***

*Charles Wesley (1707-1788) and others
Mendelssohn by F. Mendelssohn-Bartholdy (1809-1847)*

The Blessing

From the High Altar, the Dean prays,

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 upon you and remain with you always.
Amen.

*The ministers and clergy process to the West Screen and the choir processes
to St Michael's Hall via the North Choir Aisle.*

Organ Voluntary

Please do stay for our organ voluntaries, performed today by David Rice.

In Dulci Jubilo BWV 729 by J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

Allabreve in D BWV 589 by J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

If you would like to make a one-off donation to the Cathedral via your phone, or set up a recurring donation, please use the QR code below. There are also contactless donation points and collection boxes near the entrance. Thank you for your support.



JOINING OUR CHOIRS

Boys and girls between the ages of 7 and 11 are welcome to audition for our Cathedral Choir. Do you know a child who loves to sing? There are many benefits to joining the choir – new friends, a free, world-class music education, choir pay, singing services and at special events in amazing places, choir tours, broadcasts, recordings and social events too. If you or someone you know might be interested in joining the choir, please be in touch with the Acting Director of Music to arrange a meeting.

luke.fitzgerald@coventrycathedral.org.uk

Safeguarding at Coventry Cathedral

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You can report a concern using the same link or by contacting Jane Williams, Cathedral Safeguarding Officer, calling 024 7650 2349 or by emailing JaneMLWill@aol.com

Alternatively, you can contact the Diocesan Safeguarding Team led by Sarah Price: 024 7652 1345 or safeguarding@coventry.anglican.org

THE SEASON OF ADVENT

La Nativité du Seigneur

Monday 23rd December, 5pm

Coventry Cathedral presents one of the greatest organ works of all time, Olivier Messiaen's festive masterpiece La Nativité du Seigneur.

Composed in 1935, this piece is perfectly suited to the French-influenced colours of Coventry Cathedral's Harrison Organ and depicts imaginative tableaux from the nativity story.

Carols for Families

Tuesday 24th December, 2:30 – 3:30pm

A fun, interactive retelling of the Christmas story with singalong carols. A lighter take on Christmas, everyone is welcome! Children might like to come dressed as a character from the nativity. Adults might want to wear their jazziest Christmas jumper!

Form of a Servant

Tuesday 24th December, 7pm

A service unique to Coventry Cathedral, The Form of a Servant explores why Jesus was born; how He was born to serve and to save humanity. This candlelit service is full of beautiful music, powerful readings and profound symbolism.

The Eucharist for Christmas Day

Wednesday 25th December, 10:30am

A traditional Christmas morning service. Join us as we give thanks for the birth of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Whether you're a regular member of our congregation or you're just looking for a place to celebrate, you're welcome here. Come and celebrate with us!