



A Service of Nine Lessons and Carols



Following the Dean's welcome the congregation stand so that all are silent when the hymn starts. All join in singing the last four verses.

Processional Carol – Once in Royal David's city

1. - 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.

2. - Choir only

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.

3. - All

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.

4.

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.

5.

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.

6.

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;
When like stars his children
crowned
All in white shall wait around.

Words: C.F. Alexander

Music: J. Gauntlett arr D.Willcocks

We remain standing for the bidding prayer:

Beloved in Christ, at this Christmas-tide let it be our delight to hear again the message of the angels; in heart and mind to go to Bethlehem and see this thing which is come to pass, and the Baby, lying in a manger.

Let us read and understand from Holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God from the first days of our disobedience until the wonderful Redemption brought to us by this Holy Child.

But first let us pray for the needs of his whole world; for peace and goodwill over all the earth; for unity within the Church Jesus came to build, and especially in this our Diocese of Waiapu.

And let us also at this time remember before God the poor and the helpless, the cold, the hungry and the oppressed; the sick in body, and in mind and those that mourn; the lonely and the unloved; the aged and the young; all who do not know the Lord Jesus, or who do not love him, 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 one for evermore.

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

ALL

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the Kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

All sit

First Lesson *Genesis 3: 8 - 15*

God Announces in the Garden of Eden that the seed of woman shall bruise the serpent's head.

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. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel.

Thanks be to God.

Choir Carol – Adam Lay y-bounden

Adam lay y-bounden.
Bounden in a bond.
Four thousand winters,
Thought he not too long.

Ne had the apple taken been.
The apple taken been.
Ne had never our lady,
A-been heavené queen.

And all was for an apple.
An apple that he took.
As clerkes finden,
Written in their book.

Blessed be the time.
That apple taken was.
Therefore, we moun singen,
Deo gracias.

Words: anon

Music: B. Ord

Second Lesson Genesis 22: 15 – 18

God promises to faithful Abraham that in his seed shall the nations of the earth be blessed.

The angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven, and said, 'By myself I have sworn, says the Lord: Because you have done this, and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will indeed bless you, and I will make your offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of their enemies, and by your offspring shall all the nations of the earth gain blessing for themselves, because you have obeyed my voice.'

Thanks be to God.

All stand

Congregational Carol – *Of the Father's heart begotten*

**1. Of the Father's heart begotten
ere the world from chaos rose,
he is Alpha: from that Fountain,
all that is and hath been flows;
he is Omega, of all things
yet to come the mystic Close,
evermore and evermore.**

**2. By his word was all created;
he commanded and 'twas done;
earth and sky and boundless ocean,
universe of three in one,
all that sees the moon's soft
radiance,
all that breathes beneath the sun,
evermore and evermore.**

**3. O how blest that wondrous
birthday,
when the Maid the curse retrieved,
brought to birth mankind's salvation,
by the Holy Ghost conceived,
and the Babe, the world's Redeemer,
in her loving arms received,
evermore and evermore.**

**4. Sing, ye heights of heaven,
his praises;
Angels and Archangels, sing!
wheresoe'er ye be, ye faithful,
let your joyous anthems ring,
every tongue his name confessing,
countless voices answering,
evermore and evermore.**

Words: tr R.F. Davis

Music: Trad arr D. Willcocks

All sit

Third Lesson *Isaiah 9: 2, 6 - 7*

Christ's birth and kingdom are foretold by Isaiah

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 onwards and for evermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Thanks be to God.

Choir Carol – *Sussex Carol*

1. 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

2. Then why should men
on Earth be sad?
Since our Redeemer made us glad,
When from our sin He set us free,
All for to gain our liberty?

3. 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 newborn King

4. All out of darkness we have light,
Which made the angels sing this night:
Glory to God and peace to men,
Now and forever more. Amen

Words: trad.

Music: Bob Chilcott

Fourth Lesson *Isaiah 11: 1-3a, 4 - 9*

The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown.

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. With righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth.

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.

Thanks be to God.

Choir Carol – *In Dulci Jubilo*

1. 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!

2. O Jesu parvule,
I yearn for Thee alway!
Hear me, I beseech Thee,
O puer optime;
My praying let it reach Thee,
O princeps gloriae.
Trahe me post te.

3. O patris caritas! O Nati lenitas!
Deeply were we stained.
Per nostra crimina:
But Thou for us hast gained,
Coelorum gaudia,
O that we were there!

4. Ubi sunt gaudia, where,
If that they be not there?
There are Angels singing, Nova cantica;
And there the bells are ringing,
In Regis curia.
O that we were there!

Words: trad

Music: R.L. Pearsall arr Rutter

Fifth Lesson *St Luke 1: 26 – 38*

The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.

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.

Thanks be to God.

All stand

Congregational Carol – Angels from the realms of glory

**1. Angels from the realms of glory,
wing your flight o'er all the earth;
ye who sang creation's story
now proclaim Messiah's birth:
Gloria in excelsis Deo,
*Gloria in excelsis Deo.***

2. Shepherds, in the field abiding,
watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing;
yonder shines the infant light:
Gloria in excelsis Deo,
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

3. Sages, leave your contemplations,
brighter visions beam afar;
seek the great Desire of nations;
ye have seen his natal star:
Gloria in excelsis Deo,
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Words: J. Montgomery

Music: Trad French arr R. Jacques

All sit

Sixth Lesson St Matthew 1: 18 – 23

Joseph is obedient to the angelic message.

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.'

Thanks be to God.

Choir Carol – What Sweeter Music

What sweeter music can we bring
Than a carol for to sing
The birth of this our Heavenly King?
Awake the voice, awake the string.

We see him come, and know him ours
Who with his sunshine and his showers
Turns all the patient ground to flowers,
Turns all the patient ground to flowers.

Dark and dull night, fly hence away
And give the honor to this day
That sees December turned to May,
That sees December turned to May.

Why does the chilling winter's mourn
Smile, like a field beset with corn?
Or smell like a meadow newly-shorn,
Thus, on the sudden? Come and see
The 'cause,
why things thus fragrant be,
It is He is born, whose quickening birth
Gives life and luster, public mirth
To Heaven, and the under-Earth.

The darling of the world is come
And fit it is, we find a room
To welcome him, to welcome him,
The nobler part of all the house here is
the heart

Which we will give him, and bequeath
This holy and this ivy wreath
To do him honour, who's our King
And Lord of all this revelling.

What sweeter music can we bring
Than a carol for to sing
The birth of this our Heavenly King?
Of this our Heavenly King, our King.

Words: R. Herrick

Music: J. Rutter

Seventh Lesson *St Luke 2: 8 – 18*

The shepherds go to the manger.

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. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them.

Thanks be to God.

All stand

Congregational Carol – *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

1. 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.

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

Words: +P. Brooks

3. How silently, how silently,
the wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts
the blessings of His heav'n.
No ear may hear His coming,
but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will
receive Him still,
the dear Christ enters in.

4. 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!

Music: arr R.V. Williams
Descant: T. Armstrong

All sit

Eighth Lesson *St Matthew 2: 1 – 12*

The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.

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.

Thanks be to God.

Choir Carol – Here is the little door

Here is the little door,
lift up the latch, oh lift!
We need not wander more,
but enter with our gift;
Our gift of finest gold.
Gold that was never bought or sold;
Myrrh to be strewn about his bed;
Incense in clouds about His head;
All for the child that stirs not
in His sleep,
But holy slumber holds
with ass and sheep.

Bend low about His bed,
For each He has a gift;
See how His eyes awake,
Lift up your hands, O lift!
For gold, He gives
a keen-edged sword.
(Defend with it thy little Lord!)
For incense, smoke of battle red,
Myrrh for the honoured happy dead;
Gifts for His children,
terrible and sweet;
Touched by such tiny hands,
and Oh! such tiny feet.

Words: F. Chesterton

Music: H. Howells

All stand

Ninth Lesson John 1: 1 – 14

St John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.

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.

Thanks be to God.

All sit

Choir Carol – Tomorrow shall be my dancing day

1. 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;

3. 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.

*Sing, oh! my love, oh! my love,
my love, my love,
This have I done for my true love.*

2. 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.

4. Then afterwards baptized I was;
The Holy Ghost on me did glance,
My Father's voice heard from above,
To call my true love to my dance.

Words: Trad.

Music: J. Gardner

All stand

Congregational carol - O come all ye faithful

**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;
O come, let us adore Him;
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ, the Lord!***

3 Child, for us sinners,
poor and in the manger,
We would embrace Thee
with lo-ve and awe;
Who would not love Thee,
Loving us so dearly?

*O come, let us adore Him;
O come, let us adore Him;
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ, the Lord!*

Words: tr F. Oakley &
W. T. Brooke

4 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;
O come, let us adore Him;
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ, the Lord!*

Music: 18th C arr D. Willcocks
Descant: D. Willcocks

Collects and Blessing

We remain standing

Dean The Lord be with you.

All **And with thy spirit.**

Dean Let us pray.

O God, who makes us glad with the yearly celebration of the birth of your only son, Jesus Christ: grant that as we joyfully receive him as our redeemer, so we may with confidence look to him, when he comes to be our judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end.

All **Amen.**

Dean

Christ, who by his incarnation gathered into one, all things earthly and heavenly, fill you with peace and goodwill, and make you partakers of the divine nature; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be amongst you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

Recessional Carol – *Hark! the Herald Angels Sing*

**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 the angelic host proclaim,
Christ is born in Bethlehem.
Hark! the herald-angels sing
Glory to the new-born King.**

**2. 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.**

**3. 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.**

Words: C. Wesley, T. Whitefield,
M. Madan

Music: Mendelssohn arr D. Willcocks
Descant: D. Willcocks

Organ Voluntary – *In Dulci Jubilo* – J.S. Bach



Collection: you are cordially invited to consider a retiring offertory as you leave the Cathedral. We have the provision for cash and EFTPOS.

Cathedral Upcoming Christmas Events

Saturday 21 Dec	7.00pm	Christmas Gala Concert
Tuesday 24 Dec	6.00pm	All Age Christmas Play for families
Tuesday 24 Dec	11.00pm	Midnight Mass Service
Wednesday 25 Dec	8.00am	Christmas Day Service with Carols
Wednesday 25 Dec	10.00am	Christmas Day Choral Service
Wednesday 25 Dec	9.00am	Christmas Day Family Service at Ormond Chapel, Napier Terrace

Services continue every Sunday of the year at 8am and 10am.
Check our website for other services and events (napiercathedral.org.nz), and
subscribe to our weekly email by
contacting Charlene on admin.cathedral@waiapu.com



Waiapu Cathedral & Octavius
present

A Gala Christmas Concert

**with special guests,
Hawke's Brass Quintet
& the Waiapu Cathedral Choir**

7 pm, Saturday Dec 21
Waiapu Cathedral
Browning Street, Napier

Adults \$25, concession \$20
Cash or eftpos at the door
Children: free entry

www.facebook.com/octaviusnzchoir

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Cathedral Website www.napiercathedral.org.nz

The Cathedral is usually open by 9am every day.

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