

Cardinal Hume
Centre
Turning Lives Around

Etcetera

The Civil Service Choir

at Christmas

*In association with
Christians in Government*



Tuesday 18th December

Traditional carol service

Admission free

Retiring Charity collection

St Stephen's, Rochester Row

Welcome to this Carol Service, a celebration of Christmas in words and music, given by Etcetera – The Civil Service Choir in association with Christians in Government.

This is the twenty-seventh staff Carol Service to be held at St Stephen's, Rochester Row, and we express our gratitude to the Reverend Graham Buckle for allowing us to use this beautiful church once again.

Etcetera – The Civil Service Choir has singers drawn from almost all government departments and agencies in Westminster. Today's service is the choir's 100th performance since its first concert here in St Stephen's in November 2009. At full strength the choir boasts over 140 members and performs with orchestra. It regularly gives concerts here at St Stephen's and in Holy Week gives a concert at St John's Smith Square.

Through its concerts the choir has raised over £32,000 for charities.

Visit www.civilservicechoir.org.uk to find out more.

The choir is conducted by Stephen Hall OBE and accompanied by Alan Bowden.

The Christian networks offer a warm welcome to Christians and those interested to find out more about what it means to be a Christian. christiansingovernment.org.uk/

CIG: Aidan Mews info@christiansingovernment.org.uk

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To mark this 100th performance, if there is time at the end of the service, the choir will perform more music. If you need to leave at this point, you are welcome to do so.

There will be a retiring collection for the Cardinal Hume Centre and St Stephen's Parish.

PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY

Choir introit: Please remain seated. **Sir Christèmas (William Matthias)**

Welcome from the Reverend Graham Buckle, Vicar of St Stephen's

Congregational carol:

Solo:

*Once in Royal David's city
Stood lowly cattle shed.
Where a mother laid her baby
In a manger for His bed.
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ that little child.*

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.*

Please stand:

All: 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.

All: 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.

Please sit.

Reading: *The birth of Jesus* St Luke Chapter 2

AND it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Cæsar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. And all went to be taxed, everyone into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judæa, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) to be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Choir: For unto us a child is born (George Frideric Handel)

Reading: *The shepherds go to the manger.* St Luke Chapter 2

AND there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, 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, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

All: Thanks be to God

Congregational carol. Please stand

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,” he said,
For mighty dread
Had seized their troubled minds
“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
The Saviour who is Christ the Lord
And this shall be the sign.”

“The heavenly Babe
You there shall find
To human view displayed
And 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 heaven to men
Begin and never cease!”

Please sit.

Choir: Coventry Carol (arr. Martin Shaw)

Congregational Carol. Please stand.

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, goodwill to men
From heavens 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.

For lo! the days are hastening on,
By prophets seen of old,
When with the ever-circling years
Shall come the time foretold,
When the new heaven and earth shall own
The Prince of Peace, their King,
And the whole world send back the song
Which now the angels sing.

Please remain standing.

Reading: St John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation. St John Chapter 1
IN the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not anything made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the light, that all men through him might believe. He was not that light but was sent to bear witness of that light. That was the true light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Please sit

Choir: Tomorrow shall be my dancing day (Willocks)

Address: The Reverend Graham Buckle

Congregational Carol. Please stand.

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:

Chorus: *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:
Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of Heaven above!
Glory to God
In the highest:

Choir: Sussex Carol (arr Ian Crawford)

Prayers and the Lord's Prayer

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. 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.

Please remain standing for the Blessing

Congregational carol. Please stand.

Hark the Herald angels sing "Glory to the new born King, peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies; with th' 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 th' 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 us second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the new born King!"



Our principal charity is the **Cardinal Hume Centre** – turning lives around to overcome poverty and homelessness – which provides remarkable support to young and other vulnerable people just a short walk from St Stephen’s.

www.cardinalhumecentre.org.uk

**We are also proud to support the work of St Stephen’s Church in the parish
and for the upkeep of this special building.**

Our next public performance will be:

Tuesday 16 April 2019, 1.05pm

Ein Deutsches Stabat Mater

Schubert: Stabat Mater in G minor D175

Schubert: Stabat Mater in F minor D383

Holy Week Festival

St John's Smith Square

www.sjss.org.uk

Visit the Box Office for free tickets

www.civilservicechoir.org.uk

Twitter: [@EtceteraChoir](https://twitter.com/EtceteraChoir)

Facebook: [/etcetera choir](https://facebook.com/etcetera choir)

We are also on YouTube

Email: etcetera@civilservicechoir.org.uk

Patron: Clare Moriarty CB, Permanent Secretary of Defra