

**THE
BRITAIN-AUSTRALIA
SOCIETY**

Christmas Carol Service



*Tuesday 13th December 2016
at 1.00pm*

*The Choir of St Mary-le-Bow
directed by Alan Wilson*

*The St Paul's Cathedral School Bread Street Choir,
by kind permission of the Headmaster,
directed by Miss C.J. Arbuthnott MA MPhil PGCE*

*with thanks for support from
the Commonwealth Bank of Australia*



Large-print orders of service are available at the door

An infrared system is in place to assist those with impaired hearing:
please ask the Verger

Assisted access is available at the west porch from the Churchyard

All Stand
HYMN

solo:

1. 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.

all:

2. 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. 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.
4. 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.

*Tune 'Irby' by H.J. Gauntlett (1805–76), revised A.H. Mann (1850–1929)
and New English Hymnal editors, words by Mrs C.F. Alexander (1818–95)*

Remain standing
THE BIDDING

The Revd George Bush, Rector, Chaplain of the Society

All join in saying
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.

All sit
THE BREAD STREET CHOIR

'Adam lay y-bounden'
English 15th-century words sung to a traditional French melody

Remain seated

READING

'The Coming' by R.S. Thomas (1913–2000)
read by Mr Dale Eaton, National Director, Britain-Australia Society

And God held in his hand	On a bare
A small globe. Look, he said.	Hill a bare tree saddened
The son looked. Far off,	The sky. Many people
As through water, he saw	Held out their thin arms
A scorched land of fierce	To it, as though waiting
Colour. The light burned	For a vanished April
There; crusted buildings	To return to its crossed
Cast their shadows; a bright	Boughs. The son watched
Serpent, a river	Them. Let me go there, he said.
Uncoiled itself, radiant	
With slime.	

Remain seated
THE BREAD STREET CHOIR

'Carol of the Bells' words by Peter Wilhousky (1902–78),
music by Mykola Leontovych (1877–1921), based on a Ukrainian folk chant

All stand

HYMN

1. 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 men,
From heaven's all gracious King.'
The world in solemn stillness lay
To hear the angels sing.

2. 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 blessèd angels sing.

3. 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!

4. 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.

*Tune 'Noel' a traditional English melody adapted by Sir Arthur Sullivan (1842–1900)
Words by Edmund Sears (1810–76)*

All sit

READING

Philippians 2: 5–11

read by Ms Katie Keith, Relationship Manager

International Premier Banking – Europe, Commonwealth Bank of Australia

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death – even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Remain seated

CHOIR CAROL

‘The turning point of time’

words by Neil Quintrell, music by Douglas Simper, both celebrated Australian hymn writers. The poignant words speak of Jesus ‘born in all simplicity, at the turning point of time’.

READING

‘The wise men’ by Sydney Godolphin (1645–1712)

read by Mr David Watson, Senior Trade & Investment Commissioner, Austrade

Lord, when the wise men came from far,	Wise men in tracing nature’s laws,
Led to thy cradle by a star,	Ascend unto the highest cause,
Then did the shepherds too rejoice,	Shepherds with humble fearfulness
Instructed by thy angel’s voice.	Walk safely, though their light be less.
Blest were the wise men in their skill	Though wise men better know the way,
And shepherds in their harmless will.	It seems no honest heart can stray.

There is no merit in the wise
But love, the shepherds’ sacrifice.
Wise men all ways of knowledge passed,
To the shepherds’ wonder come at last.
To know, can only wonder breed,
And not to know is wonder’s seed.

Remain seated
CHOIR CAROL
'He is born'
an Australian carol by Colin Brumby (b. 1933)

READING
Luke 2: 1-20
read by Mr James Mraz, Deputy Agent General for South Australia

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 enquired 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.

Remain seated
CHOIR CAROL
'Carol of the birds'
an Australian carol by J.H. Wheeler and W.G. James

All stand
HYMN

1. WHILE shepherds watched their flocks by night,
All seated on the ground,
The angel of the Lord came down,
And glory shone around.
2. 'Fear not,' said he, for mighty dread
Had seized their troubled mind;
'Glad tidings of great joy I bring
To you and all mankind.
3. '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:
4. 'The heavenly Babe you there shall find
To human view displayed,
All meanly wrapped in swathing bands,
And in a manger laid.'
5. Thus spake the seraph, and forthwith
Appeared a shining throng
Of angels praising God, who thus
Addressed their joyful song:
6. 'All glory be to God on high
And on the earth be peace;
Good will henceforth from heaven to men
Begin and never cease.'

*Words by Nahum Tate (1652–1715) Tune 'Winchester Old' first published in Thomas Este's
Whole Book of Psalmes (1592), arr. William Henry Monk (1823–89)*

All sit
READING

'Incarnation' chorus from 'The Rock' by T.S. Eliot (1888–1965)
read by Miss Catherine Bowl,
Member of the Britain-Australia Society since 1981

Then came, at a predetermined moment,
a moment in time and of time,
A moment not out of time, but in time,
in what we call history:
transecting, bisecting the world of time,
a moment in time but not like a moment of time,
A moment in time but time was made through that moment:
for without the meaning there is no time,
and that moment of time gave the meaning.
Then it seemed as if men must proceed from light to light,
in the light of the Word,
Through the Passion and Sacrifice
saved in spite of their negative being;
Bestial as always before,
carnal, self-seeking as always before,
selfish and purblind as ever before,
Yet always struggling, always reaffirming,
always resuming their march on the way that was lit by the light;
Often halting, loitering, straying, delaying, returning,
yet following no other way.

CHOIR CAROL

'The north wind is tossing the leaves'
by J.H. Wheeler and W.G. James

Remain seated

READING

John 1: 1-14

*read by His Excellency the Hon. Alexander Downer AC,
Australian High Commissioner to the United Kingdom*

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.

Remain seated

THE HOMILY

The Revd George Bush, Rector

All stand

HYMN

During the hymn, a collection is taken for the Britain-Australia Society, to defray the costs of the service, and to support the Britain-Australia trusts.

Those who pay income or capital gains tax in the UK are invited to complete the Gift Aid envelope provided with name and postcode.

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,
Fain we embrace thee, with awe and love;
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!*
4. Sing, choirs of Angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven 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!*

Remain standing
THE BLESSING

Remain standing as the priest departs

POSTLUDE

Fantasia on 'Vom Himmel hoch'
by Alan Wilson (b. 1947)

Please join the Britain-Australia Society
for refreshments at the back of the church

The Rector and people of St Mary-le-Bow
join in wishing all Australians in London
a very Happy Christmas

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

– *all welcome* –

THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

Friday 6th January 2016 at 1.05pm
High Mass

THE ADMIRAL ARTHUR PHILLIP COMMEMORATION

Monday 23rd January 2016 at 11.30am

*Phillip was born in the City of London and a bust in St Mary-le-Bow
commemorates his achievements as first Governor of New South Wales
and the founder of the new Nation of Australia.*

*Everyone is welcome to attend the service; a limited number of tickets to the
luncheon that follows (£75) may be ordered from britain-australia.org.uk/events*

THE BOYLE LECTURE

Wednesday 29th March 2017 at 6.00pm

Professor Robert J. Russell

– all welcome, seating limited and unreserved –

Further details are available here:

www.stmarylebow.co.uk/boyle-lecture

St Mary-le-Bow

Cheapside EC2V 6AU

Rector: The Revd George Bush

020 7248 5139

info@stmarylebow.co.uk

www.stmarylebow.co.uk

www.twitter.com/BowBellsChurch

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Our altar wine is Fairtrade