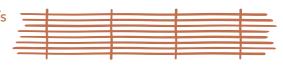


Choral Holy Eucharist **The First Sunday after Christmas** 31 December 2023 at 11.00am



Cadeirlan Deiniol Sant ym Mangor Saint Deiniol's Cathedral in Bangor



Welcome to Saint Deiniol's Cathedral in Bangor.



You stand now where Deiniol stood almost a millennium and a half ago.

Here, in the year 525, he gathered around him a community of faith, hope and love, and raised around it a hazel fence– the original **bangor**–for shelter and sanctuary.

Our prayer is that you, too, will be embraced here by the same faith, hope and love that we proclaim and live by today.

At this Eucharist...

At this Eucharist we will meet Christ in bread and wine, which become for us his Body and his Blood.

As we gather, we will prepare ourselves to meet Christ by confessing our sins – the ways in which we have grieved God in our lives – and receive absolution, the knowledge of God's forgiveness.

We then listen to readings from the Bible, where we find guidance, challenge, comfort and good news from God. We respond by proclaiming our faith in the Holy Trinity and offering to God our prayer for all in need.

At the heart of our worship today, we will take bread and wine, we will ask for God's transfiguring blessing upon them, we break the bread, and – as the broken, mended Body of Christ that we ourselves are – we will make our Communion.

Our worship ends with the assurance of God's blessing, sustaining us as we depart.

No matter how long ago you last did so, you are welcome to make your Communion with us here today. If you would like to make your Communion for the first time, or to be Baptised, please speak to a member of the Cathedral team.

Faith, hope and love are here offered for everybody.

Worshipping with us today

This booklet contains everything said and sung during our worship today. You are invited to take the booklet away with you, to reflect in your own time on the holy words it contains. However, worship is not primarily something that we read or observe - it is an activity, in which we all participate, alongside those who are gathered with us and, we believe, alongside the whole company of heaven. Be sure, therefore, to look up; to notice colour, light, sound, movement and beauty; to raise up your voice; to take your full part; to be formed and transformed.

During our worship, we say and sing together the text **in bold type**. Translations into English are provided from Welsh and other languages. We may make a sign of the Cross at times when the words are marked with *****. Other directions (rubrics) are offered **in red type**; if you find it more comfortable to sit rather than stand or kneel, please do so.

Accessibility

A hearing loop is in use – please set hearing aids to the T setting.

Large print copies of this booklet are available from the stewards.

If you have need of a gluten-free wafer (conforming to the canonical requirement for 20 parts gluten per million), please speak to a steward.

Lavatories are located at the east end of the Cathedral, through the door to the left of the Quire screen.

If we need to evacuate the Cathedral in an emergency, please remain seated and follow the directions of the stewards.

Children and young families

Our usual staffed activities and crafts in the Lady Chapel for children up to the age of 11 are taking a Christmastide break during the last Sunday in December and the first two Sundays of January. Activity bags for young childrenare available from the Stewards; and young children, accompanied by a parent or guardian, are very welcome to make use of the Lady Chapel as a breakout space during the Choral Holy Eucharist.

From the Lectern δ Buchedd Bangor

Each week, a **From the Lectern** email is sent to subscribers with weekly notices and images from the life of the Cathedral and Ministry Area. If you're not already a subscriber, follow the QR code, or visit **cadeirlan. churchinwales.org.uk/Darllenfa/**

Buchedd Bangor is our regular magazine, offering a mixture of devotional material and practical knowledge about our life together. Pick up a copy of today, or follow the QR code to read online.

Buchedd Bangor



O'r Ddarllenfa From the Lectern



Order of service



After the notices, we stand as the bell is rung







I t 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. Still through the cloven skies they come, with peaceful wings unfurled; and still their heav'nly music floats o'er all the weary world; above its sad and lowly plains they bend on hovering wing; and ever o'er it Babel sounds the blessèd 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

Edmund Hamilton Sears (1810-1876) Music | "Noel" English folk tune

✤ In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Grace and peace be with you.

And keep you in the love of Christ.

"Sing a new song to God, who has done marvellous things."

5

Confession

As we gather to celebrate this Holy Eucharist to the glory of God, we prepare ourselves by confessing our sins,

before the brightness of God

we who are embraced by you, God with us, but who struggle to accept one another;

we who praise your boundless love, God with us, but stare coldly at hurt and injustice;

we who long for you to be born in our hearts, God with us, but whose desire falls short of the gift.

Heavenly Father,

We have sinned in thought, word and deed, and have failed to do what we ought to have done. We are sorry and truly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ who died for us, forgive us all that is past and lead us in his way to walk as children of light. Amen.

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you and set you free from sin, and keep you in eternal life.

Amen.

We remain standing

Gloria in excelsis Deo

Glory be to God on high, and in earth peace, good will towards men. We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty. O Lord, the onlybegotten Son, Jesu Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Music

Communion Service, John Merbecke (c.1510-c.1585)

We remain standing

Collect

Let us pray.

Imighty God, who wonderfully created us in your own image, and yet more wonderfully restored us: grant that as your Son Jesus Christ took upon him our nature and the Word made flesh, so we may be partakers of your divinity; through the same Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Amen.

We sit



Word

Psalmody

Sing a new song to God, who has done marvellous things.

With your right hand, O God, and your holy arm, you have won for yourself the victory.

You have made known your victory; your righteousness have you openly shown in the sight of the nations.

You remember your mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

Shout with joy to God, all you lands; lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.

Psalm 98:1-5 Music Thomas Attwood (1765-1838)

Reading

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Colossians.

early beloved: May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from God's glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers — all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell.

Hear the word of life to the world. **Thanks be to God.**

Colossians 1:11-19

We stand, turning to face the Book of the Gospels in the Nave

Gospel



Y Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. R Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.
Y He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. R Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. Y Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Holy One has made known to us. R Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Grace and peace be with you. And keep you in the love of Christ.

Listen to the Holy Gospel according to ℜ Saint Luke. **Glory to you, O Christ.**

t that time: 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 Holy One 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. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

This is the Gospel of our Saviour. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Luke 2:15-20

We sit at the start of the sermon

Sermon in the series "For my eyes have seen"

Nicander & William Williams, Pantycelyn

Saints are lights. Their deeds lit up their day; through their example we see righteousness and holiness more clearly; their presence now, near to God, shows us the way of eternal life. At the root of their illuminating inspiration is that they saw as we do, through mortal eyes; and it was amid lives much like ours that their gaze fell upon the Light of Christ. This Advent and Christmas, the saints we celebrate on weekdays at the Cathedral and Eglwys y Groes are brought into our Sunday worship. We will be invited in this sermon series to see Advent and Christmas through their eyes, that, as they did, we might better see the incarnate Christ.

The Sub-Dean

At the end of the sermon, we stand

Creed

Together, let us affirm our faith.

I believe and trust in God the Father, who created all that is.

I believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ, who redeemed humankind.

I believe and trust in his Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of God.

I believe and trust in one God, # Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Intercessions

With all our heart and with all our mind let us pray to God.

We sit or kneel

At Bethlehem, the Word was made flesh. We ask God to bless all who seek Christ's holiness at this time, and to uphold the ministry of our Church and Bishop in proclaiming the mystery of Christ's ways.

𝒴 God in your mercy,

R Hear our prayer.

At Bethlehem, the angels sang of peace on earth. We ask God to bless all who yearn for justice and peace this Christmastide, especially the suffering people of Gaza, Israel and Ukraine.

y God in your mercy,

R Hear our prayer.

At Bethlehem, the shepherds found the Holy Family, and saw the child lying in the manger. We ask God to bless our homes, our families and friends, and all whom we love.

𝒴 God in your mercy,

R Hear our prayer.



At Bethlehem, God came to earth as a helpless child. We ask God to bless all who are vulnerable, in need, in pain or in anguish this Christmastide. From our community, we pray specially for [...].

𝕊 God in your mercy,

R Hear our prayer.

At Bethlehem, heaven came down to earth, and earth was raised to heaven. We ask God to embrace all those who have died; and from among those known to us we pray for [...] who have died recently; and for [...] whose years mind falls at this time.

✓ Rest eternal grant unto them, O God.
№ And let light perpetual shine upon them.
✓ May they rest in peace.
№ And rise in alory.

This Christmastide, we celebrate Christ's birth at Bethlehem long ago. We ask God to open our hearts, that Christ may also be born in us today. With Christ's companions – Mary the Mother of God, Deiniol, Basil, Gregory, Nicander, Hywyn, Seiriol, Cadfan and all the Saints of Bardsey – we pray:

R Merciful Father,

y Accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

We stand to sing the hymn, during which the gifts of Bread and Wine are brought to the Altar-Table, and a Collection is taken

We are Censed during the hymn as a sign of purification and sanctification, and return the Thurifer's reverence

Sacrament

Нутп



Behold a little child, laid in a manger bed; the wintry blasts blow wild around his infant head; but who is this so lowly laid? 'Tis he by whom the worlds were made.

Alas! In what poor state the Son of God is seen; why would the Lord so great choose such a home so mean? That we may learn from pride to flee, and to follow his humility.

Where Joseph plies his trade, lo, Jesus labours, too; the hands that all things made an earthly craft pursue, that weary men in him may rest, and faithful toil through him be blessed.

Christ, master carpenter, we come rough-hewn to thee; at last, through wood and nails, thou mad'st us whole and free. In this thy world remake us, planned to truer beauty of thine hand. Words William Walsham How (1823-1897); Donald McIlhagga Music | "Gopsal" George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)

We remain standing until we share the Peace

Offertory

We bring to this place the bread that sustains us. **It will become for us the bread of life.**

We bring to this place the wine that mellows us. **It will become for us the lifeblood of the world.**

Eucharistic Prayer

Grace and peace be with you. And keep you in the love of Christ.

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, it is our duty and our joy at all times and in all places to give you thanks, holy Father, all-powerful and everliving God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

He is the Word made flesh. Through him you give to the eye of faith a new vision of your glory; you reveal your perfect love, and invite us to love and worship you, the unseen God.

And so with the hosts of angels and all the company of heaven we proclaim the glory of your name and join in their unending hymn of praise:

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts. Heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.

 ${\bf x}$ Blessed is he that cometh in the Name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Music Communion Service, John Merbecke (c.1510-c.1585)

We remain standing

All praise and thanks to you, true and living God, Creator of all things, Giver of life. You formed us in your own image; but we have marred that image and fall short of your glory. We give you thanks that you sent your Son to share our life; you gave him up to death that the world might be saved, and you raised him from the dead that we might live in him and he in us.

Sanctify with your Spirit this bread and wine, your gifts to us, that they may be for us the body and blood of our Saviour Jesus Christ.

On the night he was betrayed, he took bread, and when he had given thanks he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you: do this in remembrance of me. \bigstar

In the same way after supper he took the cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, Drink from this, all of you, for this is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins: do this as often as you drink it in remembrance of me. \clubsuit

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come in glory.

As he has commanded us, Father, we remember Jesus Christ, your Son. Proclaiming his victorious death, rejoicing in his resurrection and waiting for him to come in glory we bring to you this bread, this cup. Accept our sacrifice of thanks and praise.

Restore and revive your people, renew us and all for whom we pray with your grace and heavenly \mathbf{x} blessing, and at the last receive us with all your saints into that unending joy promised by your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

We remain standing



Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, we boldly pray:

ur 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.

Peace

In your birth, O God, the world is reborn; your broken body made whole in your renewal of all creation.

The Peace of the Living God be always with you. **And keep you in the love of Christ.**

We share a sign of Peace.

We share a sign of Peace; then we sit or kneel

Breaking

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

> Music Communion Service, John Merbecke (c.1510-c.1585)

Communion

✤ Jesus is the Lamb of God
 who takes away the sins of the world.
 Happy are those who are called to his supper.
 Saviour, I am not worthy to receive you,
 but only say the word and I shall be healed.

We make our Communion, following the directions of the Stewards, receiving the Sacramental Host and, if we wish, the Precious Blood

After all have made their Communion, we stand to sing the hymn

Нутп



here is this stupendous stranger? Prophets, shepherds, kings, advise: lead me to my Master's manger, show me where my Saviour lies.

O most mighty, O Most Holy, far beyond the seraph's thought! Art thou then so weak and lowly as unheeded prophets taught?

O the magnitude of meekness, worth from worth immortal sprung! O the strength of infant weakness, if eternal is so young!

God all-bounteous, all-creative, whom no ills from good dissuade, is incarnate, and a native of the very world he made.

> Words Christopher Smart (1722-1771) Music | "Halton Holgate" William Boyce (1711-1779)

We remain standing

Departing

Grace and peace be with you. And keep you in the love of Christ.

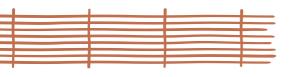
hrist, who by taking our flesh, gathered into one all things earthly and heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, & the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Let us go forth in peace. In the Name of Christ. Amen.

We remain standing until the ministers have departed; we then sit or depart

Organ voluntary Chorale Prelude on "In dir ist Freude", BWV 615, Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Notices



Thanksgiving for the blessings of Christmas

The Sub-Dean writes:

The glow I glimpsed during our Evening Liturgy of Advent Sunday, as Rachmaninoff's Vespers sustained and accompanied our candlelit prayers, did not dim during the weeks of Advent. It was sustained as we welcomed a multitude of schools. charities, community choirs and voluntary organizations for their carol services. It blazed all the more brightly as we raised donations for Shelter Cymru, our 2023 Christmas Charity, as well for the work of Christian Aid in the Middle Fast and the ministry of the Cathedral Foodbank. It shone faithfully during our regular Advent observances at the Cathedral and at Eqlwys y Groes. Above all, it illumined the Cathedral aloriously at two offerings of a beautiful service of Nine Lessons & Carols, and at our Midnight Eucharist and Eucharist of Christmas Day.

Last year, over 1,000 people crossed the threshold for our special services during the whole of Advent and Christmas. This year, more than that number joined us for our two Carol services and two Choral Eucharists of Christmas alone. This increase of activity and engagement should be the cause of thanksgiving; but all the more so as it felt to me this year to speak of an increase in hope and grace known and shared in our midst. It has been delightful to hear such positive feedback from our congregations and our community.

None of this happens without generosity, good will and hard work on the part of a team of colleagues and our church family as a whole. I am so very grateful to all for your commitment and faithfulness, and give thanks for that it has borne fruit so joyfully this Christmas.

Mince pies and coffee

We owe a debt of thanks to a team of Stewards, led by Canon Lesley Horrocks, who served mince pies and coffee at the Cathedral to visitors and pilgrims from Wednesday to Saturday of this past week.

Рlygain

The traditional Welsh service of Plygain, at which Evening Prayers are said and to which local volunteer choirs come to sing ancient Welsh Christmas carols, takes place at the Cathedral on Friday 19 January at 7.00pm.

This week

Heddiw | Today

3.30pm Gosber ar Gân | Choral Evensong

Ymatebion | Responses, Plaengan | Plainchant; Magnificat & Nunc dimittis, Plaengan | Plainchant

Ionawr | Dygwyl Enwi Iesu January | The Festival of the Naming of Jesus

Ni ddethlir y Cymun Bendigaid heddiw | The Holy Eucharist is not celebrated today

Dydd Mawrth | Tuesday | Basil o Gesarea a Gregor o Nazianzos | Basil of Caesarea and Gregory of Nazianus

12.30pm Cymun | Eucharist

Dydd Mercher | Wednesday | Nicander (Morris Williams)

12.30pm Cymun | Eucharist

Dydd Iau | Thursday

12.30pm Cymun | Eucharist

2.00pm | Eglwys y Groes Cymun | Eucharist

Dydd Gwener | Friday

12.30pm Cymun | Eucharist

Dydd Sadwrn | Saturday | Hywyn

12.30pm Cymun | Eucharist

7 Ioanwr | Dygwyl yr Ystwyll January | The Festival of the Epiphany

8.15am Holy Eucharist

9.15am Cymun Bendigaid ar Gân

Cymun y Cymry i, Harper

11.00am Choral Holy Eucharist

Communion Service in E-flat, Bairstow; Brightest and Best, Archer

3.30pm Gosber ar Gân | Choral Evensong

Ymatebion | Responses, Plaengan | Plainchant; Magnificat & Nunc dimittis, Plaengan | Plainchant

Our prayers

The sick Joy Levine, priest; John Watkin Jones; Bill Lovelock; Morris Owen Williams; Karen Hughes; Barbara Watson; Cynthia Farrar; Terry Jones; Sue Edwards; John Hughes

The recently departed Monica Harris; Toby Tipton; Chloe Bidwell

Year's mind Frederick Horrocks (31)

Safeguarding

Safeguarding children and adults at risk is vital, and we are committed to fostering an environment where everyone is able to worship and participate in the life of Saint Deiniol's Cathedral in safety. If you have any concerns, please raise them immediately with a member of the Cathedral team.

Sustainability and permissions

We use 100% recycled, low carbon dioxide paper.

Many of our services are streamed online, and the recording made available thereafter on the Cathedral's YouTube channel. An official photographer may be on duty. Your attendance constitutes your consent to be included in any filming, photographing, audio recording or broadcast. If you do not wish a photograph of you or a child in your care to be used by the Cathedral, please speak to a member of the Cathedral team.

Acknowledgements

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Cover image

The cover image is of the Crib in the Chancel, blessed at the Midnight Eucharist of Christmas.

Support

This holy place of faith, hope and love, and all that takes place here, is sustained by your generosity.

To make an online donation on your phone today, scan the QR code below.

Use our contactless donation point at the back of the Nave to tap your card or phone.

By making a donation, you'll be helping us to continue our essential work.



Eglwys Gadeiriol ac Archesgobol Deiniol Sant ym Mangor

The Cathedral & Metropolitical Church of Saint Deiniol in Bangor

Esgob ac Archesgob Cymru Bishop & Archbishop of Wales Y Parchedicaf | The Most Revd Andrew John

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Canon Angela Williams

Aelodau o Goleg Offeiriadol y Gadeirlan Members of the Cathedral's College of Priests Y Parchg Ddr | The Revd Dr John Prysor-Jones, y Tra Pharchg Athro | the Very Revd Prof. Gordon McPhate, y Parchg | the Revd Peter Kaye

Darllenydd | Reader Elma Taylor

Caplaniaid Anna | Anna Chaplains Jane Coutts, Anne Eyre, Elma Taylor

Pensaer y Gadeirlan | Cathedral Architect Simon Malam

Rhif elusen | Charity number 1158340