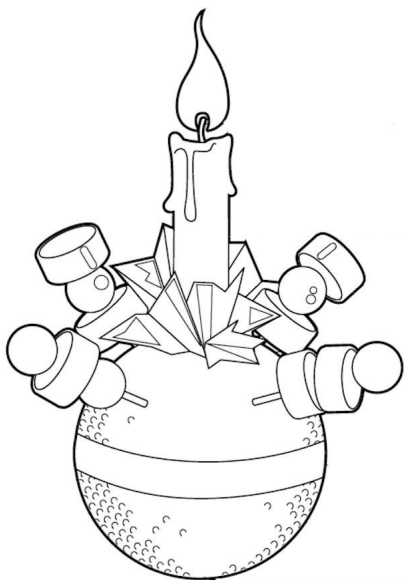




Exeter  
Cathedral

# A service for the Children's Society

Sunday 6 December 2020  
4pm



In support of

**The  
Children's  
Society**

**No child  
should feel  
alone**



[www.exeter-cathedral.org.uk](http://www.exeter-cathedral.org.uk)

## **Welcome to the Cathedral**

The Cathedral Church of St. Peter in Exeter, founded in 1050, has been the seat [*cathedra*] of the bishop of Exeter, the symbol of his spiritual and teaching authority, for nearly 1000 years. As such the Cathedral is a centre of worship and mission for the whole of Devon. A centuries-old pattern of daily worship continues, sustained by the best of the Anglican choral tradition. The cathedral is a place of outreach, learning, and spirituality, inviting people into a richer and more engaged discipleship. The Cathedral is a destination for many pilgrims and visitors who come from near and far, drawn by the physical and spiritual heritage of this place. Exeter Cathedral belongs to all the people of Devon, and we warmly welcome you here.

## **COVID-19: Infection Control**

### **Face Coverings in the cathedral**

As of 8 August 2020, wearing face coverings in places of worship is now mandatory. All congregants, visitors, volunteers, and staff must wear face coverings when in the cathedral. There are exemptions to this regulation, including anyone under the age of 11, those leading worship and preaching, those with disabilities and those with hidden health conditions. Full details can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/face-coverings-when-to-wear-one-and-how-to-make-your-own/face-coverings-when-to-wear-one-and-how-to-make-your-own#when-you-do-not-need-to-wear-a-face-covering>

### **Speech and Singing**

We ask that you do not sing. The Choir will lead singing on behalf of the congregation. When speaking responses or prayers, please do not raise your voice.

### **Social distancing**

Measures are in place to protect the health and safety of worshippers, volunteers and staff. Please follow instructions as they are given. Markings on the floor indicate:

- 2 metres (Blue tape)

## **Safeguarding**

The Chapter takes the responsibility for safeguarding children and vulnerable adults seriously in their commitment to make Exeter Cathedral a safe and welcoming place. If you have any concerns please discuss them with a member of the Cathedral Chapter or contact the Cathedral Safeguarding Advisor, Charlie Pitman, Tel. 01392 345909

## **The history of Christingle**

The custom of the Christingle began in 1747 in the Church of Moravia.

Today in Britain, the Christingle consists of an orange representing the World, with the candle inserted in the centre and lit to represent Christ the Light of the World.

The fruits, raisins and sweets symbolise the fruits of the earth and the benefits that come to our lives through God's bounty and goodness.

The red ribbon around the orange symbolises God's love for the world shown especially in the gift of Jesus; his blood shed for the world.

The Christingle Service is often held before Christmas, or at Candlemas in February.

## **The Children's Society**

Every year in many churches across the country, Christingle brings communities together to support children who are unsafe, unloved and unable to cope. Christingle services help to fund over 100 services that support this country's most vulnerable young people. It also brings communities together to reflect on the Christian story, and the hope and peace remembered at Christmas. Christingle is thought to bring up to one million children and families to their local church each year.

*The retiring collection at the end of the service today will be for the Children's Society.*

## Welcome to our Christingle service

The Revd Canon James Mustard - *Canon Precentor*

### Collect

*The congregation says*

**Almighty God, your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ is the light of the world. May your people shine with the radiance of his glory, that he may be known, worshipped and obeyed to the ends of the earth; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

### Carol

*The congregation remains seated. The choir only stands and sings:*

Thou whose almighty word  
chaos and darkness heard,  
and took their flight;  
hear us, we humbly pray,  
and where the gospel day  
sheds not its glorious ray  
let there be light.

2. Thou who didst come to bring  
on thy redeeming wing  
healing and sight,  
health to the sick in mind,  
sight to the inly blind,  
O now to all mankind  
let there be light.

3. Spirit of truth and love,  
life-giving, holy Dove,  
speed forth thy flight;  
move o'er the waters face,  
bearing the lamp of grace,  
and in earth's darkest place  
let there be light.

4. Blessèd and holy Three,  
glorious Trinity,  
wisdom, love, might,  
boundless as ocean's tide  
rolling in fullest pride,  
through the world far and wide  
let there be light.

*Words: John Marriott (1780-1825)  
Tune: Moscow (F. Giardini 1716-1796)*

*The choir sits.*

## Reading

Genesis 1:1-5

*read by a chorister*

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, 'Let there be light'; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

Thanks be to God.

## Carol

*The choir only stands and sings*

How do you capture the wind on the water?  
How do you count all the stars in the sky?  
How can you measure the love of a mother?  
Or how can you write down a baby's first cry?

*Candlelight, angel light, firelight and star-glow.  
Shine on his cradle till breaking of dawn.  
Gloria! Gloria in excelsis deo.  
Angels are singing; the Christ child is born*

Shepherds and wise men will kneel and adore him  
Seraphim round him their vigil will keep  
Nations proclaim him their Lord and their Saviour  
But Mary will hold him and sing him to sleep.  
*Candlelight...*

Find him at Bethlehem laid in a manger  
Christ our Redeemer asleep in the hay  
Godhead incarnate and hope of salvation  
A child with his mother that first Christmas Day  
*Candlelight...*

*Words and Music: John Rutter (b1945)*

*The choir sits.*

## Reading

John 3.16-21

*read by one of the Cathedral's clergy*

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. 'Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgement, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.'

Thanks be to God.

## Carol

*The choir only stands and sings*

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,  
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.  
the stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,  
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,  
but little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.  
I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,  
and stay by my beside till morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay  
close by me for ever, and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,  
and fit us for heaven, to live with thee there.

*Words: Anonymous c.1883*

*Tune: Cradle Song (W.J. Kirkpatrick 1838-1921)*

*Arr. Ashley Grote*

*The choir sits.*

## Address

Jess Meale - *Relationships Manager* –  
*Bath & Wells, Exeter and Truro Diocese*  
The Children's Society

*The Christingles are lit.*

## Thanksgiving

Jesus, light of the world,  
**we worship and adore you.**

His life is the light that shines in the dark,  
a light that darkness cannot overpower.

Jesus, light of the world,  
**we worship and adore you.**

The Word was made flesh and lived among us,  
and we have seen his glory,  
as of the only Son of the Father,  
full of grace and truth.

Jesus, light of the world,  
**we worship and adore you.**

## Carol

*The choir only stands and sings*

1. Round orange, round orange  
you serve as a sign.  
That God made the round world  
with purpose divine.

*The power of love is always the same:  
be glad, give thanks,  
rejoice in God's name.*

2. Red ribbon, you tell of  
the bloodshed and pain.  
Which led to forgiveness  
when Jesus was slain. *The power of love...*

3. Bright candle, the message  
you carry is clear.  
The true light from God,  
found a home with us here.  
*The power of love...*

4. Ripe fruits freely given  
this truth you recall.  
When God hands out presents  
they're meant for us all.  
*The power of love...*

5. Christingle, Christingle,  
shine out in the night.  
To kindle among us  
that marvellous light.  
*The power of love...*

*Words: Elizabeth Cosnett (1936-)*  
*Tune: French Traditional melody*  
*Arr. Andrew Carter*

*The choir sits.*

## **Prayers**

Wonderful counsellor,  
give your wisdom to the rulers of the nations.  
Lord, in your mercy  
**hear our prayer.**

Mighty God,  
make the whole world know  
that the government is on your shoulders.  
Lord, in your mercy  
**hear our prayer.**

Everlasting father,  
establish your reign of justice and righteousness for ever.  
Lord, in your mercy  
**hear our prayer.**



Prince of peace,  
bring in the endless kingdom of your peace.  
Lord, in your mercy  
**hear our prayer.**

Loving Lord,  
we thank you for the Children's Society as it reaches out  
to young people experiencing pain and injustice.  
Guide and strengthen its work alongside children and young people  
who are homeless and on the streets,  
in prison or facing problems in the community.  
Grant us the wisdom to listen to the voices of the young  
and to recognize their gifts and insights.  
Help us to work with them to create a fair and just society  
where all may know the fullness of your love,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

*The Prayers end with the Lord's Prayer.*

Let us pray with confidence in the words our Saviour 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.**

## **Carol**

*The choir only stands and sings*

Ding dong! Merrily on high in heaven the bells are ringing.  
Ding dong! Verily the sky is riven with angels singing:  
*Gloria, hosanna in excelsis!*

E'en so, here below, below, let steeple bells be swungen;  
And i-o, i-o, i-o, by priest and people sungen.  
*Gloria...*

Pray you, dutifully prime your matin chime, ye ringers;  
May you beautifully rime your evetime song, ye singers:  
*Gloria...*

*Words: George Ratcliffe Woodward (1848-1934)*  
*Music: 16th Century, French melody*  
*arr. David Willcocks*

*The choir remains standing. The congregation stands*

### **Blessing**

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you,  
scatter the darkness from before your path,  
and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

### **Voluntary**

*A retiring collection will be taken.*

*Please consider supporting the Children's Society.  
You can donate by scanning the QR code below.  
Also donation envelopes are available.*





