



WORCESTER CATHEDRAL

Services and Music December 2025

December draws us once again into the deep, unfolding mystery of Advent and Christmas—a season in which the Church listens more intently, waits more expectantly, and sings more wholeheartedly than perhaps at any other time of year. In these weeks, the Cathedral becomes a place where darkness and light meet, where hope is kindled in quietness, and where the ancient story of God’s coming among us is retold through Scripture, prayer, and song.

The music of the Advent season echoes the longings of the prophets and the yearning of a world in shadow. Its hymns and anthems hold space for stillness and repentance, and for the kind of attentive waiting that prepares us to recognise Christ when he draws near. As we move towards Christmas, the carols and settings of Christmas lift our hearts into joy, giving voice to the wonder of Emmanuel—God with us—dwelling in human vulnerability.

We are invited to open ourselves anew to the God who continues to come: in moments of quiet, in the lives of those we overlook, and in the unexpected places where love takes root. We pray that all who enter the Cathedral during this season—whether for a single service or through the rhythm of our worship—will find here a glimpse of the light that the darkness cannot overcome, and will be strengthened to carry that light into the world.

+Olivia Graham

Interim Dean:

+Olivia Graham

Director of Music:

Samuel Hudson

All choral services are sung by the cathedral choir unless otherwise stated.

November/December 2025

In Residence: The Revd Canon Kimberly Bohan

Sunday 30th November The First Sunday of Advent

7.30 am **Morning Prayer** Psalm 44

8.00 am **Holy Communion** (BCP) (*with livestream*)
Preacher: The Revd Dr John Fitzmaurice

10.30 am **Sung Eucharist**
The Advent Prose Psalm 122

Missa O Magnum Mysterium *Tomás Luis de Victoria*

A tender shoot *Kerensa Briggs*

Preacher: The Revd Canon Kimberly Bohan

4.00 pm **Evening Prayer** Psalm 9

6.30 pm **Advent Procession by Candlelight**

Matin Responsory *Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina*

The Truth from Above *Ralph Vaughan Williams*

Veiled in darkness *Glenn Rudolph*

How beautiful are the feet *George Frideric Handel*

People look east arr. *Barry Ferguson*

Ave Maria *Robert Parsons*

O radiant dawn *James MacMillan*

In the stillness *Sally Beamish*

Vesper Responsory *Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina*

Monday 1st December Andrew the Apostle

7.30 am **Morning Prayer** Psalms 47, 147.1-12

8.00 am **Holy Communion** (*with livestream*)

5.30 pm **Evensong** Responses: *Tomkins*

Fauxbourdon Service *William Byrd* Psalms 87, 96

How lovely are the messengers *Felix Mendelssohn* Hymn 200

7.00 pm **King's St Alban's Carol Service**

Tuesday 2nd

7.30 am **Morning Prayer** Psalms 5, 6, 8

8.00 am **Holy Communion** (*with livestream*)

1.00 pm **Cherry Orchard Primary School Carol Service**

5.30 pm **Evening Prayer** Psalms 9, 10

December 2025

Wednesday 3rd

7.30 am	Morning Prayer	Psalms 119.1-32
8.00 am	Holy Communion <i>(with livestream)</i>	
1.00 pm	Holy Communion	
5.30 pm	Evensong <i>(sung by the Choral Scholars)</i>	Responses: Plainsong
	Plainsong Canticles	Psalms 11, 12, 13
	O Lord, hear my prayer <i>Matthew Locke</i>	Hymn 1i
7.30 pm	RGS The Grange Carol Service	

VERSE: CANTORIS

Thursday 4th

7.30 am	Morning Prayer	Psalms 14, 15, 16
8.00 am	Holy Communion <i>(with livestream)</i>	
4.45 pm	Community Carol Service for the start of the Victorian Christmas Fayre <i>(sung by the Voluntary Choir)</i>	
	<i>Gaudete Melody from Piaae Cantiones arr. Nicholas Freestone</i>	
	<i>O little town of Bethlehem arr. Mack Wilberg</i>	
5.30 pm	Evensong	Responses: Tomkins
	Evening Service in D minor <i>Thomas Attwood Walmisley</i>	Psalms 18
	<i>Vigilate William Byrd</i>	Hymn 1i

Friday 5th

7.30 am	Morning Prayer	Psalms 17, 19
8.00 am	Holy Communion <i>(with livestream)</i>	
11.00 am	Shoppers' Carol Service	
11.30 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	
2.00 pm	Shoppers' Carol Service	
5.30 pm	Evensong	Responses: Tomkins
	Fauxbourdon Service <i>Percy Whitlock</i>	Psalms 22
	Kindle a light <i>Michael Fleming</i>	Hymn 1i

December 2025

Saturday 6th

Nicholas, Bishop of Myra, c. 326

- 7.30 am **Morning Prayer** Psalms 20, 21, 23
8.00 am **Holy Communion** (*with livestream*)
5.30 pm **Evening Prayer** Psalms 24, 25
7.30 pm **Concert** Worcester Festival Choral Society
Messiah *George Frideric Handel*

In Residence: The Revd Canon Kimberly Bohan

Sunday 7th

The Second Sunday of Advent

- 7.30 am **Morning Prayer** Psalm 80
8.00 am **Holy Communion** (BCP) (*with livestream*)
Preacher: The Revd Canon Kimberly Bohan
10.30 am **Sung Eucharist**
Mass for Four Voices *William Byrd* Psalm 72.1-7
Rorate coeli desuper Josef Rheinberger
Preacher: The Archdeacon of Dudley
3.00 pm **Worship in the Garden**
*entering the garden through the 'deliveries' doorway outside the
Edgar Tower Gate.*
4.00 pm **Evensong** Responses: *Shephard*
Evening Service in A flat *Edmund Rubbra* Psalms 11, 28
Canite tuba Francisco Guerrero Hymns 6, 466
6.30 pm **Evening Worship** (*sung by the Voluntary Choir*)
Come, light of the world Paul Inwood
The Lord at first did Adam make arr. Michael Nicholas
Preacher: The Revd Dr Robin Parry

December 2025

Monday 8th The Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

7.30 am	Morning Prayer	Psalms 27, 30
8.00 am	Holy Communion <i>(with livestream)</i>	
5.30 pm	Evensong	Responses: <i>Tomkins</i>
	The Penitential Canticles <i>Adrian Lucas</i>	Psalms 26, 28, 29
	Rejoice in the Lord <i>always Anon.</i>	Hymn 2
7.30 pm	Royal Grammar School Carol Service	

Tuesday 9th

7.30 am	Morning Prayer	Psalms 32, 36
8.00 am	Holy Communion <i>(with livestream)</i>	
5.30 pm	Evening Prayer	Psalm 33
7.00 pm	King's Hawford School Carol Service	

Wednesday 10th

Ember Day

7.30 am	Morning Prayer	Psalm 34
8.00 am	Holy Communion <i>(with livestream)</i>	
1.00 pm	Holy Communion	
5.30 pm	Evensong <i>(sung by the Choral Scholars)</i>	Responses: <i>Plainsong</i>
	Plainsong Canticles	Psalm 119.33-56
	Lord, not to us <i>Henry Purcell</i>	Hymn 2

VERSE: DECANI

Thursday 11th

7.30 am	Morning Prayer	Psalm 37
8.00 am	Holy Communion <i>(with livestream)</i>	
5.30 pm	Evensong <i>(Lower voices)</i>	Responses: <i>Lloyd</i>
	The Westminster Service <i>Humphrey Clucas</i>	Psalms 39, 40
	Sive vigilem <i>William Mundy</i>	Hymn 2
7.30 pm	King's School Carol Service	

December 2025

Friday 12th

Ember Day

7.30 am	Morning Prayer	Psalm 31
8.00 am	Holy Communion <i>(with livestream)</i>	
11.30 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	
5.30 pm	Evensong <i>(Lower voices)</i>	Responses: <i>Tallis</i>
	<i>Secundi et sexti toni Orlande de Lassus</i>	Psalm 35
	<i>Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen Michael Praetorius</i>	Hymn 2
7.30 pm	Concert by Candlelight	Piccadilly Sinfonietta
	<i>Canon in D Johann Pachelbel</i>	
	<i>Christmas Concerto Arcangelo Corelli</i>	
	<i>The Four Seasons Antonio Vivaldi</i>	

Saturday 13th

Lucy, Martyr, 304

Ember Day

7.30 am	Morning Prayer	Psalms 41, 42, 43
8.00 am	Holy Communion <i>(with livestream)</i>	
11.00 am	Shoppers' Carol Service	
5.30 pm	Evening Prayer	Psalms 45, 46
7.30 pm	Concert	Worcester Cathedral Choir
	<i>Tidings of Joy</i>	

December 2025

In Residence: The Revd Canon Kimberly Bohan

Sunday 14th

The Third Sunday of Advent

Day of music endowed by John Wilderspin.

7.30 am **Morning Prayer**

Psalm 68.1-19

8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP) (with livestream)

Preacher: tbc

10.30 am Sung Eucharist (*sung by the Youth Choir*)

Mass in the Dorian Mode *Thomas Tallis*

Canticle: Magnificat

Benedictus in C *Charles Villiers Stanford*

Preacher: The Venerable Robert Jones

3.30 pm **Evening Prayer**

Psalms 12, 14

4.00 pm Christmas Carols and Readings *(sung by the Voluntary Choir)*

Gaudete Melody from Piaae Cantiones arr. Nicholas Freestone

Long ago, prophets knew *arr*. James Anderson-Besant

Gabriel's Message *arr. Malcolm Archer*

O little town of Bethlehem *arr. Mack Wilberg*

Sussex Carol arr. David Willcocks

Monday 15th

7.30 am Morning Prayer

Psalm 44

8.00 am Holy Communion *(with livestream)*

5.30 pm **Evensong** (*Lower voices*)

Responses: *Cleobury*

Evening Service in G Herbert Sumsion

Psalms 47, 49

This is the record of John *Orlando Gibbons*

Hymn 19i

7.30 pm Northwick Manor Primary School Carol Service

December 2025

Tuesday 16th

7.30 am	Morning Prayer	Psalms 48, 52
8.00 am	Holy Communion (<i>with livestream</i>)	
5.30 pm	Evening Prayer	Psalms 50
7.30 pm	Pitmaston Primary School Carol Service	

Wednesday 17th

7.30 am	Morning Prayer	Psalms 119.57-80
8.00 am	Holy Communion (<i>with livestream</i>)	
1.00 pm	Holy Communion	
5.30 pm	Evening Prayer	Psalms 90, 11
7.30 pm	Worcester News Carol Service (<i>sung by the Chamber Choir</i>)	
	Adam lay ybounden <i>Boris Ord</i>	
	Sussex Carol <i>arr. David Willcocks</i>	
	Away in a manger <i>Ian King</i>	
	While shepherds watched their flocks by night <i>Ian Venables</i>	
	Lullay, my liking <i>David Willcocks</i>	
	I wonder as I wander <i>Donald Hunt</i>	
	Peace on Earth <i>Errollyn Wallen</i>	

Preacher: The Archdeacon of Dudley

VERSE: CANTORIS

Thursday 18th

7.30 am	Morning Prayer	Psalms 56, 57, 63
8.00 am	Holy Communion (<i>with livestream</i>)	
5.30 pm	Evensong (<i>Lower voices</i>)	Responses: <i>Lloyd</i>
	Evening Service in D minor <i>Francis Jackson</i>	Psalms 106
	Come, thou redeemer of the earth <i>Andrew Parnell</i>	Hymn 15

December 2025

Friday 19th

7.30 am	Morning Prayer	Psalms 144, 146
8.00 am	Holy Communion <i>(with livestream)</i>	
11.30 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	
5.30 pm	Evensong <i>(Lower voices)</i>	Responses: <i>Tallis</i>
	Evening Service on Twelve Tones <i>Alan Ridout</i>	Psalm 50
	Audivi vocem da coelo <i>Thomas Tallis</i>	Hymn 19i
7.30 pm	Concert	Concerts by Candlelight
	A Michael Bubl� Christmas	

Saturday 20th

7.30 am	Morning Prayer	Psalms 46, 95
8.00 am	Holy Communion <i>(with livestream)</i>	
5.30 pm	Evening Prayer	Psalm 89.1-34a
7.30 pm	Concert	Concerts by Candlelight
	Christmas by Candlelight	

In Residence: The Revd Canon Kimberly Bohan

Sunday 21st

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

7.30 am	Morning Prayer	Psalm 144
8.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP) <i>(with livestream)</i>	
	Preacher: The Revd Dr John Fitzmaurice	
10.30 am	Sung Eucharist <i>(sung by the Chamber Choir)</i>	
	Music for the Eucharist <i>Felix Mendelssohn</i>	Psalm 80.1-7
	O salutaris hostia <i>Edward Elgar</i>	
	Preacher: The Revd Canon Kimberly Bohan	
4.00 pm	Evensong <i>(sung by the Chamber Choir)</i>	Responses: <i>King</i>
	Evening Service in F <i>John Ireland</i>	Psalms 113, 126
	Evening Hymn <i>Henry Balfour Gardiner</i>	Hymns 17, 9

December 2025

Monday 22nd

7.30 am	Morning Prayer	Psalms 124, 125, 126, 127
8.00 am	Holy Communion <i>(with livestream)</i>	
5.30 pm	Evening Prayer	Psalm 118
6.30 pm	A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols	
	Wexford Carol <i>John Rutter</i>	
	Adam lay y bounden <i>Philip Ledger</i>	
	A spotless rose <i>Aaron Nihal King</i>	
	Gaudete et laetare <i>Cecilia McDowall</i>	
	A Christmas Lullaby <i>Ian Venables</i>	
	O magnum mysterium <i>Tomás Luis de Victoria</i>	
	Silent night <i>arr. David Willcocks</i>	
	Ding! dong! merrily on high <i>arr. Mack Wilberg</i>	

Tuesday 23rd

Day of music endowed by Judith Pearce.

7.30 am	Morning Prayer	Psalms 128, 129, 130, 131
8.00 am	Holy Communion <i>(with livestream)</i>	
5.30 pm	Evening Prayer	Psalm 80
6.30 pm	A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols	
	<i>Music as for 22nd December, 6.30pm.</i>	

December 2025

Wednesday 24th

Christmas Eve

- 7.30 am **Morning Prayer** Psalms 45, 113
- 8.00 am **Holy Communion** (*with livestream*)
- 1.00 pm **Crib Service**
- 3.00 pm **Crib Service**
- 5.00 pm **Evening Prayer** Psalm 85
- 5.30 pm **Carols and Readings for Christmas Eve** (*sung by the Youth Choir and former members of the Cathedral Choir*)
He is the man *Hilgrove Kenrick*
Quem pastores laudavere *James Bassi*
Ding! dong! merrily on high arr. *Stuart Nicholson*
- 11.00 pm **The Midnight Eucharist with Carols** (*with incense*)
Missa Brevis in C, K. 259 'Orgelsolomesse' *Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart*
My Lord has come *Will Todd* Psalm 98
Preacher: The Revd Dr John Fitzmaurice

VERSE: DECANI

Thursday 25th

Christmas Day

- 7.30 am **Morning Prayer** Psalms 110, 117
- 8.00 am **Holy Communion** (*with livestream*) Preacher: tbc
- 10.30 am **Sung Eucharist with Carols**
Messe Charles-Marie Widor Psalm 96
I saw three ships *Simon Preston* Preacher: The Bishop of Dudley
- 4.00 pm **Evening Prayer** Psalm 8

Friday 26th

Stephen, Deacon, First Martyr

- 7.30 am **Morning Prayer** Psalms 13, 31.1-8, 150
- 8.00 am **Holy Communion** (*with livestream*)
- 11.30 am **Holy Communion** (BCP)
- 5.30 pm **Evening Prayer** Psalms 57, 86

December 2025

Saturday 27th

John, Apostle and Evangelist

7.30 am	Morning Prayer	Psalms 21, 147.13-21
8.00 am	Holy Communion <i>(with livestream)</i>	
5.30 pm	Evensong <i>(sung by Sine Nomine)</i>	Responses: <i>Tunnard</i>
	The Knaresborough Service <i>Simon Lindley</i>	Psalm 97
	Bethlehem Down <i>Peter Warlock</i>	Hymns 202, 33 (omit vv. 3, 6)

In Residence: The Revd Canon Kimberly Bohan

Sunday 28th

The Holy Innocents

7.30 am	Morning Prayer	Psalms 36, 146
8.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP) <i>(with livestream)</i>	
	Preacher: The Revd Canon Kimberly Bohan	
10.30 am	Sung Eucharist <i>(sung by Sine Nomine)</i>	
	Missa Aeterna Christi Munera <i>Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina</i>	Psalm 124
	Mirabile mysterium <i>Jacobus Gallus</i>	
	Preacher: The Revd Dr Robin Parry	
4.00 pm	Evensong <i>(sung by Sine Nomine)</i>	Responses: <i>Tunnard</i>
	Evening Service in F <i>George Dyson</i>	Psalms 123, 128
	On this day earth shall ring <i>H. C. Stewart</i>	Hymns 23, 203

Monday 29th

**Thomas Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury,
Martyr, 1170**

7.30 am	Morning Prayer	Psalms 19, 20
8.00 am	Holy Communion <i>(with livestream)</i>	
5.30 pm	Evening Prayer	Psalms 131, 132

December 2025/January 2026

Tuesday 30th

**Ecgwine, Bishop of Worcester,
Founder of Evesham Abbey, 717**

Day of music endowed by the David Willcocks Music Trust.

7.30 am **Morning Prayer**

Psalms 111, 112, 113

8.00 am **Holy Communion** *(with livestream)*

5.30 pm **Evening Prayer**

Psalms 65, 84

Wednesday 31st

7.30 am **Morning Prayer**

Psalm 102

8.00 am **Holy Communion** *(with livestream)*

1.00 pm **Holy Communion**

5.30 pm **Evensong** *(sung by the Choir of Pilgrim Church, Adelaide, Australia)*

Evening Service in D George Dyson

Responses: Smith

What child is this? Becky McGlade

Psalms 90, 148

VERSE: CANTORIS

Thursday 1st January

**The Naming and Circumcision
of Jesus**

7.30 am **Morning Prayer**

Psalms 103, 150

8.00 am **Holy Communion** *(with livestream)*

5.30 pm **Evening Prayer**

Psalm 115

Friday 2nd

**Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzus,
Bishops, Teachers of the Faith, 379 and 389**

7.30 am **Morning Prayer**

Psalm 18.1-30

8.00 am **Holy Communion** *(with livestream)*

11.30 am **Holy Communion** (BCP)

5.30 pm **Evening Prayer**

Psalms 45, 46

Saturday 3rd

7.30 am **Morning Prayer**

Psalms 127, 128, 131

8.00 am **Holy Communion** *(with livestream)*

5.30 pm **Evening Prayer**

Psalms 2, 110

January 2026

In Residence: The Revd Canon Kimberly Bohan

Sunday 4th

The Second Sunday of Christmas

7.30 am **Morning Prayer** Psalm 87

8.00 am **Holy Communion** (*with livestream*) Preacher: tbc

10.30 am **Eucharist with Hymns** Psalm 147.12-end
Preacher: tbc

3.00 pm **Worship in the Garden**
*entering the garden through the 'deliveries' doorway outside the
Edgar Tower Gate.*

3.30 pm **Evening Prayer** Psalm 135

4.00 pm **Organ Devotion** Nicholas Freestone (organ)
La Nativité du Seigneur Olivier Messiaen
