

# A NEW SONG

## Texts & Translations

*The Choir of St Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich*

*William Baldry, Organist*

*Christopher Borrett, Director of Music*

### **Track 2**

#### **Matin Responsory – Christopher Borrett**

(Text: First Responsory of Advent Sunday)

I look from afar and lo I see the pow'r of God,  
the pow'r of God coming and a cloud, a cloud cov'ring the whole earth.  
Go ye out to meet Him, and say, "Tell us who art thou?"  
"Tell us, art thou He that should come to reign over thy people Israel?"  
High and low, rich and poor, are with another, go ye out to meet him, and  
say  
"Are you he that should come?"  
Hear, O Thou Shepherd of Israel,  
Thou that leadeth Joseph like a sheep,  
Tell us, art thou he?  
Stir up thy strength, O Lord, and come,  
Come to reign over thy people Israel!  
Glory be to God. Glory to the Son. Glory to the Spirit.

#### **Track 4**

### **Come thou Redeemer of the Earth – Michael Praetorius**

(Text: St Ambrose tr. Neale)

Come, thou Redeemer of the earth,  
and manifest thy virgin-birth:  
let every age adoring fall;  
such birth befits the God of all.

Begotten of no human will,  
but of the Spirit, thou art still  
the Word of God, in flesh arrayed,  
the Saviour, now to us displayed.

From God the Father he proceeds,  
to God the Father back he speeds,  
runs out his course to death and hell,  
returns on God's high throne to dwell.

O equal to thy Father, thou!  
Gird on thy fleshly mantle now,  
the weakness of our mortal state  
with deathless might invigorate.

Thy cradle here shall glitter bright,  
and darkness glow with new-born light,  
no more shall night extinguish day,  
where love's bright beams their power display.

O Jesu, virgin-born, to thee  
eternal praise and glory be,  
whom with the Father we adore  
and Holy Spirit, evermore. Amen.

### **Track 5**

#### **Adam lay ybounden – Ben Parry**

(Text: Anon 15<sup>th</sup> century English)

Adam lay ybounden,  
Bounden in a bond:  
Four thousand winter  
Thought he not too long.

And all was for an apple,  
An apple that he took,  
As clerkès finden  
Written in their book.

Nè had the apple taken been,  
The apple taken been,  
Ne had never our lady  
Abeen heavenè queen.

Blessèd be the time  
That apple taken was,  
Therefore we moun singen,  
Deo gracias!

### **Track 7**

#### **Rorate Caeli – William Byrd**

(Text: Isaiah 45:8)

Rorate caeli desuper, et nubes pluant justum: aperiatur terra, et germinet salvatorem.

Benedixisti, Domine, terram tuam: avertisti captivitatem Jacob.

Gloria Patri, et Filio, et Spiritui Sancto. Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper, et in saecula saeculorum. Amen.

*Drop down ye heavens, from above, and let the skies pour down righteousness: Let the earth open and bring forth a Saviour.*

*Lord, thou hast blessed thy land: Thou hast turned away the captivity of Jacob.*

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen*

## **Track 8**

### **Hark what a sound – Richard Runciman Terry**

(Text: Myers)

Hark what a sound, and too divine for hearing,  
stirs on the earth and trembles in the air!  
Is it the thunder of the Lord's appearing?  
Is it the music of his people's prayer?

Surely he cometh, and a thousand voices  
shout to the saints, and to the deaf are dumb;  
surely he cometh, and the earth rejoices,  
glad in his coming who hath sworn: I come!

This hath he done, and shall we not adore him?  
This shall he do, and can we still despair?  
Come, let us quickly fling ourselves before him,  
cast at his feet the burden of our care.

Through life and death, through sorrow and through sinning,  
he shall suffice me, for he hath sufficed:  
Christ is the end, for Christ was the beginning,  
Christ the beginning, for the end is Christ.

## **Track 9**

### **This is the truth sent from above – Ralph Vaughan-Williams**

(Text: English traditional)

This is the truth sent from above,  
The truth of God, the God of love:  
Therefore don't turn me from your door,  
But hearken all, both rich and poor.

The first thing which I do relate  
Is that God did man create,  
The next thing which to you I'll tell,  
Woman was made with man to dwell.

Thus we were heirs to endless woes,  
Till God the Lord did interpose,  
And so a promise soon did run,  
That he would redeem us by his Son.

And at this season of the year  
Our blest Redeemer did appear,  
And here did live, and here did preach,  
and many thousands he did teach.

Thus he in love to us behaved,  
To show us how we must be saved;  
And if you want to know the way,  
Be pleased to hear what he did say:

## **Track 11**

### **There is no rose – John Joubert**

(Text: Anon. 15<sup>th</sup> century English)

There is no rose of such virtue  
As is the rose that bare Jesu;

*Alleluia.*

For in this rose contained was  
Heaven and earth in little space;  
*Res miranda.*

By that rose we may well see<sup>l</sup>  
That he is God in persons three,  
*Pari forma.*

Leave we all this worldly mirth,  
And follow we this joyful birth;  
*Transeamus.*

### **Track 13**

#### **How beauteous are their feet – Charles Villiers Stanford**

(Text: Isaac Watts)

How beauteous are their feet  
Who stand on Zion's hill!  
Who bring salvation on their tongues,  
And words of peace reveal!

How happy are our ears  
That hear this joyful sound,  
Which kings and prophets waited for,  
And sought, but never found!

How blessed are our eyes  
That see this heavenly light  
Prophets and kings desired it long,  
But died without the sight.

The Lord makes bare his arm  
Through all the earth abroad;  
Let every nation now behold  
Their Saviour and their God!

### ***Track 15***

#### **A New Song – James MacMillan**

(Text: Psalm 96)

O sing unto the Lord a new song:  
sing unto the Lord, all the earth.

Sing unto the Lord, and praise His name;  
be telling of His salvation from day to day.

For He cometh, to judge the earth,  
and with righteousness to judge the world and the people with His truth

### ***Track 16***

#### **O Come, O come Emmanuel – Anonymous Renaissance**

(Text: Lacey & others)

O come, O come, Emmanuel!  
redeem thy captive Israel,  
that into exile drear is gone  
Far from the face of God's dear Son.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Immanuel  
shall come to you, O Israel.

O come, thou Wisdom from on high!  
who madest all in earth and sky,  
creating man from dust and clay:  
to us reveal salvation's way.  
O come, O come, Adonai,  
who in thy glorious majesty  
from Sinai's mountain, clothed with awe,  
gavest thy folk the ancient law.

O come, thou Root of Jesse! draw  
the quarry from the lion's claw;  
from those dread caverns of the grave,  
From nether hell, thy people save.

O come, thou Lord of David's key!  
the royal door fling wide and free;  
safeguard for us the heavenward road,  
and bar the way to death's abode.

O come, O come, thou Dayspring bright!  
pour on our souls thy healing light;  
dispel the long night's lingering gloom,  
and pierce the shadows of the tomb.

O come, Desire of nations! show  
thy kingly reign on earth below;  
Thou Corner-stone, uniting all,  
Restore the ruin of our fall.

### ***Track 18***

#### **Nova! Nova! – John Scott**

(Text based on Lk 1:26-38)

*Nova! Nova! 'Ave' fit ex 'Eva' (News! News! Ave has been made from Eve.)*

Gabriel of high degree,  
He came down from Trinity  
to Nazareth in Galilee.

He met a maiden in a place,  
He kneeled down afore her face.  
He said: "Hail, Mary, full of grace!"

When the maid heard tell of this

She was full sore abashed lways  
And wened that she had done amiss

Then said the angel: "Dread not you,  
You shall conceive in all vertue  
A Child whose name shall be Jesu."

"It is not yet six months agone  
Since Elizabeth conceivèd John,  
As it was prophesied ere long."

Then said the maiden verily:  
"I am your servant right truly.  
Ecce ancilla Domini" (*Behold the handmaid of the Lord*).

### **Track 19**

#### **Hills of the North, rejoice – Martin Shaw**

(Text: Oakley)

Hills of the North, rejoice,  
river and mountain-spring,  
hark to the advent voice;  
valley and lowland, sing.  
Christ comes in righteousness and love,  
he brings salvation from above.

Isles of the Southern seas,  
sing to the listening earth,  
carry on every breeze  
hope of a world's new birth:  
In Christ shall all be made anew,  
his word is sure, his promise true.

Lands of the East, arise,  
he is your brightest morn,

greet him with joyous eyes,  
praise shall his path adorn:  
your seers have longed to know their Lord;  
to you he comes, the final word.

Shores of the utmost West,  
lands of the setting sun,  
welcome the heavenly guest  
in whom the dawn has come:  
he brings a never-ending light  
who triumphed o'er our darkest night.

Shout, as you journey home,  
songs be in every mouth,  
lo, from the North they come,  
from East and West and South:  
in Jesus all shall find their rest,  
in him the universe be blest.

### ***Track 20***

#### **Out of your sleep arise and wake – Richard Rodney Bennett**

(Text: Anon 15<sup>th</sup> century)

Out of your sleep arise and wake,  
For God mankind now hath ytake.  
All of a maid without any make:  
Of all women she beareth the bell.

And through a maidè fair and wise,  
Now man is made of full great price:  
Now angels knelen to man's service,  
An at this time all this befell.

Now man is brighter than the sun:  
Now man in heav'n on high shall won:

Blessèd be God this game is begun  
And his mother the Empress of hell.

That ever was thrall now is he free:  
That ever was small now great is she:  
Now shall God deem be thee and me  
Unto this bliss if we do well.

Now man he may to heaven wend:  
Now heav'n and earth to him they bend.  
He that was foe now is our friend.  
This is no nay that I you tell.

Now blessèd Brother grant us grace,  
At doomès day to see the face,  
And in thy court to have a place,  
That we may there sing thee nowell.

## **Track 22**

**O thou, the central orb – Charles Wood**  
(Text: Bramley)

O Thou, the central orb of righteous love,  
Pure beam of the most High, eternal Light  
Of this our wintry world, Thy radiance bright  
Awakes new joy in faith, hope soars above.

Come, quickly come, and let thy glory shine,  
Gilding our darksome heaven with rays Divine.

Thy saints with holy lustre round Thee move,  
As stars about thy throne, set in the height  
Of God's ordaining counsel, as Thy sight  
Gives measured grace to each, Thy power to prove.

Let Thy bright beams disperse the gloom of sin,  
Our nature all shall feel eternal day  
In fellowship with thee, transforming day  
To souls erewhile unclean, now pure within. Amen.

### **Track 24**

#### **Lo he comes with clouds descending – Thomas Olivers**

(Text: Wesley/Cennick)

Lo! He comes with clouds descending,  
Once for favored sinners slain;  
Thousand thousand saints attending,  
Swell the triumph of His train:  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!  
God appears on earth to reign.

Every eye shall now behold Him  
robed in dreadful majesty;  
those who set at naught and sold him,  
Pierced and nailed Him to the Tree,  
deeply wailing,  
shall the true Messiah see.

The dear tokens of His passion  
still his dazzling body bears,  
cause of endless exultation  
to his ransomed worshippers:  
with what rapture  
gaze we on those glorious scars!

Yea, Amen! Let all adore Thee,  
high on Thine eternal throne;  
Saviour, take the power and glory,  
claim the kingdom for Thine own;  
Alleluia!  
Thou shalt reign, and thou alone.

**Track 25**

**Vesper Responsory – Christopher Borrett**

(Text: 2 Chornicles 20.17)

Judah and Jerusalem,  
fear not nor be dismayed;

Tomorrow go ye forth,  
and the Lord he will be with you

Stand ye still,  
And ye shall see the salvation of the Lord

Glory be to the Father and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Ghost.