

# A Ceremony of Carols

- Benjamin Britten

## Hodie

*Procession - Alleluia, Christ is born today.*

## Wolkum yole

*Welcome all, be ye heavenly king or humble person, and make good cheer. May the New Year bring you many blessings.*

## There is no Rose

*In the womb of Mary the fantastic truth of heaven and earth united is made manifest.*

## That yonge Child

solo: Ellie Rhodes

*The nightingale's song is hoarse next to Mary's lullaby. Whoever follows the nightingale does wrong.*

## Balulalow

solo: Victoria Morgan

A tender lullaby for the infant Jesus.

## As dew in Aprille

*I sing of a pure maiden who searched for her son, King of all Kings. He left her as quietly as the dew in April.*

## This little Babe

*With only the innocent weapons of Truth, the Holy Child takes on all the forces of hell.*

## Interlude

## In freezing winter night

solos: Anisha Chana and Manon Hagger

*See the lowly babe in a manger lies. This stable is his court. Approach and pay homage to your King.*

## Spring Carol

solo: Anisha Chana and Emily Varney

*The earth was created for man to enjoy. All nature praises God, and we do likewise.*

## Deo Gracias

*Thanks be to God, for had Adam not taken the apple then our Lady would never have bourn Jesus for our salvation. Therefore we sing.*

## Hodie

*Recession - Alleluia, Christ is born today.*

# A Little Christmas Suite

- Christopher Field

## The Oxen

## Bedtime: The First Christmas

## Bethlehem Town

## Sleep, little babe

solo: Iona Hobbs

## The Birds

## The Christmas Tree

In March 1942 Benjamin Britten was returning to England following three years in the United States. During the voyage the ship berthed at Halifax, Nova Scotia, where he came across a book of poems in Middle English and some of these he set during the voyage as the *'Ceremony of Carols'*. Now hugely popular, it is an unusual setting for high voices and harp. Britten was planning to write a harp concerto and so had been studying the instrument, and had with him a manual on writing for the instrument. The work opens and closes with the choir processing to plainsong (though today we do not process), and the other songs deal in a varied way with the traditional stories surrounding the birth of Christ.

**Girls' Choir:** Isabella Bartlett, Lily Blakeney-Edwards, Anisha Chana, Abi Clarke, Emma Clarke, Beth Goldsack, Manon Hagger, Iona Hobbs, Carolyn Lee, Amber Mateu, Daphne McCready Sholl, Lydia McNulty, Naomi Meese-Groves, Victoria Morgan, Lauren Park, Ellie Rhodes, Florence Stone, Rosie Trentham, Emily Varney, Jemma Young

**Project Choir:** Brigid Aglen, Peter Brown, Ian Cole, Beth Goldsack, Henry Hawkin, Carol Hooker, Camilla Jeppeson, Emilia Lederleitnerova, Helen Lee, Mark Lee, Rose Lee, Jennifer Lee-Potter, Fiz Markham, Esther McNamara, Luke Melville, Naomi Meese-Groves, Richard Simon, Rob Steel, Benedict Williams, Jane Williams

# INTERVAL

## Once in Royal David's City

solo: Florence Stone

## O little town of Bethlehem

O come all ye faithful

## Gaudete

## Bethlehem Down

- Warlock  
solo: Peter Brown

## The Three Kings

- Cornelius  
Still, still, still - trad. arr. Gant

## Lully Lulla, Lullay

- Stopford  
solo: Camilla Jeppeson

## The Lamb

- Tavener

## Mary did you know?

- Lowry and Green

## The Christmas Bells

- Israeli folk-song arr.  
Flatau

## Candlelight Carol

- Simon Mold  
solo: Rosie Trentham

## Waiting World

- Simon Mold

## It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas

- Willson

## White Christmas

- Berlin

## Have yourself a merry little Christmas

- Martin and Blane  
solo: Lydia McNulty

# *Promenade*

## *Choirs*

# A Ceremony of Carols

A concert of traditional and modern carols and other festive choral music including Benjamin Britten's A Ceremony of Carols

**Promenade Girls' Choir  
and Project Choir**

**directed by Christopher Goldsack**  
with Camilla Jeppeson - piano  
and Mary Reid - harp

Tuesday 22nd December 7.30pm

**St Andrew's Church**

Walton-on-Thames

[www.promenade.org.uk](http://www.promenade.org.uk)