

Hymn Sheet for Sunday 4th January 2026

Led by Rev Daniel Cheyne

Welcome and Notices

Call to Worship “God is our refuge and our strength
a help in times of trouble.”

Hymn MP 498

O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal home.

Under the shadow of Your throne
Your saints have dwelt secure;
sufficient is Your arm alone,
and our defence is sure.

Before the hills in order stood,
or earth received her frame,
from everlasting You are God,
to endless years the same.

A thousand ages in Your sight
are like an evening gone,
short as the watch that ends the night
before the rising sun.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
bears all its sons away;
they fly forgotten, as a dream
dies with the dawning day.

O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
be our defence while life shall last,
and our eternal home.

Prayer

Reading Jeremiah 31 v 7 - 14

Hymn MP47

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 in the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the Baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes:
I love You, Lord Jesus! look down from the sky
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

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

Gifts and Prayer of Thanksgiving

Reading – John 1 v 1 - 14

Hymn MP446

Lord, Thy Word abideth,
and our footsteps guideth;
who its truth believeth
light and joy receiveth.

Who can tell the pleasure,
who recount the treasure,
by Thy word imparted
to the simple-hearted?

When the storms are o'er us ,
and dark clouds before us,
then its light directeth,
and our way protecteth.

When our foes are near us,
then Thy word doth cheer us,
word of consolation,
message of salvation.

Word of mercy, giving
succour to the living;
word of life, supplying
comfort to the dying.

O that we discerning
its most holy learning,
Lord, may love and fear Thee,
evermore be near Thee!

Sermon

Hymn MP539

Once in royal David's city,
stood a lowly cattle shed,
where a mother laid her baby,
in a manger for His bed.
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little child.

He came down to earth from heaven,
who is God and Lord of all;
and His shelter was a stable,
and His cradle was a stall:
with the poor and mean and lowly
lived on earth our Saviour holy.

And through all His wondrous childhood
He would honour and obey,
love, and watch the lowly mother,
in whose gentle arms He lay:
Christian children all should be,
mild, obedient, good as He.

For He is our childhood's pattern:
day by day like us He grew;
He was little, weak, and helpless,
tears and smiles like us He knew;
and He feeleth for our sadness,
and He shareth in our gladness.

And our eyes at last shall see Him,
through His own redeeming love;
for that child, so dear and gentle,
is our Lord in heaven above;
and He leads His children on
to the place where He is gone.

Not in that poor lowly stable,
with the oxen standing by,
we shall see Him, but in heaven,
set at God's right hand on high;
When like stars his children crowned
All in white shall wait around.

Prayers of Intercession and Lord's Prayer

Hymn MP39

As with gladness men of old
did the guiding star behold;
as with joy they hailed its light,
leading onward, beaming bright,
so, most gracious God, may we
led by You for ever be.

As with joyful steps they sped,
Saviour, to Your lowly bed,
there to bend the knee before
You whom heaven and earth adore,
so may we with one accord,
seek forgiveness from our Lord.

As they offered gifts most rare,
gold and frankincense and myrrh,
so may we, cleansed from our sin,
lives of service now begin,
as in love our treasures bring,
Christ, to You our heavenly King.

Holy Jesus, every day
keep us in the narrow way;
and when earthly things are past,
bring our ransomed souls at last
where they need no star to guide,
where no clouds Your glory hide.

In the heavenly country bright
need they no created light;
You its light, its joy, its crown,
You its sun which goes not down.
There for ever may we sing
Hallelujahs to our King.

Benediction Let the love of the Father course through our veins. Let the example of Jesus pulse through our bodies. Let the power of the Holy Spirit flow through our souls. Let the wonder of God be our guide, today and in the days ahead. Amen

Exit Music: Postlude on hymn-tune 'Was lebet'
(*O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness*) by Christopher Tambling