



The Cathedral & Metropolitan Church of St Peter in York

SANKTA LUCIA

A FESTIVAL OF LIGHT



MONDAY 11 DECEMBER 2023
AT 7.00 PM

Welcome

On behalf of the Chapter of York I am delighted to welcome you to this very special service. We are delighted to host a great range of groups and organisations to services during Advent and it is particularly good to have had the opportunity to work with the York Anglo-Scandinavian Society to create this Sankta Lucia celebration, now in its tenth successive year. The service draws on the strong historic and cultural links which York has with Scandinavia. We are grateful to all those who have worked so hard to prepare for this evening and create something which speaks so powerfully of the God who brings hope and light in the face of darkness.

THE VERY REVD DOMINIC BARRINGTON, DEAN OF YORK

York Anglo-Scandinavian Society

York Anglo-Scandinavian Society (YASS) celebrated its 60th anniversary in January 2020. The society has been working in partnership with York Minster since 2013 to arrange the annual Sankta Lucia service that is now a firm fixture in York's December calendar.

YASS promotes friendship and understanding between Britain and the Scandinavian countries. Members regularly meet for talks and social events such as our special Midsummer and Christmas celebrations.

YASS is a member of the Confederation of Scandinavian Societies in Great Britain (CoScan), a coordinating body for societies and organisations who focus on cultural exchanges between the UK and the five Nordic countries.

Tonight's retiring collection will, as in previous years, be shared between York Minster, YASS and the CoScan Trust Fund that annually awards grants to young British people with well-motivated grounds for traveling to the Nordic countries.

Discover more at www.yorkangloscan.org.uk. You can read more about Sankta Lucia at www.sankta-lucia-york.uk/en/.



The Sankta Lucia service is run as a partnership between York Anglo-Scandinavian Society and York Minster. This year's service is kindly supported by our primary sponsor, the Ingå Group. We also acknowledge with thanks, the kind support from Handelsbanken York, Polarn & Pyret, Valhalla and IKEA Leeds.



Handelsbanken

POLARN O. PYRET



London Nordic Choir

The London Nordic Choir is an independent chamber choir, particularly noted for vibrant performances of a cappella repertoire.

Founded in 2016 by Carina Einarson, Musical Director, the ensemble repertoire ranges from Hildegard von Bingen to distinguished living composers such as Arvo Pärt, Eric Whitacre and Ola Gjeilo, with an intent to capture and promote the unique sound of traditional Nordic choral works. With performances in St John's Smith Square, St James's Piccadilly, Southbank and other prominent venues; the choir is celebrated for its lyrical interpretations and dynamic tone.

Conductor, composer and professional musician, Carina Einarson studied music at Royal Academy of Music in Stockholm with legendary Professor Eric Ericson amongst others. Her technical acumen and creative versatility brought her to London, where she has performed on BBC3 Radio, led evensongs in St Paul's Cathedral and worked as Musical Director at the Swedish Church.

This winter season, the choir is thrilled to return by invitation to perform in the Sankta Lucia: Festival of Light service in York Minster, and to share a shimmering radiant evening together.

Sankta Lucia

Sankta Lucia, a tradition that blends pagan and Christian roots, is celebrated on the night of 13 December, historically the longest night of the year in the Julian calendar. The festivities, originating in Sweden, revolve around the themes of light and darkness, with a connection to the martyrdom of St Lucy in the fourth century.

The modern Sankta Lucia celebration features a white-clad Lucia with a crown of candles symbolising a halo and a red sash representing martyrdom. Lucia's story, reaching Sweden via Germany and England, persisted even after the Reformation, embodying the symbol of light during the dark winter season.

The eighteenth-century account describes the first appearance of a candle-bearing Lucia, and in the nineteenth century, the Lucia song from Naples found its way to Sweden, gaining immense popularity.

The tradition spread to other Scandinavian and Baltic countries during the 20th century. Today, Sankta Lucia is not just a historical celebration but a cherished tradition passed down through generations. On 13 December, Lucia processions grace schools, churches, work places, care homes and community clubs, singing traditional songs and carols. The heartwarming event, including candle-lit processions, songs, coffee, lusse-bullar (Lucia buns) and pepparkakor (gingerbread biscuits) remains consistent, bringing joy, light and warmth to people of all ages.

Lucia's enduring legacy is as a beacon of light in darkness, offering inspiration to welcome light into our hearts during Christmas and to share it with others in the coming year. The celebration continues to thrive, connecting people both within and outside Sweden and Scandinavia, creating a deep sense of unity, community and continuity.



Order of Service

You are asked kindly to ensure that mobile phones are switched off for the duration of the service, and to refrain from taking photographs.



At 6.55 pm, the Dean welcomes everyone and introduces Pernilla Tweddle (Chair of the Lucia Planning Committee at the York Anglo-Scandinavian Society) who will offer a vote of thanks. The lights are then dimmed.

Adam Wilson (Assistant Organist of York Minster) plays J S Bach's Chorale Prelude NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND (BWV 659), as the clergy process to their places in the Nave Sanctuary.

Please stand.

The Gathering

A minister says:

The light and peace of Jesus Christ be with you all
and also with you.

A large candle is lit.

Let us pray.

Silence is kept.

God our redeemer, who gave light to the world that was in darkness by the healing power of the Saviour's cross: shed that light on us, we pray, that with your martyr Lucia we may, by the purity of our lives, reflect the light of Christ and, by the merits of his passion, come to the light of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Please remain standing.

Hymn

1. O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here,
until the Son of God appear:

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.*

2. O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free
thine own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell thy people save,
and give them victory o'er the grave:

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.*

3. O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer
our spirits by thine advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadows put to flight:

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.*

4. O come, thou Key of David, come,
and open wide our heavenly home;
make safe the way that leads on high,
and close the path to misery:

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.*

5. O come, O come, thou Lord of Might,
who to thy tribes, on Sinai's height,
in ancient times didst give the law
in cloud and majesty and awe:

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.*

Words AM 45, the Revd John Mason Neale (1818–1866) based on the Latin Advent antiphons
Tune VENI EMMANUEL, AM 45, French melody adapted by Thomas Helmore (1811–1890)

Please sit.

Organ Voluntary

The organist plays Dietrich Buxtehude's Chorale Prelude IN DULCI JUBILO (BuxWV 197), during which the Lucia singers assemble their Procession and the lights are dimmed further.

The Sankta Lucia Procession with carols and readings

The choir processes from the West End to the Nave Sanctuary singing:

Sankta Lucia, ljusklara hägring,
sprid i vår vinternatt glans av din fågring
Drömmar med vingesus under oss sia,
Tänd dina vita ljus, Sankta Lucia.

Kom i din vita skrud, huld med din maning,
skänk oss, du julens brud, julfröjders aning.
Drömmar med vingesus under oss sia,
Tänd dina vita ljus, Sankta Lucia.

*Saintly Lucia, emblem of lightness,
spread through our wintry night sheen of your brightness.
Dreams borne on airy wings promise us wondrous things.
Light your white candles then, saintly Lucia.*

*Come in your gown of white, clad as a Christmas bride,
graciously bringing us tokens of Christmastide,
Dreams borne on airy wings promise us wondrous things.
Light your white candles then, saintly Lucia.*

Words Sigrid Elmlad (1860–1926)

Music Neapolitan folk melody arranged by Jan Åke Hillerud (b 1938)

The choir continues with these songs:

Så mörk är natten i midvintertid

♦ *Words* Johnny Johansson ♦ *Music* Carl-Bertil Agnestic (1924–2019)

Bereden väg för Herran

♦ *Words* Frans Michael Franzén (1772–1847)

♦ *Music* Folktune arranged by Anders Bond (1888–1980)

När det lider mot jul

♦ *Words* Jeanna Otherdahl (1879–1965) ♦ *Music* Ruben Liljefors (1871–1936)

Julsång

♦ *Words* Knut Magnus Nyblom (1870–1949)

♦ *Music* Hugo Alfvén (1872–1960)

First Reading

Members of York Anglo-Scandinavian Society read:

Midvinternattens köld är hård,
stjärnorna gnistra och glimma.
Alla sova i enslig gård
djupt under midnattstimma.
Månen vandrar sin tysta ban,
snön lyser vit på fur och gran,
snön lyser vit på taken.
Endast tomten är vaken.

Deep in the grip of the midwinter cold
The stars glitter and sparkle.
All are asleep on this lonely farm,
Deep in the winter night.
The pale white moon is a wanderer,
snow gleams white on pine and fir,
snow gleams white on the roofs.
The tomte alone is awake.

Viktor Rydberg (1828–1895).

English translation by Steven Michelsen.

The choir continues with these songs:

Himlen hänger stjärnsvart

- ◆ *Words* Karl Gustav Ossiannilsson (1875–1970)
- ◆ *Words* Folktune arranged by Helene Stureborg (*b* 1964)

Staffansvisa från Skåne

- ◆ *Music* Folktune arranged by Carina Einarson

Staffansvisa

- ◆ *Music* Folktune arranged by Jan Åke Hillerud (*b* 1938)

Betlehems stjärna

- ◆ *Words* Viktor Rydberg (1828–1895)
- ◆ *Music* Ivar Widéen (1871–1951)

Förunderligt och märkligt

- ◆ *Words* Carl Oscar Mannström (1875–1938)
- ◆ *Music* Carl Nielsen (1865–1931)

Second Reading

A minister reads:

In the beginning was the Word,
and the Word was with God, and
the Word was God. He was in the
beginning with God. All things
came into being through him, and
without him not one thing came
into being. What has come into
being in him was life, and the life
was the light of all people. The
light shines in the darkness, and
the darkness did not overcome it.
The true light, which enlightens
everyone, was coming into the
world. And the Word became flesh
and lived among us, and we have
seen his glory, the glory as of a
father's only son,
full of grace and truth.

I begynnelsen var Ordet,
och Ordet var hos Gud,
och Ordet var Gud. Detta var
i begynnelsen hos Gud.
Genom det har allt blivit till,
och utan det har intet blivit till,
som är till.
I det var liv, och livet
var människornas ljus. Och
ljuset lyser i mörkret, och
mörkret har icke fått makt därmed.
Det sanna ljuset, det som lyser
över alla människor, skulle nu komma
i världen. Och Ordet vart kött
och tog sin boning ibland oss, och vi
sågo hans härlighet, vi sågo likasom en
enfödd Sons härlighet från sin Fader,
och han var full av nåd och sanning.

JOHANNES / JOHN 1.1–5, 9, 14

The choir continues with these songs:

När juldagsmorgon glimmar

♦ *Words* attributed to Abel Burkhardt (1805–1882)

translated into Swedish by Katarina Elisabeth Ehrenborg Posse (1818–1880)

♦ *Music* Sven-David Sandström (1942–2019)

Jul, jul, strålände jul

♦ *Words* Edvard Evers (1853–1919) ♦ *Music* Gustaf Nordqvist (1886–1949)

Stilla natt

♦ *Words* Josephus Franciscus Mohr (1792–1848)

translated into Swedish by Carl Oscar Mannström (1875–1938)

♦ *Music* Franz Xaver Gruber (1787–1863)

arranged by David Wikander (1884–1955)

The choir recesses from the Nave Sanctuary singing the Sankta Lucia song.

Please sit or kneel.

The Prayers

A minister says:

To us a child is born, to us a Son is given;
let us pray for the people he came to save.
Wonderful Counsellor, you order all things with your wisdom:
help the Church to reveal the mystery of your love
and fill her with the Spirit of truth.

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Mighty God, the government is on your shoulders:
guide the leaders of the nations
and bring in your kingdom of justice and righteousness.

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Everlasting Father, you call us to live together in unity:
protect by your mercy all your children, bless our families
and renew our communities.

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Prince of Peace, you bring reconciliation through the cross:
by your healing power give to all who suffer
your gift of wholeness and peace.

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Let us commend the world, to which Christ came,
to the mercy and protection of God.

Silence is kept.

Almighty God, as we prepare with joy
to celebrate the gift of the Christ-child,
embrace the earth with your glory and be for us a living hope
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

As we await the coming of the Light of the World,
let us pray in the words our Saviour gave us (in either Swedish or English).

Fader Vår, som är i himmelen,
helgat varde ditt namn.
Tillkomme ditt rike.
Ske din vilja, såsom i himmelen
så ock på jorden.
Vårt dagliga bröd giv oss idag,
och förlåt oss våra skulder,
såsom ock vi förlåta
dem oss skyldiga äro,
och inled oss icke i frestelse
utan fräls oss ifrån ondo.
Ty riket är ditt
och makten och härligheten
i evighet. Amen.

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.

Please stand.

Hymn

The hymn is sung simultaneously in English and Swedish.

1. O come, all ye faithful,
joyful and triumphant,
O come ye,
O come ye to Bethlehem;
come and behold him
born the King of Angels:

*O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!*

2. God of God,
Light of Light,
lo! he abhors not
the Virgin's womb;
Very God,
begotten, not created:

O come, let us adore him,...

3. Sing, choirs of angels,
sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens
of heaven above;
'Glory to God
in the highest:'

O come, let us adore him,...

1. Dagen är kommen!
Kärlek triumferar.
Kom, låt oss skynda
till Betlehem.
Hälsad av änglar,
Krist är född till jorden.

*O kom, låt oss tillbedja,
O kom, låt oss tillbedja,
O kom, låt oss tillbedja
vår Herre Krist.*

2. Gud av Gud Fader,
ljus av ljusens källa,
Människosonen
av Maria född.
Så Gud sin kärlek
för all världen visar.

O kom, låt oss tillbedja,...

3. Sjung, halleluja,
sjung, ni änglaskaror,
Sjung alla helgon,
sjung jordens folk!
Lov, tack och ära
vare Gud i höjden!

O kom, låt oss tillbedja,...

Words English translation by Frederick Oakeley (1802–80)

Swedish translation by Eva Elisabet Norberg Hagberg (1915–2004)

Tune ADESTE FIDELES, attributed to John Francis Wade (1711–86)

The Sending Out

The Dean pronounces the Blessing:

May the light of Christ, the King of all,
shine ever brighter in our hearts,
that with Lucia and all the saints in light
we may shine forth as lights in the world;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. Amen.

Please remain standing until the clergy have left the Sanctuary.

Organ Voluntary

In dulci jubilo, BWV 729

J S Bach

York Anglo-Scandinavian Society

York Anglo-Scandinavian Society meets at the Norwegian Study Centre, Quantum House, University of York, YO10 5BR and other places around York.

For more information about YASS, see: <https://yorkangloscan.org.uk> or send an email to yasssecretary@gmail.com

Spring and Summer 2024 Events

Thursday 11/18 January 7.00 pm

Subarctic ecosystems in Abisko, Sweden: A Sheffield University BioSciences Field Study.

Saturday 20 January 10.30 am

YASS Winter walk to Naburn Lock.

Thursday 29 February 7.00 pm

Axel Johnson: 150 Years of a Swedish family business.

Saturday 16 March

Scandinavian Easter festivities and traditions.

Thursday 25 April 7.00 pm

York Anglo-Scandinavian Society

Social evening and Annual General Meeting.

May: Date TBC

A YASS day at the seaside.

Rail journey to Whitby on the North York Moors Railway.

Friday 21 June

Sankt Hans Aften – Celebrating Midsummer

Social evening with Bonfire and Scandinavian food.





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