

SOUTHWARK
◆ CATHEDRAL ◆

CHORAL EVENSONG
WITH VALEDICTION OF CHORISTERS & LAY CLERK

SUNDAY 13 JULY 2025
3.00PM



WELCOME TO SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL

A MEMBER OF THE



ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Please ensure that all electronic devices are switched to silent.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Photography and video recording of the Choir is not permitted.

You are welcome to take photographs of the Cathedral but please do not take any photographs or videos during the service.

HEARING LOOP

Please switch your device to 'T'.

POSTURE

The instructions in this booklet are not prescriptive. Please sit if that is more appropriate for you.

DONATIONS



There are several donation points in the Cathedral where you can make your donation, or you can simply scan or tap the QR code, or text SOUTHWARK (Amount) to 70085 (one standard rate message is also charged). Thank you very much for your generous support of the Cathedral.

You can also support the Cathedral by buying your books from the ethical online bookseller bookshop.org and designating Southwark Cathedral shop for the 30% of purchase price donation they offer us.

CHOIR

The Cathedral Choir

SETTING

Dyson in D

RESPONSES

Bernard Rose (1916-1996)

CHORAL EVENSONG

Wherever you are from and however you have come to be here you are so very welcome. Our service lasts about forty minutes and is led by the Choir and clergy. This gives you the opportunity to listen to some beautifully sung choral music, to be still at the end of the day and to reflect in a place where others have brought their joys and concerns to God over many centuries.

CAN I JOIN THE CONGREGATION?

Yes, of course: if you would like to stay for the whole service, you are welcome to sit in the seats beyond the stalls where the Choir is singing, or if you have only a few minutes feel free to just sit in the nave and let the space and the music communicate something of God's beauty beyond all words.

DO I HAVE TO SAY OR DO ANYTHING?

There are places where the congregation is invited to stand and you may like to do this, but it is fine if you prefer to remain seated. You will be invited to join in with some spoken parts, printed in bold in this booklet, but you don't have to.

MAY I TAKE PHOTOGRAPHS?

Please don't take photographs so we can keep the atmosphere peaceful and the space safe. We often have children singing so you can't take pictures of the service or Choir rehearsal beforehand, though you are most welcome to take pictures after the service.

MAY I COME BACK TO ATTEND THIS SERVICE ON ANOTHER DAY?

Of course! Choral Evensong usually takes place in school term time on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays at 5.30pm, on some Saturdays and on Sunday at 3.00pm. Do check the Cathedral website just to be sure: sometimes we have to vary our usual routine.

WHAT'S THE AIM OF THE SERVICE?

Choral Evensong is an opportunity to worship God and experience God's loving welcome in a holy space that can feel like a window on heaven.

WHAT IS CHORAL EVENSONG?

Choral Evensong is a form of worship which is several hundred years old and is unique to the Anglican Church. To be at Choral Evensong is like dropping in on a conversation which is already in progress – a conversation between God and human beings which began long before we were born and will go on long after we are dead. So do not be surprised, or disturbed, if there are some things in the conversation which you do not understand at first. The text of the service is drawn almost entirely from the Bible. Its main purpose is to proclaim the wonderful works of God in history and in the life and death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. It also invites those who worship to respond with praise and penitence, prayer and obedience.

The service is in three parts.

The first part, which is very brief, prepares us for the story which is to follow.

The second part is the story of what God has done (and continues to do) to save his people, beginning in the Old Testament (the Psalm and the First Reading), then moving to the New Testament (the Magnificat, the Second Reading and the Nunc Dimittis) and reaching its climax as we affirm our faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed.

The third part is our human response to the God who has revealed himself in history, in Jesus Christ and in the Church.

WHY DOES THE CHOIR HAVE SO MUCH TO DO AND THE CONGREGATION SO LITTLE?

Whether it's your first language or not, music has a particular power, reaching out to express truths beyond words. In worship this can happen through the simplicity of a well-known hymn sung together, or as highly skilled musicians offer something more elaborate on behalf of everyone else. This is the pattern at Choral Evensong. The Choir and organist work in partnership with the building to point us towards the beauty of God that is our source and inspiration, and the congregation are freed to rest and rejoice in God's presence.

We are so glad that you are here and hope that you find the service enriching.

Please stand as the Procession enters.

THE WELCOME

Canon Kathryn Fleming, Precentor

The Choir sings:

THE PRECES

O Lord, open thou our lips
And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

O God, make speed to save us;
O Lord, make haste to help us.

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.

Praise ye the Lord;
The Lord's name be praised.

Please be seated as the Choir sings:

THE PSALM

Psalms 77.1-12

I will cry unto God with my voice :
even unto God will I cry with my voice, and he shall hearken unto me.

In the time of my trouble I sought the Lord :
my sore ran and ceased not in the night-season; my soul refused comfort.

When I am in heaviness, I will think upon God:
when my heart is vexed, I will complain.

Thou holdest mine eyes waking : I am so feeble, that I cannot speak.

I have considered the days of old : and the years that are past.

I call to remembrance my song :
and in the night I commune with mine own heart, and search out my spirits.

Will the Lord absent himself for ever : and will he be no more intreated?

Is his mercy clean gone for ever :
and is his promise come utterly to an end for evermore?

Hath God forgotten to be gracious :
and will he shut up his loving-kindness in displeasure?

And I said, It is mine own infirmity :
but I will remember the years of the right hand of the most Highest.

I will remember the works of the Lord :
and call to mind thy wonders of old time.

I will think also of all thy works : and my talking shall be of thy doings.

Please stand.

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.

Please be seated.

THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 55.6-13

The First Lesson is written in the fifty-fifth chapter of the Book of the Prophet Isaiah, beginning at the sixth verse.

Seek the LORD while he may be found,
call upon him while he is near;
let the wicked forsake their way,
and the unrighteous their thoughts;
let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them,
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.
For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD.
For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven,
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,
so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

For you shall go out in joy,
and be led back in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you
shall burst into song,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.
Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;
and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial,
for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

Here ends the First Lesson.

Please stand as the Choir sings:

THE MAGNIFICAT

My soul doth magnify the Lord :
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.

For he hath regarded :
the lowliness of his hand-maiden.

For behold, from henceforth :
all generations shall call me blessed.

For he that is mighty hath magnified me :
and holy is his Name.

And his mercy is on them that fear him :
throughout all generations.

He hath shewed strength with his arm :
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.

He hath put down the mighty from their seat : and hath exalted the humble
and meek.

He hath filled the hungry with good things : and the rich he has sent empty
away.

He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel :
as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed for ever.

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.

Please be seated.

THE SECOND LESSON

Matthew 28.16-20

The Second Lesson is written in the twenty-eighth chapter of the Gospel according to St Matthew, beginning at the sixteenth verse.

The eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshipped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.'

Here ends the Second Lesson.

Please stand as the Choir sings:

THE NUNC DIMITTIS

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace :
according to thy word.

For mine eyes have seen : thy salvation;

Which thou hast prepared :
before the face of all people;

To be a light to lighten the Gentiles :
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

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.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

**All I believe in God,
 the Father almighty,
 maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead and buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven
and sitteth on the right hand of God, the Father almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost,
the holy Catholic Church,
the Communion of Saints,
the Forgiveness of sins,
the Resurrection of the body
and the Life everlasting.
Amen.**

The Minister and Choir sing:

THE LESSER LITANY, LORD'S PRAYER & RESPONSES

The Lord be with you;
And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

Please be seated or kneel.

Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father,
which art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name.
Thy kingdom come.
Thy will be done in earth,
as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive them that trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
Amen.

O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us;
And grant us thy salvation.

O Lord, save the King;
And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Endue thy ministers with righteousness;
And make thy chosen people joyful.

O Lord, save thy people;
And bless thine inheritance.

Give peace in our time, O Lord;
Because there is none other that fighteth for us,
but only thou, O God.

O God, make clean our hearts within us;
And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

Followed by:

THE COLLECTS

O God, the protector of all that trust in thee, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us thy mercy; that, thou being our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we finally lose not the things eternal: Grant this, O heavenly Father, for Jesus Christ's sake our Lord.

Amen.

O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed; Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give; that both our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee, we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Amen.

Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Please be seated as the Choir sings:

THE ANTHEM

All wisdom cometh from the Lord • Philip Moore (b. 1943)

All wisdom cometh from the Lord, and is with Him forever. Who can number the sand of the sea and the drops of rain and the days of eternity? Who can find out the height of heav'n, and the breadth of the earth and the deep and wisdom. Wisdom hath been created before all things and the understanding of prudence from everlasting. The word of God most high is the fountain of wisdom, and her ways are everlasting commandments. To whom hath the root of wisdom been revealed? Or who hath known her wise counsels? There is one wise and greatly to be feared, the Lord sitting upon his throne. He created her, and saw her and number'd her, and poured her out upon all his works. She is with all flesh according to his gifts, and he hath given her to them that love him. The fear of the Lord is honour and glory and gladness, and a crown of rejoicing. The fear of the Lord maketh a merry heart and bringeth joy and gladness and a long life.

continued overleaf

Teach me O Lord the way of thy statutes: and I shall keep it unto the end. Give me understanding and I shall keep thy law; yea I shall keep it with my whole heart. Make me go in the way of thy commandments: for therein is my desire. O stablish thy word in thy servant: that I may fear thee. Behold my delight is in thy commandments. O quicken me in thy righteousness.

from **Ecclesiasticus** and **Psalm 19**

THE SERMON

Canon Kathryn Fleming, Precentor

CHORISTER VALEDICTIONS

We say thank and say farewell to the following Choristers:

Chisom Ileka
Madeleine Lockett-Green
Zubin Orwell
Rosa Riley
Margot Simeunovic
Lauren Quinn

and Lay Clerk:

Francis Bamford

Please remain seated or kneel for:

THE PRAYERS

The prayers conclude with:

All **May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,**
 and the love of God,
 and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
 be with us all, evermore.
 Amen.

Please stand to sing:

THE HYMN

CP 618



When in our music God is glorified,
and adoration leaves no room for pride,
it is as though the whole creation cried:
Alleluia!

How oft, in making music, we have found
a new dimension in the world of sound
as worship moved us to a more profound
Alleluia!

So has the Church, in liturgy and song,
in faith and love, through centuries of wrong,
borne witness to the truth in ev'ry tongue,
Alleluia!

And did not Jesus sing a psalm that night
when utmost evil strove against the light?
Then let us sing, for whom he won the fight:
Alleluia!

Let ev'ry instrument be tuned for praise,
let all rejoice who have a voice to raise,
and may God give us faith to sing always:
Alleluia!

TUNE: ENGELBERG

C. V. Stanford (1852-1924)

TEXT:

Fred Pratt Green (1903-2000)

THE BLESSING

The Lord bless you and watch over you,
the Lord make his face shine upon you
and be gracious to you,
the Lord look kindly on you and give you peace;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All Amen.

THE VOLUNTARY

Con moto maestoso *from* **Sonata No. 3 • F. Mendelssohn (1809-1841)**

Thank you for joining us. Please leave the Cathedral by the North West doors and the Millennium Courtyard. Please consider supporting us by giving using the contactless donation points if you have not set up a regular payment. We look forward to welcoming you back.

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SOUTHWARK

◆ CATHEDRAL ◆

making space for love
with heart, mind, and soul

It is good to welcome you to Southwark Cathedral. Set on the south bank of the River Thames, in one of the most vibrant and diverse communities in London, this building has been a constant witness in a place of change.

The first church was built on this site around the year 606. First a convent, then a monastery, it became in 1106 the Augustinian Priory of St Mary Overie ('over-the-river'). With Westminster Abbey and St Bartholomew the Great in Smithfield, it is one of the three remaining great monastic churches of London. At the Reformation, the Priory became a parish church, and it remains so for the people of Bankside. In 1905, as south London was rapidly expanding, the church was consecrated as the Cathedral for the new Diocese of Southwark.

The Cathedral has a momentous and significant history and has had links with many famous and influential characters including St Thomas Becket, Geoffrey Chaucer, William Shakespeare and Charles Dickens. It has also been a Cathedral for those who feel on the edges of faith or society, our welcome reaching out to all people in their beautiful God-given diversity.

Here, our Christian faith is captured in our vision to 'make space for love: with heart, mind, and soul'. Faith requires our hearts to stand up for social justice, upholding integrity and kindness, and supporting the vulnerable and oppressed. It challenges our thinking, inviting our minds to be enquiring, honest, and generous. Faith also seeks to deepen our inner lives, with the arts and creativity, by sharing in the life of our community, and by learning the arts of prayer and attention. In Jesus Christ we see the human face of God, and our faith in him is our joy and our life.

We really hope you enjoy being here with us today and that we will see you again very soon.

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