

**SOUTHWARK**  
◆ CATHEDRAL ◆

**ECUMENICAL  
SUNG VESPERS**

**SUNG BY  
THE COMBINED CHOIRS OF  
SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL  
& ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL,  
SOUTHWARK**

**SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL  
SUNDAY 21 JUNE 2026  
3.00PM**



**St George's  
Cathedral**  
SOUTHWARK

## 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](https://bookshop.org) and designating Southwark Cathedral shop for the 30% of purchase price donation they offer us.

### CHOIR & MUSICIANS

The Choir of Southwark Cathedral

The Choir of St George's Cathedral, Southwark

Helen Smee, Director of Music, Southwark Cathedral

Jonathan Schranz, Diocesan Director of Music, St George's Cathedral, Southwark

Alex Flower, Cathedral Organist, St George's Cathedral, Southwark

# ECUMENICAL SUNG VESPERS

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Wherever you are from and however you have come to be here you are so very welcome. Today we especially welcome our friends from St George's Cathedral, Southwark, our Roman Catholic ecumenical partners. The service lasts about forty minutes and is led by the combined Choirs and clergy of our Cathedrals. This gives you the opportunity to listen to some beautifully sung choral music, to be still 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?**

This special service of Ecumenical Vespers takes place once a year, but you would be more than welcome to join us for our regular service of Choral Evensong. Choral Evensong usually takes place in school term time on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays at 5.30pm, on some Saturdays at 4.00pm and on Sunday at 3.00pm. Do check the Cathedral website just to be sure: sometimes we have to vary our usual routine.

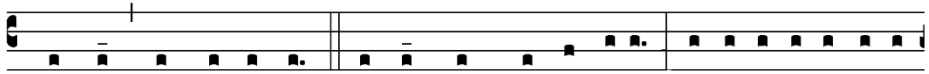
**We are so glad that you are here and hope that you find the service enriching.**

Please stand as the Procession enters.

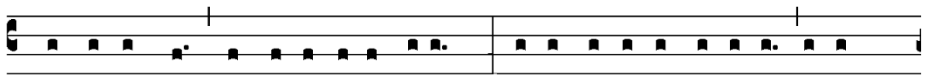
The Choir sings:

## THE INTRODUCTION TO THE OFFICE

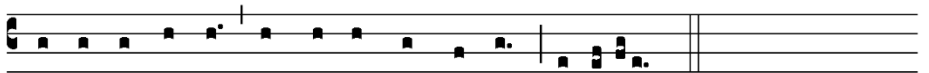
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O God, come to our aid. R O Lord, make haste to help us. Glory be to the Father



and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spi-rit. As it was in the beginning, is now,



and ev - er shall be, world without end. A-men. Al-le-lu-ia.

## THE WELCOME

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**The Very Rev'd Dr Mark Oakley, Dean of Southwark**

# THE HYMN

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## NEH 484 (omit \*) (t. 167)



The Church's one foundation  
Is Jesus Christ, her Lord;  
She is his new creation  
By water and the word:  
From heaven he came and sought her  
To be his holy Bride,  
With his own blood he bought her,  
And for her life he died.

Elect from every nation,  
Yet one o'er all the earth,  
Her charter of salvation  
One Lord, one faith, one birth;  
One holy name she blesses,  
Partakes one holy food,  
And to one hope she presses  
With every grace endued.

'Mid toil, and tribulation,  
And tumult of her war,  
She waits the consummation  
Of peace for evermore;  
Till with the vision glorious  
Her longing eyes are blest,  
And the great Church victorious  
Shall be the Church at rest.

Yet she on earth hath union  
With God the Three in One,  
And mystic sweet communion  
With those whose rest is won:  
O happy ones and holy!  
Lord, give us grace that we  
Like them, the meek and lowly,  
On high may dwell with thee.

**TUNE: AURELIA**  
S. S. Wesley (1810-1876)

**TEXT:**  
Samuel Stone (1839-1900)

Please be seated as the Choir sings:

## THE PSALMS

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### Psalm 109 (110)

8 c

X ú-ter- o \* an-te lu-cí-ferum génu-i te.

The Lord's revelation to my Master:  
'Sit on my right:  
your foes I will put beneath your feet.'

**The Lord will wield from Sion  
your sceptre of power:  
rule in the midst of all your foes.**

A prince from the day of your birth  
on the holy mountains;  
from the womb before the dawn I begot you.

**The Lord has sworn an oath he will not change.  
'You are a priest for ever,  
a priest like Melchizedek of old.'**

The Master standing at your right hand  
will shatter kings in the day of his wrath.

He shall drink from the stream by the wayside  
and therefore he shall lift up his head.

**Praise the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit  
both now and forever.  
Amen.**

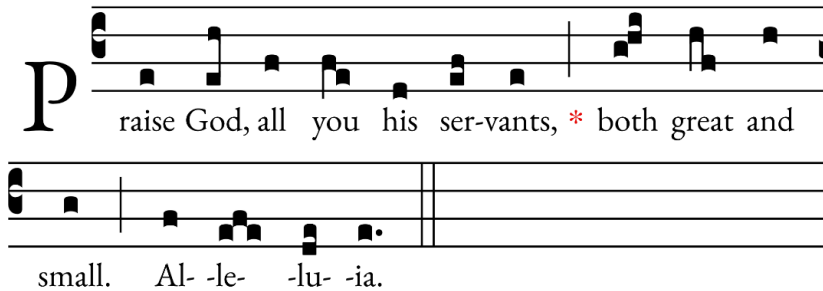


Followed by:

## THE CANTICLE

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### The Song of the Lamb



P raise God, all you his ser-vants, \* both great and  
small. Al- -le- -lu- -ia.

Salvation and glory and power belong to our God, **alleluia**,  
his judgements are true and just, **alleluia**.  
Praise our God, all you his servants, **alleluia**.  
you who fear him, small and great, **alleluia**.

The Lord our God, the Almighty, reigns, **alleluia**.  
let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory, **alleluia**.  
The marriage of the Lamb has come, **alleluia**.  
and his bride has made herself ready, **alleluia**.

Praise the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit, **alleluia**.  
both now and forever.  
Amen, **alleluia**.

## SCRIPTURE READING

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### Hebrews 12.22-24

What you have come to is Mount Zion and the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem where the millions of angels have gathered for the festival, with the whole Church in which everyone is a 'first-born son' and a citizen of heaven. You have come to God himself, the supreme Judge, and been placed with spirits of the saints who have been made perfect; and to Jesus, the mediator who brings a new covenant and a blood for purification which pleads more insistently than Abel's.

## THE HOMILY

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**Canon Michael Branch**  
**Dean of St George's Cathedral, Honorary Ecumenical Canon**

*Please stand to sing:*

## THE RESPONSORY

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**CANTOR:**



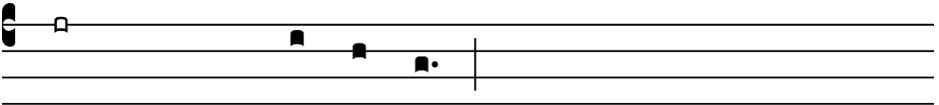
Great is our Lord; great is his might.

**ALL:**



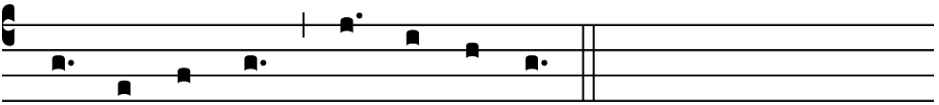
Great is our Lord; great is his might.

**CANTOR:**



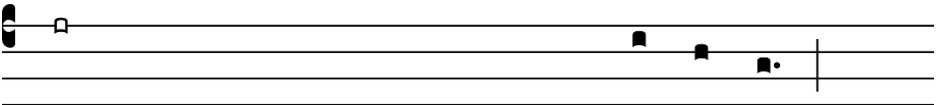
His wisdom can never be measured;

**ALL:**



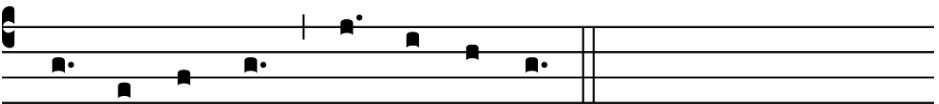
Great is our Lord; great is his might.

**CANTOR:**



Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

**ALL:**

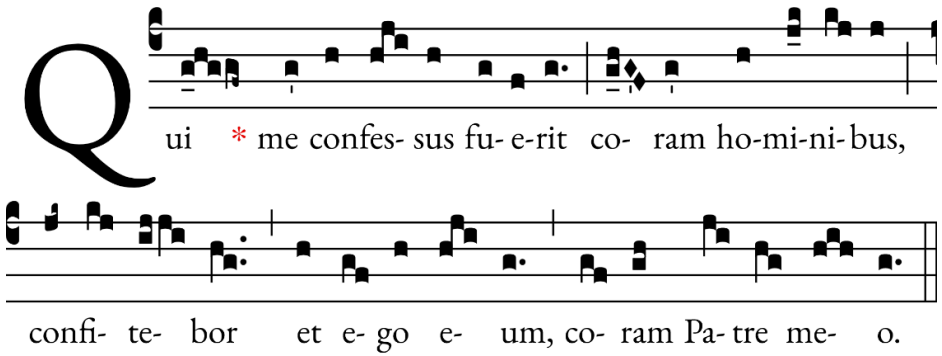


Great is our Lord; great is his might.

Please remain standing as the Choir sings:

## THE MAGNIFICAT ANTIPHON

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The image shows two staves of musical notation. The first staff begins with a large, decorative capital letter 'Q' on the left. The notes are represented by black squares on a five-line staff. The second staff continues the melody. Below the staves, the Latin text is written in a serif font, with a red asterisk between 'ui' and 'me'.

Q ui \* me confes- sus fu- e-rit co- ram ho-mi-ni-bus,  
confi- te- bor et e- go e- um, co- ram Pa- tre me- o.

If anyone declares himself for me in the presence of men,  
I will declare myself for him in the presence of my Father in heaven.

Followed by:

## THE MAGNIFICAT

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### Magnificat Octavi Toni • David Bevan (1951-2021)

Magnificat, anima mea, Dominum  
et exultavit spiritus meus in Deo,  
salutari meo.

Quia respexit humilitatem  
ancillae suae:

Ecce enim ex hoc beatam me dicent  
omnes generationes.

Quia fecit mihi magna, qui potens  
est, et sanctum nomen eius,

Et misericordia eius a progenie in  
progenies timentibus eum.

Fecit potentiam in brachio suo,  
dispersit superbos  
mente cordis sui.

Deposuit potentes de sede  
et exaltavit humiles;

Esurientes implevit bonis  
et divites dimisit inanes.

Suscepit Israel puerum suum  
recordatus misericordiae suae,  
sicut locutus est ad patres nostros,  
Abraham et semini eius  
in saecula.

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

My soul magnifies the Lord,  
and my spirit rejoices in God, my  
Saviour.

For he has looked upon the lowliness  
of his servant;

from now on, all generations will call  
me blessed.

For the mighty one has done great  
things for me, and holy is his name.

His mercy is from generation to  
generation for those who fear him.  
He has shown strength with his arm,  
he has scattered the proud in the  
thoughts of their hearts.

He has unseated the powerful  
and lifted up the humble.

He has filled the hungry with good  
things, and sent the rich away empty.  
He has helped his servant Israel,  
remembering his mercy,  
just as he spoke to our ancestors,  
to Abraham and his descendants  
forever.

Glory be to the Father, and to the  
Son, and to the Holy Spirit:  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and always shall be,  
world without end.  
Amen.

*Please kneel or be seated for:*

## THE PRAYERS AND INTERCESSIONS

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*Led by Deacon Javier Elderfield*

In the Church, God has made known to us his hidden purpose:  
to make all things one in Christ.  
Let us pray that his will may be done.

**All**      **Father, unite all things in Christ.**

We give you thanks for the presence and power of your Spirit in the Church:  
give us the will to search for unity, and inspire us to pray and work together.

**All**      **Father, unite all things in Christ.**

We give you thanks for all whose work proclaims your love:  
help us to serve the communities in whose life we share.

**All**      **Father, unite all things in Christ.**

Father, care for all who serve in the Church  
as ministers of your word and sacraments:  
may they bring your whole family to the unity for which Christ prayed.

**All**      **Father, unite all things in Christ.**

Your people have known the ravages of war and hatred:  
grant that they may know the peace left by your Son.

**All**      **Father, unite all things in Christ.**

Fulfil the hopes of those who sleep in your peace:  
bring them to that final resurrection when you will be all in all.

**All**      **Father, unite all things in Christ.**

*Followed by:*

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

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**All**      **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.**

Lord God,  
teach us at all times to fear and love your holy name,  
for you never withdraw your guiding hand  
from those you establish in your love.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever.

**All Amen.**

*Please be seated as the Choir sings:*

## THE MOTET

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### **Sicut cervus • G. P. da Palestrina (1525-1594)**

Sicut cervus desiderat  
ad fontes aquarum:  
ita desiderat anima mea ad te,  
Deus.

As the deer longs  
for founts of water:  
so longs my soul for you,  
O God.

*Please stand for:*

## THE BLESSING & DISMISSAL

---

The Lord be with you  
**and with your Spirit.**

May almighty God bless you,  
the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.  
**All Amen.**

Go in peace.  
**All Thanks be to God.**

## THE VOLUNTARY

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### **Wir glauben all an einen Gott, BWV 680 • J. S. Bach (1685-1750)**

*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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