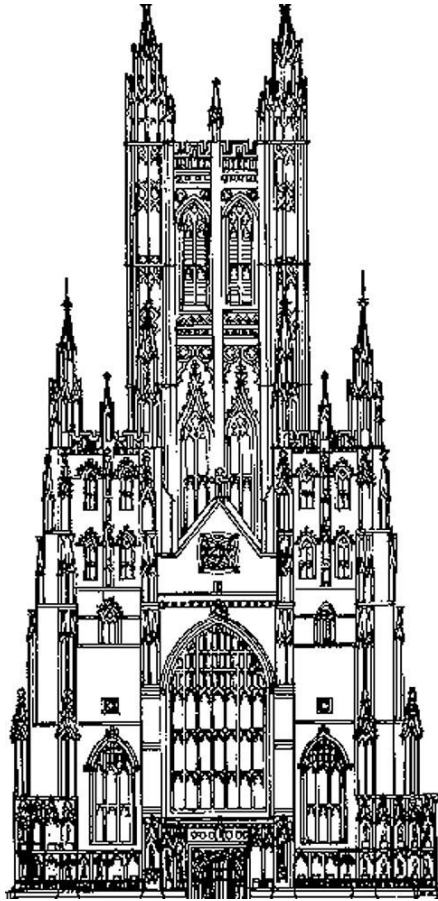




THE CATHEDRAL AND METROPOLITICAL CHURCH OF CHRIST, CANTERBURY

Choral Evensong

with the Cathedral Company of Change Ringers and
Admission of Officers



Sunday 16th February 2025

5.30pm

Quire

Welcome to Canterbury Cathedral for this Service

We are grateful to the Plaxtol Scholars for singing Evensong today.

Canterbury Cathedral is the seat of the Archbishop of Canterbury, the cathedral church of the Diocese of Canterbury, the mother church of the Anglican Communion, and a place of pilgrimage welcoming visitors from across the world.

For over fourteen hundred years God has been worshipped here. With its roots in the Benedictine tradition, the ongoing daily pattern of morning and evening prayer and Eucharist (or Holy Communion) continues the prayers and praises of countless generations in this Cathedral. We welcome you today to share in this continuing rhythm of worship in this service of Choral Evensong.

Livestreaming

This service will be livestreamed and you may be seen on camera, although we will not deliberately take any close-ups of the congregation.

By attending you agree to be seen in this way.

If you have any concerns please speak to a member of the clergy.



Please ensure that mobile phones are switched off. No form of visual or sound recording, or any form of photography, is permitted during Services. Thank you for your co-operation.



An induction loop system for the hard of hearing is installed in the Cathedral. Hearing aid users should adjust their aid to T.



Large print orders of service are available from the stewards and virgers. Please ask.

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ORDER OF SERVICE

All stand as the choir and clergy enter the Quire

The Choir sings **Introit**

| | |
|---|---|
| O Domine Jesu Christe, adoro te in cruce vulneratum felle et aceto potatum: deprecor te ut tua vulnera sint remedium animae meae. | <i>Lord Jesus Christ, I worship you, who was wounded on the cross and given gall and vinegar to drink: I pray that your wounds may be a remedy for my soul.</i> |
|---|---|

Words: Traditional

Music: Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (c.1525/6-95)

A welcome is offered.

The Cantor and the choir sing 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.

Music: Herbert Sumsion (1899-1995)

Sit as the choir sings

Psalm 6

O Lord, rebuke me not in thine indignation :
neither chasten me in thy displeasure.

Have mercy upon me, O Lord, for I am weak :
O Lord, heal me, for my bones are vexed.

My soul also is sore troubled :
but, Lord, how long wilt thou punish me?

Turn thee, O Lord, and deliver my soul :
O save me for thy mercy's sake.

For in death no man remembereth thee :
and who will give thee thanks in the pit?

I am weary of my groaning; every night wash I my bed :
and water my couch with my tears.

My beauty is gone for very trouble :
and worn away because of all mine enemies.

Away from me, all ye that work vanity :
for the Lord hath heard the voice of my weeping.

The Lord hath heard my petition :
the Lord will receive my prayer.

All mine enemies shall be confounded, and sore vexed :
they shall be turned back, and put to shame suddenly.

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.

Sit

Old Testament Reading *Wisdom 11.21-12.11*

Installation

The Dean leaves his stall as the members of the Foundation stand

The Chaplain to the company says

Mr Dean I present to you the following to be admitted to the Cathedral Company of Change Ringers, and those to be confirmed in their office:

Amanda Hills to be admitted as a Member of the Company

The Dean says

For centuries, people have been summoned to worship God by the ringing of the bells of this Cathedral Church. It is right that those who form the company of ringers should seek and receive God's blessing on their work.

Will you, to be admitted to this Company, devote your skill to the ringing of the bells of this Church, and thereby proclaim the good news of Christ to the world?

The ringer responds

By the help of God, we will

The Dean says

I admit you as a bell ringer of this Cathedral and Metropolitan Church, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

The Chaplain says

To be confirmed in their office: Thomas Brett as Tower Captain; Cathryn Hills as Vice-Captain; Andrew Hills as Steeple Keeper; and Simon Lockwood as Secretary & Treasurer.

The Dean says

Those who are elected as officers of this Cathedral Company are to encourage the members in offering their services in the life of this church. The work of prayer and praise to which you call people is the work of God. Will you gladly take your part in it, to his glory?

The officers respond

By the help of God we will

The Dean says

Tom, Cathryn, Andrew, and Simon, I confirm you in the offices to which you have been elected, in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Amen

Grant, O Lord, that all who are appointed to ring the bells of this house of prayer may do so worthily to your glory; and that those who shall be called to worship by the ringing of these bells may enter your gates with thanksgiving and your courts with praise; thorough Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

May the Lord enable you to use to his glory the gifts he has given you, and may he watch over your going out and your coming in from this time forth and for evermore.

The Dean returns to his stall. Stand as the choir sings

Magnificat

My soul doth magnify the Lord :
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.
For he hath regarded : the lowliness of his handmaiden.
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 hath 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.

Music: John Stainer (1840-1901) in E-Flat

Sit

New Testament Reading *Galatians 4.8-20*

Stand as the choir sings

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.

Music: John Stainer (1840-1901) in E-Flat

Turn East and say together the

Apostles' Creed

**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 Cantor and choir sing the **Versicles and Responses**

The Lord be with you.
And with thy spirit.

Sit or kneel

Let us pray.

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

*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. 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.

Music: Herbert Sumsion (1899-1995)

The Collects

O Lord, we beseech thee favourably to hear the prayers of thy people; that we, who are justly punished for our offences, may be mercifully delivered by thy goodness, for the glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Saviour, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *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.*

Sit as the choir sings

Anthem

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Words: Matthew 5.3-12

Music: Philip Stopford (b. 1977)

Please kneel or sit

Prayers *concluding with*

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.

Stand to sing during which a collection will be taken.
If you would prefer to give electronically,
please use the QR code.



Unchanging God, who livest
Enthroned in realms on high,
To us the power thou givest
Thy name to magnify.
We raise the bells for ringing
With ready mind and will,
And come before thee, bringing
Our hearts, our strength, our skill.

³By union free and willing
The work of God is done;
Our Master's prayer fulfilling,
We would in him be one:
One, as the Church our Mother
Would have her children stand,
Befriending one another,
A strong and steadfast band.

²We call, from tower and steeple,
Upon the day of days,
All faithful Christian people
To worship, prayer, and praise;
We ring with joyous gladness
When marriages are blessed;
We peal in muffled sadness
For loved ones laid to rest.

⁴Our lives, like bells, while changing,
An ordered course pursue;
Through joys and sorrows ranging,
May all those lives ring true.
May we, through Christ forgiven,
Our faults and failures past,
Attain our place in heaven,
Called home to rest at last.

Words: H C Wilder

Tune: BELFREY PRAISE

AMR 496

Blessing

All remain standing as the choir and clergy depart, after which there will be a touch rung on hand bells.