



The Cathedral & Metropolitan Church of St Peter in York

CHORAL EVENSONG

ON THE FEAST OF

LUKE THE EVANGELIST

attended by York Medical Society

Sunday 18th October 2026
at 4.00pm

Welcome

A warm welcome to York Minster and to this service of Choral Evensong on the Feast of Saint Luke, the Physician. We are delighted to be joined for this service by members of York Medical Society, and in word and song to give thanks for the work of all medical practitioners. We are grateful to the Choir of Christ Church, Southgate, London for singing our services this weekend while the Choir of York Minster is on holiday. In this service we are immersed in the words of scripture, spoken and sung, and we are given time and space to lose ourselves in prayer and come closer to God.



Information about this Service

- ◆ This service is being live-streamed, but care is taken to focus on the clergy and choir and not the congregation. For licensing and safeguarding reasons, please do not record this service on your own devices.
- ◆ The Chapter of York Minster is committed to the safeguarding and protection of children, young people, and vulnerable adults. If you therefore have any concerns about the welfare of a child, a young person or a vulnerable adult, or about the behaviour of someone in relation to safeguarding, please do not hesitate to contact our Safeguarding Officer, Caroline Wood: Tel: 01904 559542, Mobile: 07843 339980, Email: carolinew@yorkminster.org. If you believe someone is at immediate risk of harm, please call the emergency services on 999.
- ◆ Please follow the directions of the stewards. Where “Sit” or “Stand” are indicated, these are given simply as a guide. Throughout the service please feel free to adopt the posture that is most comfortable for you.
- ◆ Please join in saying together the words printed in **bold** type and in singing the hymn.
- ◆ We are grateful for all who give to support the mission and ministry of York Minster. You can offer a gift, or set up regular giving, by using the following QR code. 10% of all giving received during this service will be given to charities York Minster supports – HOPE Africa, a charity initiated by our companion link dioceses in SA; St Philip’s Church Outreach Project in East Hull, providing food, warmth and community to one of the most deprived areas in both the Diocese of York and the UK; and a number of charities who work locally with homeless people in the City of York. Thank you for all you are able to give.
- ◆ Donations can be made via or regular giving set-up through the Parish Giving Scheme by following this QR code or calling 0333 002 1271.



Order of Service

Prayers are said and a bell is rung.

Stand when the choir enters the Quire.

Preces

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

Cantor O God, make speed to save us;
Choir 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.

Cantor Praise ye the Lord.
Choir The Lord's name be praised.

Music Philip Radcliffe (1905–1986)

Sit for the singing of the psalm but stand for the Gloria.

Psalmody

Praise the Lord, O my soul ♦
and all that is within me praise his holy Name.
Praise the Lord, O my soul ♦
and forget not all his benefits;
Who forgiveth all thy sin ♦
and healeth all thine infirmities;
Who saveth thy life from destruction ♦
and crowneth thee with mercy and loving-kindness;
Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things ♦
making thee young and lusty as an eagle.
The Lord executeth righteousness and judgement ♦
for all them that are oppressed with wrong.
He shewed his ways unto Moses ♦
his works unto the children of Israel.

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy ♦
long-suffering, and of great goodness.
He will not alway be chiding ♦
neither keepeth he his anger for ever.
He hath not dealt with us after our sins ♦
nor rewarded us according to our wickednesses.
For look how high the heaven is in comparison of the earth ♦
so great is his mercy also toward them that fear him.
Look how wide also the east is from the west ♦
so far hath he set our sins from us.
Yea, like as a father pitieth his own children ♦
even so is the Lord merciful unto them that fear him.
For he knoweth whereof we are made ♦
he remembereth that we are but dust.
The days of man are but as grass ♦
for he flourisheth as a flower of the field.
For as soon as the wind goeth over it, it is gone ♦
and the place thereof shall know it no more.
But the merciful goodness of the Lord endureth for ever and ever upon them
that fear him ♦ and his righteousness upon children's children;
Even upon such as keep his covenant ♦
and think upon his commandments to do them.
The Lord hath prepared his seat in heaven ♦
and his kingdom ruleth over all.
O praise the Lord, ye angels of his, ye that excel in strength ♦
ye that fulfil his commandment, and hearken unto the voice of his words.
O praise the Lord, all ye his hosts ♦
ye servants of his that do his pleasure.
O speak good of the Lord, all ye works of his, in all places of his dominion ♦
praise thou the Lord, O my soul.

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.

First Lesson

read by Dr Barbara Adams, President, York Medical Society

The First Lesson is taken from the Book of Ecclesiasticus.

Honour physicians for their services,
for the Lord created them;
for their gift of healing comes from the Most High,
and they are rewarded by the king.
The skill of physicians makes them distinguished,
and in the presence of the great they are admired.
The Lord created medicines out of the earth,
and the sensible will not despise them.
Was not water made sweet with a tree
in order that its power might be known?
And he gave skill to human beings
that he might be glorified in his marvellous works.
By them the physician heals and takes away pain;
the pharmacist makes a mixture from them.
God's works will never be finished;
and from him health spreads over all the earth.

My child, when you are ill, do not delay,
but pray to the Lord, and he will heal you.
Give up your faults and direct your hands rightly,
and cleanse your heart from all sin.
Offer a sweet-smelling sacrifice, and a memorial portion of choice flour,
and pour oil on your offering, as much as you can afford.
Then give the physician his place, for the Lord created him;
do not let him leave you, for you need him.
There may come a time when recovery lies in the hands of physicians,
for they too pray to the Lord
that he will grant them success in diagnosis
and in healing, for the sake of preserving life.

Here ends the First Lesson.

ECCLESIASTICUS 38.1-14

Stand.

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 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.

Words LUKE I. 46–55

Music COLLEGIUM MAGDALENÆ, Kenneth Leighton (1929–1988)

Sit.

Second Lesson

read by the Dean

The Second Lesson is taken from the Letter of Paul to the Colossians.

Tychicus will tell you all the news about me; he is a beloved brother, a faithful minister, and a fellow-servant in the Lord. I have sent him to you for this very purpose, so that you may know how we are and that he may encourage your hearts; he is coming with Onesimus, the faithful and beloved brother, who is one of you. They will tell you about everything here.

Aristarchus my fellow-prisoner greets you, as does Mark the cousin of Barnabas, concerning whom you have received instructions—if he comes to you, welcome him. And Jesus who is called Justus greets you. These are the only ones of the circumcision among my co-workers for the kingdom of God, and they have been a comfort to me. Epaphras, who is one of you, a servant of Christ Jesus, greets you. He is always wrestling in his prayers on your behalf, so that you may stand mature and fully assured in everything that God wills. For I testify for him that he has worked hard for you and for those in Laodicea and in Hierapolis. Luke, the beloved physician, and Demas greet you. Give my greetings to the brothers and sisters in Laodicea, and to Nympha and the church in her house. And when this letter has been read among you, have it read also in the church of the Laodiceans; and see that you read also the letter from Laodicea. And say to Archippus, ‘See that you complete the task that you have received in the Lord.’

I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand. Remember my chains. Grace be with you.

Here ends the Second Lesson.

COLOSSIANS 4.7–18

Stand.

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.

Words LUKE 2. 29–32

Music COLLEGIUM MAGDALENAE, Kenneth Leighton

Remain standing and turn to face east.

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 Lesser Litany and Responses

Cantor The Lord be with you.

Choir And with thy spirit.

Cantor Let us pray.

Kneel or sit.

Choir 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.

Cantor O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.

Choir And grant us thy salvation.

Cantor O Lord, save the King.

Choir And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Cantor Endue thy Ministers with righteousness.

Choir And make thy chosen people joyful.

Cantor O Lord, save thy people.

Choir And bless thine inheritance.

Cantor Give peace in our time, O Lord.

Choir Because there is none other that fighteth for us,
but only thou, O God.

Cantor O God, make clean our hearts within us.

Choir And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

The Collects

Almighty God, who calledst Luke the Physician, whose praise is in the Gospel, to be an Evangelist, and Physician of the soul: May it please thee that, by the wholesome medicines of the doctrine delivered by him, all the diseases of our souls may be healed; through the merits of thy Son Jesus Christ 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.

Music Philip Radcliffe

Sit.

Anthem

The spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the Gospel to the poor: he hath sent me to heal the broken-hearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to preach the acceptable year of the Lord; to give unto them that mourn a garland for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness, that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he might be glorified. For as the earth bringeth forth her bud, and as the garden causeth the things that are sown in it to spring forth, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all nations as the earth bringeth forth her bud.

Words from ISAIAH 61

Music Sir Edward Elgar (1857–1934)

Sermon

The Reverend Canon Maggie McLean, Missioner

Stand.

Hymn



1. Saint Luke, beloved physician,
 with honour now recall,
who served his Master's mission,
 who ministered to Paul;
whose skill to distant ages
 bequeathed a gift unpriced,
a gospel in whose pages
 we see the face of Christ.
2. He tells for us the stories
 of Jesus here on earth,
the unsung pains and glories
 that marked the church's birth;
the Spirit's power in preaching,
 the contrite sinner freed,
the grace and mercy reaching
 our deepest human need.
3. For all who work our healing
 we lift our hearts in prayer,
the love of God revealing
 in science, skill and care:
his gifts be still imparted
 to those who make us whole,
like Luke the tender-hearted,
 physician of the soul.

Words AHON 645, Timothy-Dudley Smith (1926–2024) © Oxford University Press
Tune AURELIA, NEH 167, Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810–1876)

Remain standing.

The Blessing

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