



The Cathedral & Metropolitan Church of St Peter in York

SOLEMN EVENSONG

ON THE FEAST OF

PETER THE APOSTLE

Sunday 28th June 2026
at 4.00pm

Welcome

A warm welcome to York Minster and to this service of Choral Evensong. Welcome if you are a regular worshipper and know the Minster well, and welcome if you are experiencing this building and this form of worship for the first time today.

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; Mustard Seed, a York Diocese organisation which works in the most deprived areas of our diocese; 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 the following QR code:



Order of Service

A bell is rung and prayers are sung.

Introit

Tu es Petrus et super hanc petram aedificabo ecclesiam meam.

You are Peter and upon this rock I will build my church.

Words MATTHEW 16.18 ♦ *Music* Maurice Duruflé (1902–1986)

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.

Cantor Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost;

Choir 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 Sasha Johnson Manning (*b* 1963)

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

Psalmody

I will give thanks unto thee, O Lord, with my whole heart ♦
even before the gods will I sing praise unto thee.

I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy Name, because of thy
loving-kindness and truth ♦ for thou hast magnified thy Name and thy
word above all things.

When I called upon thee, thou heardest me ♦
and enduedst my soul with much strength.

All the kings of the earth shall praise thee, O Lord ♦
for they have heard the words of thy mouth.

Yea, they shall sing in the ways of the Lord ♦
that great is the glory of the Lord.

For though the Lord be high, yet hath he respect unto the lowly ♦
as for the proud, he beholdeth them afar off.

Though I walk in the midst of trouble, yet shalt thou refresh me ♦ thou shalt
stretch forth thy hand upon the furiousness of mine enemies, and thy right
hand shall save me.

The lord shall make good his loving-kindness toward me ♦ yea, thy mercy, O
Lord, endureth for ever; despise not then the works of thine own hands.

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.

PSALM 138

Sit.

First Lesson

The First Lesson is taken from the Book of the Prophet Ezekiel.

Thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

Here ends the First Lesson.

EZEKIEL 34.11-16

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 EVENING SERVICE IN A, Sir Charles Villiers Stanford (1852–1924)

Sit.

Second Lesson

The Second Lesson is taken from the Gospel of John.

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, ‘Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?’ He said to him, ‘Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Feed my lambs.’ A second time he said to him, ‘Simon son of John, do you love me?’ He said to him, ‘Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Tend my sheep.’ He said to him the third time, ‘Simon son of John, do you love me?’ Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, ‘Do you love me?’ And he said to him, ‘Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Feed my sheep. Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go.’ (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, ‘Follow me.’

Peter turned and saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following them; he was the one who had reclined next to Jesus at the supper and had said, ‘Lord, who is it that is going to betray you?’ When Peter saw him, he said to Jesus, ‘Lord, what about him?’ Jesus said to him, ‘If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you? Follow me!’

Here ends the Second Lesson.

JOHN 21.15–22

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 EVENING SERVICE IN A, Sir Charles Villiers Stanford

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 didst inspire thy apostle Saint Peter to confess Jesus as Christ and Son of the living God: build up thy Church upon this rock, that in unity and peace it may proclaim one truth and follow one Lord, thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. 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 Sasha Johnson Manning

Sit.

Anthem

Without arms or charm of culture,
Persons of no importance
From an unimportant Province,
They did as the Spirit bid,
Went forth into a joyless world
Of swords and rhetoric
To bring it joy.

When they heard the Word, some demurred, some mocked, some were shocked: but many were stirred and the Word spread. Lives long dead were quickened to life; the sick were healed by the Truth revealed; released into peace from the gin of old sin, men forgot themselves in the glory of the story told by the Twelve. Then the Dark Lord, adored by this world, perceived the threat of the Light to his might. From his throne he spoke to his own. The loud crowd, the sedate engines of State, were moved by his will to kill. It was done. One by one, they were caught, tortured, and slain.

O Lord, my God,
Though I forsake thee
Forsake me not,
But guide me as I walk
Through the valley of mistrust,
And let the cry of my disbelieving absence
Come unto thee,
Thou who declared unto Moses...
“I shall be there.”

Children play about the ancestral graves, for the dead no longer walk.
Excellent still in their splendour are the antique statues:
 but can do neither good nor evil.
Beautiful still are the starry heavens: but our fate is not written there.
Holy still is speech, but there is no sacred tongue: the Truth may be told in all.
Twelve as the winds and the months are those who taught us these things:
envisaging each in an oval glory, let us praise them all with a merry noise.

Words THE TWELVE W H Auden (1907–1973)

Music Sir William Walton (1902–1983)

Sermon

The Reverend Canon Maggie McLean, Acting Dean

Stand.

Hymn



1. Christ is our corner-stone,
on him alone we build;
with his true saints alone
the courts of heaven are filled:
on his great love
our hopes we place
of present grace
and joys above.

2. Oh, then with hymns of praise
these hallowed courts shall ring;
our voices we will raise
the Three in One to sing;
and thus proclaim
in joyful song,
both loud and long,
that glorious Name.

3. Here may we gain from heaven
the grace which we implore;
and may that grace, once given,
be with us evermore,
until that day
when all the blest
to endless rest
are called away.

Words NEH 206, Seventh-century Latin,
translated into English by John Chandler (1806–1876)
Tune HAREWOOD, NEH 206, Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810–1876)

Remain standing.

The Blessing

Remain as quiet as possible as the choir processes out and sings the final prayer; this is followed by the organ voluntary which concludes the service.

Voluntary

Grand choeur dialogué

Eugène Gigout (1844–1925)

There will be an opportunity to make a donation to support the music, ministry and mission of York Minster as you leave.

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