



**CHORAL EVENSONG**

**ON THE**

**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**SUNDAY 12 DECEMBER 2021**  
**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.

Today's service will be live streamed from the Minster. We hope that this regular provision of choral worship will help us through the months ahead and the challenges of different restrictions due to the pandemic.

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.

# Order of Service

*A bell is rung and these prayers are sung:*

O praise the Lord, all ye servants of the Lord.

Let us pray.

O Lord, open thou our lips and purify our hearts, that we may worthily magnify thy holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O praise the Lord with me, and let us magnify his name together.

*Please stand as the procession enters.*

## Introit

Hide not thou thy face from us, O Lord, and cast not off thy servants in thy displeasure; for we confess our sins unto thee, and hide not our unrighteousness. For thy mercy's sake deliver us from all our sins.

*Words after Psalms 27.10; 32.6 : Music Richard Farrant (c. 1530–80)*

## 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 Richard Shephard (1949–2021)*

*Please sit for the singing of the psalms but stand for the final Gloria.*

## **Psalm**

The Lord, even the most mighty God, hath spoken ♦ and called the world, from the rising up of the sun unto the going down thereof.

Out of Sion hath God appeared ♦ in perfect beauty.

Our God shall come, and shall not keep silence ♦ there shall go before him a consuming fire, and a mighty tempest shall be stirred up round about him.

He shall call the heaven from above ♦ and the earth, that he may judge his people.

Gather my saints together unto me ♦ those that have made a covenant with me with sacrifice.

And the heavens shall declare his righteousness ♦ for God is Judge himself.

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 50.1-6

*Please sit.*

## **First Lesson**

The First Lesson is from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,  
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;  
like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly,  
and rejoice with joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,  
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.

They shall see the glory of the Lord,  
the majesty of our God.

Strengthen the weak hands,  
and make firm the feeble knees.  
Say to those who are of a fearful heart,  
'Be strong, do not fear!  
Here is your God.  
He will come with vengeance,  
with terrible recompense.  
He will come and save you.'

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,  
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;  
then the lame shall leap like a deer,  
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.  
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,  
and streams in the desert;  
the burning sand shall become a pool,  
and the thirsty ground springs of water;  
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp,  
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

A highway shall be there,  
and it shall be called the Holy Way;  
the unclean shall not travel on it,  
but it shall be for God's people;  
no traveller, not even fools, shall go astray.  
No lion shall be there,  
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;  
they shall not be found there,  
but the redeemed shall walk there.  
And the ransomed of the Lord shall return,  
and come to Zion with singing;  
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;  
they shall obtain joy and gladness,  
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Here ends the First Lesson.

*Please stand.*

ISAIAH 35

## 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 B MINOR, T Tertius Noble (1867–1953)

*Please sit.*

## Second Lesson

The Second Lesson is from the Gospel of Luke.

Now the time came for Elizabeth to give birth, and she bore a son. Her neighbours and relatives heard that the Lord had shown his great mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her.

On the eighth day they came to circumcise the child, and they were going to name him Zechariah after his father. But his mother said, 'No; he is to be called John.' They said to her, 'None of your relatives has this name.' Then they began motioning to his father to find out what name he wanted to give him. He asked for a writing-tablet and wrote, 'His name is John.' And all of them were amazed. Immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue freed, and he began to speak, praising God. Fear came over all their neighbours, and all these things were talked about throughout the entire hill country of Judea. All who heard them pondered them and said, 'What then will this child become?' For, indeed, the hand of the Lord was with him.

Here ends the Second Lesson.

LUKE 1.57-66

*Please 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 B MINOR, T Tertius Noble

*Please remain standing.*

## 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

The Lord be with you;  
and with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

*Please sit 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 Queen;  
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.

## The Collects

O Lord Jesu Christ, who at thy first coming didst send thy messenger to prepare thy way before thee: Grant that the ministers and stewards of thy mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready thy way, by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at thy second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in thy sight, who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious Majesty, to judge both the quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, now and 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* Richard Shephard

*Please sit.*

## Anthem

Vox dicentis: Clama: et dixi: Quid clamabo? Omnis caro foenum, et omnis gloria eius quasi flos agri. Vere foenum est populus. Exsiccatum est foenum, et cecidit flos: verbum autem Domini nostri manet in aeternum.

Super montem excelsum ascende tu, qui evangelizas Sion: exalta in fortitudine vocem tuam, qui evangelizas Jerusalem; exalta, noli timere. Dic civitatibus Judeae: Ecce Deus vester.

Ecce Dominus Deus in fortitudine veniet, et brachium eius dominabitur: ecce merces eius cum eo, et opus illius coram illo.

Sicut pastor gregem suum pascet, in brachio suo congregabit agnos, et in sinu suo levabit, foetas ipse portabit.

*A voice said: Cry; and I said: what shall I cry? All flesh is grass, and all the goodliness thereof is as the flower of the field. Surely the people is grass. The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of the Lord endureth for ever.*

*O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion, get thee up into the high mountain: O thou that tellest good tidings to Jerusalem, lift up thy voice with strength; lift it up, be not afraid. Say unto the cities of Judah: Behold your God.*

*Behold, the Lord God will come with strong hand, and his arm shall rule for him: behold, his reward is with him, and his work before him.*

*He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs in his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young.*

*Words* Isaiah 40.6–11 ♦ *Music* E W Naylor (1867–1934)

## Sermon

The Revd Catriona Cumming, Succentor

*Please stand.*

## Hymn



Hark the glad sound! the Saviour comes  
the Saviour promised long!  
Let every heart prepare a throne,  
and every voice a song.

He comes the prisoners to release  
in Satan's bondage held;  
the gates of brass before him burst,  
the iron fetters yield.

He comes the broken heart to bind,  
the bleeding soul to cure,  
and with the treasures of his grace  
enrich the humble poor.

Our glad hosannas, Prince of peace,  
thy welcome shall proclaim,  
and heaven's eternal arches ring  
with thy beloved name.

*Words* Philip Doddridge (1702–51)

*Tune* BRISTOL, NEH 6, from Thomas Ravenscroft *Psalmes* (1621)

*Please remain standing.*

## The Blessing

### Voluntary

Fugue in C sharp minor

J S Bach arr. M Reger

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