



EVENSONG  
ON THE EVE OF THE  
FEAST OF ST MATTHEW,  
APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST

SUNDAY 20 SEPTEMBER 2020

## Welcome

A warm welcome to York Minster and to this online expression 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.

We now keep a moment of silence to rest in God's presence before the service begins.

## Order of Service

*A bell is rung and this prayer is sung:*

Peace be to this house ♦ And to all that dwell in it.

This is the day which the Lord hath made ♦ We will rejoice and be glad in it.

Let us pray.

O Lord, our God, who knowest all hearts, be merciful to us sinners and graciously assist us in our ministry before thee, that so we may offer a service and sacrifice well-pleasing in thy sight, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

This is none other than the house of God ♦ This is the gate of heaven.

### 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.

### Psalm 34

I will alway give thanks unto the Lord ♦ his praise shall ever be in my mouth.

My soul shall make her boast in the Lord ♦ the humble shall hear thereof, and be glad.

O praise the Lord with me ♦ and let us magnify his Name together.

I sought the Lord, and he heard me ♦ yea, he delivered me out of all my fear.

They had an eye unto him, and were lightened ♦ and their faces were not ashamed.

Lo, the poor crieth, and the Lord heareth him ♦ yea, and saveth him out of all his troubles.

The angel of the Lord tarrieth round about them that fear him ♦ and delivereth them.

O taste, and see, how gracious the Lord is ♦ blessed is the man that trusteth in him.

O fear the Lord, ye that are his saints ♦ for they that fear him lack nothing.  
 The lions do lack, and suffer hunger ♦ but they who seek the Lord shall want no  
 manner of thing that is good.  
 Come, ye children, and hearken unto me ♦ I will teach you the fear of the Lord.  
 What man is he that lusteth to live ♦ and would fain see good days?  
 Keep thy tongue from evil ♦ and thy lips, that they speak no guile.  
 Eschew evil, and do good ♦ seek peace, and ensue it.  
 The eyes of the Lord are over the righteous ♦ and his ears are open unto their  
 prayers.  
 The countenance of the Lord is against them that do evil ♦ to root out the  
 remembrance of them from the earth.  
 The righteous cry, and the Lord heareth them ♦ and delivereth them out of all  
 their troubles.  
 The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a contrite heart ♦ and will save such as  
 be of an humble spirit.  
 Great are the troubles of the righteous ♦ but the Lord delivereth him out of all.  
 He keepeth all his bones ♦ so that not one of them is broken.  
 But misfortune shall slay the ungodly ♦ and they that hate the righteous shall  
 be desolate.  
 The Lord delivereth the souls of his servants ♦ and all they that put their trust  
 in him shall not be destitute.  
 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.

## First Lesson

Isaiah 33.13–17

Hear, you who are far away, what I have done;  
 and you who are near, acknowledge my might.  
 The sinners in Zion are afraid;  
 trembling has seized the godless:  
 ‘Who among us can live with the devouring fire?  
 Who among us can live with everlasting flames?’  
 Those who walk righteously and speak uprightly,  
 who despise the gain of oppression,  
 who wave away a bribe instead of accepting it,  
 who stop their ears from hearing of bloodshed  
 and shut their eyes from looking on evil,

they will live on the heights;  
their refuge will be the fortresses of rocks;  
their food will be supplied, their water assured.

Your eyes will see the king in his beauty;  
they will behold a land that stretches far away.

## 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 1.46–55 ♦ Music Plainchant*

## Second Lesson

Matthew 6.19–end

Jesus said: ‘Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

‘The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light; but if your eye is unhealthy, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!

‘No one can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.

‘Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, “What will we eat?” or “What will we drink?” or “What will we wear?” For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

‘So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today’s trouble is enough for today.

## 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* Plainchant

## 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, Responses and Collects

The Lord be with you;  
and with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

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.**

O almighty God, who by thy blessed Son didst call Matthew from the receipt of custom to be an Apostle and Evangelist; grant us grace to forsake all covetous desires, and inordinate love of riches, and to follow the same thy Son Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Chost, on 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.**

## **Anthem**

O quam gloriosum est regnum, in quo cum Christo gaudent omnes sancti,  
amicti stolis albis sequuntur Agnum quocunque ierit,  
laudantes Deum et dicentes:  
Benedictio et claritas et sapientia et gratiarum actio,  
honor, virtus et fortitudo Deo nostro in saecula saeculorum. Amen.

*O how glorious is the kingdom wherein all the Saints rejoice with Christ;  
arrayed in white robes they follow the Lamb  
whithersoever he goeth, praising God and saying:  
Benediction and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving,  
honour and power and strength, to our God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

Words Revelation 7. 12 ♦ Music Philip Moore (b. 1943)

## **Prayers**

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