

CHORAL EVENSONG

ON THE

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

SUNDAY 16 JANUARY 2021 AT 4.00 PM

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

Omnes de Saba venient, aurum et thus deferentes, et laudem Domino annunciantes. Alleluia.

All they from Saba shall come, bringing gold and frankincense, and proclaiming the praise of the Lord. Alleluia.

Words Isaiah 60.6 ♦ Music Jacob Handl (1550-91)

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 Bernard Rose (1916–96)

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

Psalmody

O sing unto the Lord a new song ♦ sing unto the Lord, all the whole earth.

Sing unto the Lord, and praise his Name ♦ be telling of his salvation from day to day.

Declare his honour unto the heathen ♦ and his wonders unto all people.

For the Lord is great, and cannot worthily be praised ♦ he is more to be feared than all gods.

As for all the gods of the heathen, they are but idols • but it is the Lord that made the heavens.

Glory and worship are before him • power and honour are in his sanctuary.

Ascribe unto the Lord, O ye kindreds of the people ♦ ascribe unto the Lord worship and power.

Ascribe unto the Lord the honour due unto his Name • bring presents, and come into his courts.

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness ♦ let the whole earth stand in awe of him.

Tell it out among the heathen that the Lord is King • and that it is he who hath made the round world so fast that it cannot be moved; and how that he shall judge the people righteously.

Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad • let the sea make a noise, and all that therein is.

Let the field be joyful, and all that is in it ♦ then shall all the trees of the wood rejoice before the Lord.

For he cometh, for he cometh to judge the earth • and with righteousness to judge the world, and the people with his truth.

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 96

Please sit.

First Lesson

The First Lesson is from the Book of the First Book of Samuel.

Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the Lord under Eli. The word of the Lord was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.

At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the Lord, where the ark of God was. Then the Lord called, 'Samuel! Samuel!' and he said, 'Here I am!' and ran to Eli, and said, 'Here I am, for you called me.' But he said, 'I did not call; lie down again.' So he went and lay down. The Lord called again, 'Samuel!' Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, 'Here I am, for you called me.' But he said, 'I did not call, my son; lie down again.' Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. The Lord called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, 'Here I am, for you called me.' Then Eli perceived that the Lord was calling the boy. Therefore Eli said to Samuel, 'Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, "Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening." 'So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

Now the Lord came and stood there, calling as before, 'Samuel! Samuel!' And Samuel said, 'Speak, for your servant is listening.' Then the Lord said to Samuel, 'See, I am about to do something in Israel that will make both ears of anyone who hears of it tingle. On that day I will fulfil against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. For I have told him that I am about to punish his house for ever, for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them. Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be expiated by sacrifice or offering for ever.'

Samuel lay there until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the Lord. Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. But Eli called Samuel and said, 'Samuel, my son.' He said, 'Here I am.' Eli said, 'What was it that he told you? Do not hide it from me. May God do so to you and more also, if you hide anything from me of all that he told you.' So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. Then he said, 'It is the Lord; let him do what seems good to him.'

As Samuel grew up, the Lord was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. And all Israel from Dan to Beer-sheba knew that Samuel was a trustworthy prophet of the Lord.

Here ends the First Lesson.

I SAMUEL 3.1-20

Please 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 1. 46–55
Music The St Paul's Service, Herbert Howells (1892–1983)

Please sit.

Second Lesson

The Second Lesson is from the Letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore it is said,

'When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive; he gave gifts to his people.'

(When it says, 'He ascended', what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.) The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knitted together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

Here ends the Second Lesson.

EPHESIANS 4.1-16

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

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 The St Paul's Service, Herbert Howells

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

Almighty and everlasting God, who dost govern all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully hear the supplications of thy people, and grant us thy peace all the days of our life; through 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 Bernard Rose

Please sit.

Anthem

O magnum mysterium, et admirabile sacramentum, ut animalia viderent Dominum natum, iacentem in praesepio. Beata virgo, cujus viscera meruerunt portare Dominum Christum.

O great mystery and wondrous sign, that the animals should see the Lord born, lying in a manger. Blessed is the Virgin, whose womb was counted worthy to bear the Lord Christ.

Words Fourth Respond for Matins of Christmas Day *Music* Francis Poulenc (1899–1963)

Sermon

The Most Revd and Rt Hon Stephen Cottrell, Archbishop of York

After the sermon, please kneel or remain seated.

Praying Farewell

The Archbishop gives thanks for the ministry of Dean Jonathan. At the end of the intercessions, the congregation is invited to join in these prayers:

God of our beginnings and endings,
we celebrate all we have shared with Jonathan and Christine
and ask your blessing as they continue on their journeys.
May your love in our hearts
be a bond that unites us for ever,
wherever we may be.
May the power of your presence
bless this moment of our leave-taking
and guide us all on our pilgrimage;
for the sake of Jesus Christ, our redeemer.
Amen.

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.

Please stand.

Hymn



Angel-voices ever singing round thy throne of light, angel-harps for ever ringing, rest not day nor night; thousands only live to bless thee and confess thee

Lord of might.

Thou who art beyond the farthest mortal eye can scan, can it be that thou regardest songs of sinful man?

Can we know that thou art near us, and wilt hear us?

Yea, we can.

For, we know that thou rejoicest o'er each work of thine; thou didst ears and hands and voices for thy praise design; craftsman's art and music's measure for thy pleasure all combine.

In thy house, great God, we offer of thine own to thee; and for thine acceptance proffer all unworthily hearts and minds and hands and voices in our choicest psalmody.

Honour, glory, might and merit thine shall ever be, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, blessèd Trinity. Of the best which thou hast given earth and heaven render thee.

Words Francis Pott (1832–1909)
Tune Angel Voices, Neh 336 E G Monk (1819–1900)

Please remain standing.

The Reading Out

The Archbishop says:

Jonathan, on behalf of all who work and worship in this holy house, together with your friends and colleagues throughout the Minster community, we thank for your service and fellowship as Dean.

The holy and eternal God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, bless you now and always.

Amen.

We commend Jonathan to your fatherly care, O Lord.

May your goodness and mercy follow him throughout his life.

Guard him in danger and keep him from evil,
guide him constantly in the right way,
grant that the work you have begun in him may be continued,
and that the gifts which you have given to him may mature and increase.

This we ask for the glory of your name,
through our Lord Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

The Blessing

Voluntary

Rhapsody No 3 Herbert Howells

There is a reception following the service, to which all are invited.

