



The Cathedral & Metropolitan Church of St Peter in York

CHORAL EVENSONG

ON THE

TENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

attended by the Dorothy L Sayers Society

Sunday 9th August 2026
at 4.00pm

Welcome

A warm welcome to York Minster and to this service of Choral Evensong in celebration of the twentieth-century English crime novelist, playwright, translator and critic Dorothy Leigh Sayers and attended by Members of the Dorothy L Sayers Society.

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 are grateful to Caelestis for singing our services this weekend while the Choir of York Minster is on holiday.



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

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.

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 Bernard Rose (1916–1996)

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

Psalmody

The heavens declare the glory of God ♦
and the firmament sheweth his handywork.

One day telleth another ♦
and one night certifieth another.

There is neither speech nor language ♦
but their voices are heard among them.

Their sound is gone out into all lands ♦
and their words into the ends of the world.

In them hath he set a tabernacle for the sun ♦ which cometh forth as a
bridegroom out of his chamber, and rejoiceth as a giant to run his course.

It goeth forth from the uttermost part of the heaven, and runneth about unto
the end of it again ♦ and there is nothing hid from the heat thereof.

The law of the Lord is an undefiled law, converting the soul ♦
the testimony of the Lord is sure, and giveth wisdom unto the simple.

The statutes of the Lord are right, and rejoice the heart ♦
the commandment of the Lord is pure, and giveth light unto the eyes.

The fear of the Lord is clean, and endureth for ever ♦
the judgements of the Lord are true, and righteous altogether.

More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold ♦
sweeter also than honey, and the honey-comb.

Moreover, by them is thy servant taught ♦
and in keeping of them there is great reward.

Who can tell how oft he offendeth ♦
O cleanse thou me from my secret faults.

Keep thy servant also from presumptuous sins, lest they get the dominion over
me ♦ so shall I be undefiled, and innocent from the great offence.

Let the words of my mouth, and the meditations of my heart ♦
be always acceptable in thy sight,

O Lord ♦
my strength, and my redeemer.

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

The First Lesson is taken from the Book of Judges.

When the Israelites cried out to the Lord, the Lord raised up for them a deliverer, Ehud son of Gera, the Benjaminite, a left-handed man. The Israelites sent tribute by him to King Eglon of Moab. Ehud made for himself a sword with two edges, a cubit in length; and he fastened it on his right thigh under his clothes. Then he presented the tribute to King Eglon of Moab. Now Eglon was a very fat man. When Ehud had finished presenting the tribute, he sent the people who carried the tribute on their way. But he himself turned back at the sculptured stones near Gilgal, and said, 'I have a secret message for you, O king.' So the king said, 'Silence!' and all his attendants went out from his presence. Ehud came to him, while he was sitting alone in his cool roof-chamber, and said, 'I have a message from God for you.' So he rose from his seat. Then Ehud reached with his left hand, took the sword from his right thigh, and thrust it into Eglon's belly; the hilt also went in after the blade, and the fat closed over the blade, for he did not draw the sword out of his belly; and the dirt came out. Then Ehud went out into the vestibule, and closed the doors of the roof-chamber on him, and locked them.

After he had gone, the servants came. When they saw that the doors of the roof-chamber were locked, they thought, 'He must be relieving himself in the cool chamber.' So they waited until they were embarrassed. When he still did not open the doors of the roof-chamber, they took the key and opened them. There was their lord lying dead on the floor.

Ehud escaped while they delayed, and passed beyond the sculptured stones, and escaped to Seirah. When he arrived, he sounded the trumpet in the hill country of Ephraim; and the Israelites went down with him from the hill country, having him at their head. He said to them, 'Follow after me; for the Lord has given your enemies the Moabites into your hand.' So they went down after him, and seized the fords of the Jordan against the Moabites, and allowed no one to cross over. At that time they killed about ten thousand of the Moabites, all strong, able-bodied men; no one escaped. So Moab was subdued that day under the hand of Israel. And the land had rest for eighty years.

Here ends the First Lesson.

JUDGES 3.15-30

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 E FLAT, John Ebenezer West (1863–1929)

Sit.

Second Lesson

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

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind— just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you— so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you should be in agreement and that there should be no divisions among you, but that you should be united in the same mind and the same purpose. For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters.

Here ends the Second Lesson.

I CORINTHIANS I.4–11

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 E FLAT, John Ebenezer West

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 strengthen thy servant Dorothy Sayers with eloquence to defend Christian teaching: Keep us, we pray, steadfast in thy true religion, that in constancy and peace we may always teach right doctrine, and teach doctrine rightly; 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

Sit.

Anthem

In manus tuas, Domine, commendo spiritum meum.
Redemisti me Domine, Deus veritatis.

*Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit.
You have redeemed me Lord, God of truth.*

Words PSALM 31.5

Music John Sheppard (c 1515–1558)

Sermon

The Reverend Canon Michael Hampel,
Vice-Dean and Precentor, Durham Cathedral

Stand.

Hymn



1. The day thou gavest, Lord, is ended,
the darkness falls at thy behest;
to thee our morning hymns ascended,
thy praise shall sanctify our rest.
2. We thank thee that thy Church unsleeping,
while earth rolls onward into light,
through all the world her watch is keeping,
and rests not now by day or night.
3. As o'er each continent and island
the dawn leads on another day,
The voice of prayer is never silent,
nor dies the strain of praise away.
4. The sun that bids us rest is waking
our kindred 'neath the western sky,
and hour by hour fresh lips are making
thy wondrous doings heard on high.
5. So be it, Lord; thy throne shall never,
like earth's proud empires, pass away;
thy kingdom stands, and grows for ever,
till all thy creatures own thy sway.

Words NEH 252, John Ellerton (1826–1893) alt.

Tune ST CLEMENT, NEH 252, Clement Scholefield (1839–1904)

Remain standing.

The Blessing

Voluntary

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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