



The Cathedral & Metropolitan Church of St Peter in York

CHORAL EVENSONG

ON THE

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

*with the Reading In
of Choir Members*

Sunday 7th September 2025
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. 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.
- ◆ 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 offered during this service will be given to three charities York Minster supports, HOPE Africa, a charity which was initiated by our companion link dioceses in SA; Mustard Seed, a York Diocese based organisation which works in the most deprived areas of our diocese; and a variety of Refugee charities based 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

I sat down under his shadow with great delight
and his fruit was sweet to my taste
he brought me to the banqueting house
and his banner over me was love.

Words SONG OF SOLOMON 2.3–4

Music Sir Edward Cuthbert Bairstow (1874–1946)

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.

The Reading In

The Senior Choristers and those to be read in stand before the Dean.

The Director of Music says:

Mr Dean, I present to you Joy Elise McAllister, Robyn O’Ehley, Bella O’Shaughnessy and Gracie Thio who are to be presented with Duncombe Badges in recognition of their new roles as Senior Choristers of this Cathedral Church.

The Dean replies:

Badges named after Augustus Duncombe, sometime Dean of York, are worn during worship as a mark of proficiency and seniority, and also as a sign of recognition by the Chapter, and the whole Minster Community, of the work done by our Choristers.

The Dean gives each of the Choristers a silver badge, saying:

Joy, Robyn, Bella and Gracie, may the blessing of Almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be upon you, and upon all that you do for his glory, and for the good of his Church.

The Director of Music says:

Mr Dean, I present to you Laura Gal de Sa, Grace Mindenhall, Sofia Pirandola and Violet Snowden to be admitted as Choristers of this Cathedral Church.

The Dean says:

N, I receive you and admit you as a Chorister of this Cathedral Church. May the holy and eternal God, whose glory is sung by the host of heaven and by his Church on earth, bless you and your service to him, now and always. **Amen.**

The newly admitted Choristers are vested in their surplices.

The Dean gives each Chorister a copy of the Bible, and says:

N, receive this holy book.
As you read and hear its words day by day,
may you grow in faith and in the love of God.

Let us pray.

Accept, O Lord, the praises of thy holy Church;
and grant to us all the gift of thy Holy Spirit,
that not only our music but our whole lives
may be a worthy offering unto thee:
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

*Those who have taken part in the admission return to their places,
and Evensong continues with the Psalm. Remain seated until the Gloria.*

Psalmody

I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills ♦
from whence cometh my help?

My help cometh even from the Lord ♦
who hath made heaven and earth.

He will not suffer thy foot to be moved ♦
and he that keepeth thee will not sleep.

Behold, he that keepeth Israel ♦
shall neither slumber nor sleep.

The Lord himself is thy keeper ♦
the Lord is thy defence upon thy right hand;

So that the sun shall not burn thee by day ♦
neither the moon by night.

The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil ♦
yea, it is even he that shall keep thy soul.

The Lord shall preserve thy going out, and thy coming in ♦
from this time forth for evermore.

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 121

Sit.

First Lesson

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

Thus says the Lord,
your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel:
For your sake I will send to Babylon
and break down all the bars,
and the shouting of the Chaldeans will be turned to lamentation.
I am the Lord, your Holy One,
the Creator of Israel, your King.
Thus says the Lord,
who makes a way in the sea,
a path in the mighty waters,
who brings out chariot and horse,
army and warrior;
they lie down, they cannot rise,
they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:
Do not remember the former things,
or consider the things of old.
I am about to do a new thing;
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert.
The wild animals will honour me,
the jackals and the ostriches;
for I give water in the wilderness,
rivers in the desert,
to give drink to my chosen people,
the people whom I formed for myself
so that they might declare my praise.
Yet you did not call upon me, O Jacob;
but you have been weary of me, O Israel!
You have not brought me your sheep for burnt-offerings,
or honoured me with your sacrifices.
I have not burdened you with offerings,
or wearied you with frankincense.
You have not bought me sweet cane with money,
or satisfied me with the fat of your sacrifices.
But you have burdened me with your sins;
you have wearied me with your iniquities.

I, I am He
 who blots out your transgressions for my own sake,
 and I will not remember your sins.
Accuse me, let us go to trial;
 set forth your case, so that you may be proved right.
Your first ancestor sinned,
 and your interpreters transgressed against me.
Therefore I profaned the princes of the sanctuary,
 I delivered Jacob to utter destruction,
 and Israel to reviling.

But now hear, O Jacob my servant,
 Israel whom I have chosen!
Thus says the Lord who made you,
 who formed you in the womb and will help you:
Do not fear, O Jacob my servant,
 Jeshurun whom I have chosen.
For I will pour water on the thirsty land,
 and streams on the dry ground;
I will pour my spirit upon your descendants,
 and my blessing on your offspring.
They shall spring up like a green tamarisk,
 like willows by flowing streams.
This one will say, 'I am the Lord's',
 another will be called by the name of Jacob,
yet another will write on the hand, 'The Lord's',
 and adopt the name of Israel.

Here ends the First Lesson.

ISAIAH 43.14-44.5

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 D, Sir Herbert Brewer (1865–1928)

Sit.

Second Lesson

The Second Lesson is taken from the Gospel of John.

'I can do nothing on my own. As I hear, I judge; and my judgement is just, because I seek to do not my own will but the will of him who sent me.

'If I testify about myself, my testimony is not true. There is another who testifies on my behalf, and I know that his testimony to me is true. You sent messengers to John, and he testified to the truth. Not that I accept such human testimony, but I say these things so that you may be saved. He was a burning and shining lamp, and you were willing to rejoice for a while in his light. But I have a testimony greater than John's. The works that the Father has given me to complete, the very works that I am doing, testify on my behalf that the Father has sent me. And the Father who sent me has himself testified on my behalf. You have never heard his voice or seen his form, and you do not have his word abiding in you, because you do not believe him whom he has sent.

'You search the scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that testify on my behalf. Yet you refuse to come to me to have life. I do not accept glory from human beings. But I know that you do not have the love of God in you. I have come in my Father's name, and you do not accept me; if another comes in his own name, you will accept him. How can you believe when you accept glory from one another and do not seek the glory that comes from the one who alone is God? Do not think that I will accuse you before the Father; your accuser is Moses, on whom you have set your hope. If you believed Moses, you would believe me, for he wrote about me. But if you do not believe what he wrote, how will you believe what I say?'

Here ends the Second Lesson.

JOHN 5.30-47

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 D, Sir Herbert Brewer

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 and everlasting God, who art always more ready to hear than we to pray, and art wont to give more than either we desire or deserve: Pour down upon us the abundance of thy mercy; forgiving us those things whereof our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things which we are not worthy to ask, but through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ, thy Son, 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

Prevent us, O Lord, in all our doings with thy most gracious favour, and further us with thy continual help, that in all our works begun, continued and ended in thee, we may glorify thy holy Name, and finally by thy mercy obtain everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Words THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER (1559)

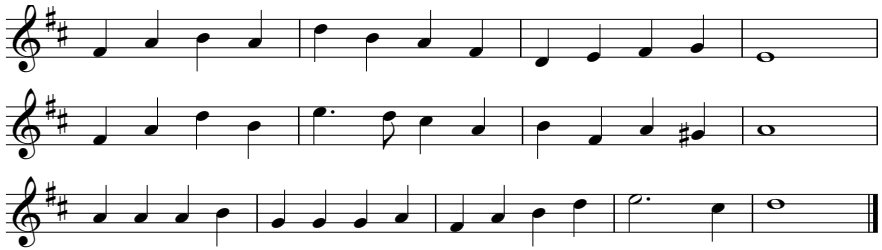
Music William Byrd (c 1540–1623)

Sermon

The Reverend Canon Timothy Goode,
Congregational Discipleship and Nurture

Stand.

Hymn



1. 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.

2. Thou who art beyond the farthest
 mortal eye can see,
can it be that thou regardest
 our poor hymnody.
Can we know that thou art near us,
 and wilt hear us?
 Yea, we can.

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

4. 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.

5. 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 NEH 336, Francis Pott (1832–1909) alt.

Tune ANGEL VOICES, NEH 336, Edwin George Monk (1819–1900)

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

Toccata in D minor 'The Dorian', BWV 538i

J S Bach (1685–1750)

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

If you worship regularly at York Minster, you are already a member of our community. Please help us know who you are by joining the Community Roll and by subscribing to our weekly notice sheet. Take a look online at yorkminster.org/get-involved/community or ask a steward or a member of the clergy for more information.



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