



THE CATHEDRAL AND METROPOLITICAL CHURCH OF CHRIST, CANTERBURY

# Choral Evensong

## in Christian Aid Week



11<sup>th</sup> May 2025

5.30pm

Quire

# **Welcome to Canterbury Cathedral for this Service**

## **This is Christian Aid**

We are a global movement of people, churches and local organisations. We are the changemakers, the peacemakers, the mighty of heart.

Everyone is equal in the sight of God. Yet we live in a world where poverty still persists.

Poverty is an outrage against humanity. It robs people of their dignity and lets injustice thrive. But together we have the power to transform lives.

For 80 years, we've been standing with the poorest of our neighbours. We work in 37 countries, with people of all faiths and none, to stand up for dignity, equality and justice.

Together we can create a world where everyone can live a full life, free from poverty.

Our voices and actions are stronger together. And with your help, we can make an even bigger difference.

### **Together with our supporters and partners, we aim:**

- to expose poverty throughout the world
- to help in practical ways to end it
- to highlight, challenge and change the structures and systems that favour the rich and powerful over the poor and marginalised.
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### **Our history**

With the help of our incredible supporters and partners, we've achieved so much in 80 years.

Our groundbreaking work began in 1945, when we were founded by British and Irish churches to help refugees following the Second World War.

For 80 years, we have provided humanitarian relief and long-term development support for poor communities worldwide, while highlighting suffering, tackling injustice and championing people's rights.

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# ORDER OF SERVICE

*A welcome is offered*

*The Cantor and choir sing the **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: William Byrd (c. 1540-1623)*

*Sit as the choir sings*

**Psalms**     113, 114

Psalm 113

Praise the Lord, ye servants :  
O praise the Name of the Lord.

Blessed be the Name of the Lord :  
from this time forth for evermore.

The Lord's Name is praised :  
from the rising up of the sun unto the going down of the same.

The Lord is high above all heathen :  
and his glory above the heavens.

Who is like unto the Lord our God, that hath his dwelling so high :  
and yet humbleth himself to behold the things that are in heaven and earth?

He taketh up the simple out of the dust :  
and lifteth the poor out of the mire;

That he may set him with the princes :  
even with the princes of his people.

He maketh the barren woman to keep house :  
and to be a joyful mother of children.

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 114

When Israel came out of Egypt :  
and the house of Jacob from among the strange people,

Judah was his sanctuary :  
and Israel his dominion.

The sea saw that, and fled :  
Jordan was driven back.

The mountains skipped like rams :  
and the little hills like young sheep.

What aileth thee, O thou sea, that thou fleddest :  
and thou Jordan, that thou wast driven back?

Ye mountains, that ye skipped like rams :  
and ye little hills, like young sheep?

Tremble, thou earth, at the presence of the Lord :  
at the presence of the God of Jacob;

Who turned the hard rock into a standing water :  
and the flint-stone into a springing well.

### *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*

## **Old Testament Reading**

*Isaiah 63.7-14*

I will recount the gracious deeds of the Lord, the praiseworthy acts of the Lord, because of all that the Lord has done for us, and the great favour to the house of Israel that he has shown them according to his mercy, according to the abundance of his steadfast love. For he said, "Surely they are my people, children who will not deal falsely"; and he became their saviour in all their distress. It was no messenger or angel but his presence that saved them; in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old. But they rebelled and grieved his holy spirit; therefore he became their enemy; he himself fought against them. Then they remembered the days of old, of Moses his servant. Where is the one who brought them up out of the sea with the shepherds of his flock? Where is the one who put within them his holy spirit, who caused his glorious arm to march at the right hand of Moses, who divided the waters before them to make for himself an everlasting name, who led them through the depths? Like a horse in the desert, they did not stumble. Like cattle that go down into the valley, the spirit of the Lord gave them rest. Thus you led your people, to make for yourself a glorious name.

*Stand as the choir sings*

## **Magnificat**

My soul doth magnify the Lord :  
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.  
For he hath regarded :  
the lowliness of his handmaiden.  
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.

*Music: Kenneth Leighton (1929-88), Second service*

*Sit*

## **New Testament Reading**

*Luke 24.36-49*

While the disciples were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence. Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

*Stand as the choir sings*

## **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.

*Music: Kenneth Leighton (1929-88), Second service*

*Turn East and say together 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 Cantor and choir sing the* **Versicles and Responses**

The Lord be with you. *And with thy spirit.*

*Sit or kneel*

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us.  
*Christ, have mercy upon us.*  
Lord, have mercy upon us.

*Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come; thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who 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 King.  
*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.*

*Music: William Byrd (c. 1540-1623)*

## The Collects

Almighty God, who shewest to them that be in error the light of thy truth, to the intent that they may return into the way of righteousness: Grant unto all them that are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's religion, that they may eschew those things that are contrary to their profession, and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same; through our Lord Jesus Christ. *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.*

*Sit as the choir sings*

## Anthem

Dum transisset Sabbatum, Maria  
Magdalene et Maria Jacobi et  
Salome  
emerunt aromata ut venientes  
ungerent Jesum. Alleluia.  
Et valde mane una sabbatorum  
veniunt ad monumentum orto iam  
sole.  
Gloria Patri et Filio et Spiritui  
Sancto.

*When the sabbath was past, Mary  
Magdalene, and Mary the mother of  
James, and Salome, had bought sweet  
spices, that they might come and  
anoint him. Alleluia.  
And very early in the morning the first  
day of the week, they came unto the  
sepulchre at the rising of the sun.  
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Ghost.*

*Words: Responsory for Easter Day*

*Music: Thomas Tallis (c. 1505-85)*

**Homily** Elizabeth Walker - Director of Finance and Corporate  
Governance at Christian Aid

*Sit or Kneel*

## **Prayers** *concluding with*

**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.**



*Stand to sing*

**Hymn** *during which a collection is taken*

*If you would prefer, use the QR code*



All my hope on God is founded;  
he doth still my trust renew,  
me through change and chance  
he guideth,  
only good and only true.  
God unknown,  
he alone  
calls my heart to be his own.

<sup>3</sup>God's great goodness aye endureth,  
deep his wisdom, passing thought:  
splendour, light, and life attend him,  
beauty springeth out of naught.  
Evermore  
from his store  
new-born worlds rise and adore.

<sup>2</sup>Human pride and earthly glory,  
sword and crown betray his trust;  
what with care and toil he buildeth,  
tower and temple, fall to dust.  
But God's power,  
hour by hour,  
is my temple and my tower.

<sup>4</sup>Daily doth th' Almighty giver  
bounteous gifts on us bestow;  
his desire our soul delighteth,  
pleasure leads us where we go.  
Love doth stand  
at his hand;  
joy doth wait on his command.

<sup>5</sup>Still from earth to God eternal  
sacrifice of praise be done,  
high above all praises praising  
for the gift of Christ, his Son.  
Christ doth call  
one and all:  
ye who follow shall not fall.

*Words: Robert Bridges (1844-1930)*

*Tune: MICHAEL*

*AM 584*

*Remain standing for*

## **The Blessing**

*All remain standing as the choir and clergy depart*

## **Organ Voluntary**