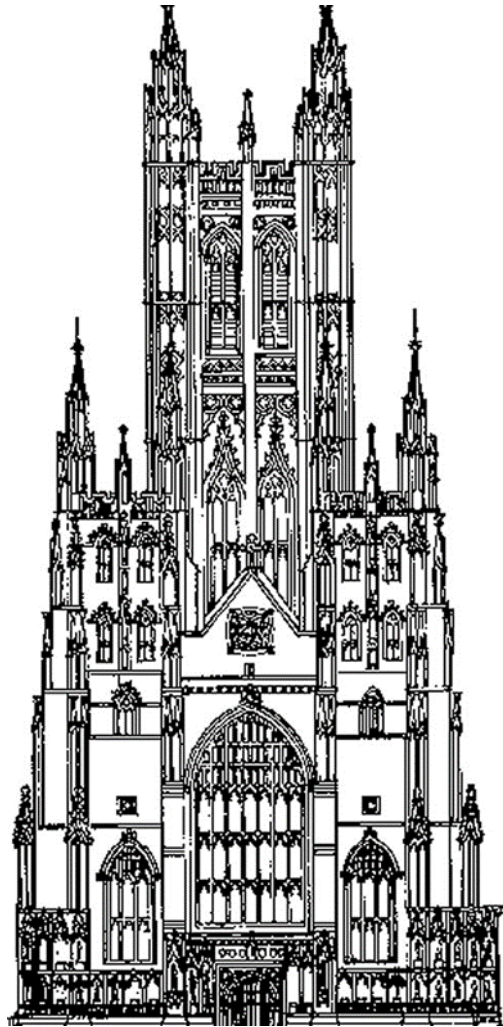




THE CATHEDRAL AND METROPOLITICAL CHURCH OF CHRIST, CANTERBURY

# Choral Evensong

with Farewell to Choir Members



13<sup>th</sup> July 2025

5.30pm

Quire

# Welcome to Canterbury Cathedral for this Service

The Choir of Canterbury Cathedral comprises separate treble lines of boy choristers (aged 7-13) and girl choristers (aged 12-18), as well as 12 professional adult singers, known as Lay Clerks and Choral Scholars. These musicians continue a centuries-old tradition of singing at the Cathedral that dates to its foundation by St Augustine in 597AD.

Today's service is the last at which the Choir will sing before commencing its summer break. On this occasion we bid farewell to three boy choristers, Brandon, Thomas and Jeremy, and to four girl choristers, Connie, Ava, Rosie and Madeleine. Their contribution to the life of the Choir during recent years has been immense; we wish them all the very best of luck in the next stages of their lives. At the same time, we hope that they will always consider Canterbury Cathedral to be home.

Additionally, we bid farewell to one of our Choral Scholars and our Organ Scholar who have spent the past academic year with the Choir. We wish Ben and Ivan the very best as they pursue their future careers. We are delighted that Ellen will remain with the Choir as she takes up a position as a Lay Clerk.

During the Choir's summer break, Cathedral services will be sung by a variety of visiting choirs. The Cathedral Choir will resume its duties on Monday 1 September.

David Newsholme  
Director of Music



Please ensure that mobile phones are switched off. No form of visual or sound recording, or any form of photography, is permitted during Services. Thank you for your co-operation.



An induction loop system for the hard of hearing is installed in the Cathedral. Hearing aid users should adjust their aid to T.



**Large print** orders of service are available from the stewards and virgers. Please ask

## ORDER OF SERVICE

*All stand as the choir and clergy enter the Quire*

*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 Smith (c. 1603-45)*

*Sit as the choir sings*

**Psalm**     77.1-12

I will cry unto God with my voice :  
even unto God will I cry with my voice, and he shall hearken unto me.

In the time of my trouble I sought the Lord :  
my sore ran and ceased not in the night-season; my soul refused comfort.

When I am in heaviness, I will think upon God :  
when my heart is vexed, I will complain.

Thou holdest mine eyes waking :  
I am so feeble, that I cannot speak.

I have considered the days of old :  
and the years that are past.

I call to remembrance my song :  
and in the night I commune with mine own heart, and search out my spirits.

Will the Lord absent himself for ever :  
and will he be no more intreated?

Is his mercy clean gone for ever :  
and is his promise come utterly to an end for evermore?

Hath God forgotten to be gracious :  
and will he shut up his loving-kindness in displeasure?

And I said, It is mine own infirmity :  
but I will remember the years of the right hand of the most Highest.

I will remember the works of the Lord :  
and call to mind thy wonders of old time.

I will think also of all thy works :  
and my talking shall be of thy doings.

*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**     *Genesis 32.9-30*

Read by Dr David Newsholme, Director of Music

*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: Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924) in A*

*Sit*

## **New Testament Reading**

*Mark 7.1-23*

*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: Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924) in A*

*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 catholick Church;  
the communion of saints;  
the forgiveness of sins;  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.  
Amen.**

*The Precentor and choir sing the* **Versicles and Responses**

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

Let us pray.

*Sit or kneel*

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.*

## The Collects

Lord of all power and might, who art the author and giver of all good things:  
Graft in our hearts the love of thy name, increase in us true religion, nourish  
us with all goodness, and of thy great mercy keep us in the same; 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.*

*Sit as the choir sings*

## Anthem

I was glad when they said unto me : We will go into the house of the Lord.  
Our feet shall stand in thy gates : O Jerusalem.  
Jerusalem is built as a city : that is at unity in itself.  
O pray for the peace of Jerusalem : they shall prosper that love thee.  
Peace be within thy walls : and plenteousness within thy palaces.

Words: Psalm 122.1-3, 6-7

Music: Charles Hubert H Parry (1848-1918)

*Kneel or sit*

## 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 the hymn, during which a collection will be received*

If you would prefer, use the QR code



*During the singing of the hymn, those Choristers who are  
leaving process to the High Altar with the Dean, the Minor Canon, and the  
Director of Music*



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.

<sup>3</sup>Yea, 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.

<sup>2</sup>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.

<sup>4</sup>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.

<sup>5</sup>Honour, glory, might, and merit  
thine shall ever be,  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
Blessed Trinity.  
Of the best that thou hast given  
earth and heaven  
render thee.

Words: Francis Pott (1832-1909)

Tune: ANGEL VOICES

AM 589

*Once the collection has been received, the leaving Boy and Girl Choristers are presented with a bound copy of Handel's Messiah.*

*Informal words are spoken and then the Dean blesses the leaving Choristers*

Loving God, the saints and angels delight to worship you in heaven.  
We thank you for all those who have sung your praises in this Cathedral  
through the centuries and all that they have brought to this community.  
We pray for Brandon, Thomas and Jeremy, Connie, Ava, Rosie and  
Madeleine who leave us as choristers today. Surround them with your  
love and bless them in their life, that all they say and do may give you  
the glory.

We make our prayer in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## Blessing

*All remain standing as the choir and clergy depart*

# **Organ Voluntary**

Played by Jamie Rogers, Assistant Director of Music



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