



THE CATHEDRAL AND METROPOLITICAL CHURCH OF CHRIST, CANTERBURY

# Choral Evensong

attended by the Freemasons of East Kent



The Eighth Sunday after Trinity

26<sup>th</sup> July 2026

5.30pm

Quire

# Welcome to Canterbury Cathedral for this Service

We are grateful to the Vasari Singers for singing at this service

Freemasonry has been pleased to support Canterbury Cathedral for many years, helping to fund essential repairs to the building, and the training of a number of apprentice stonemasons.

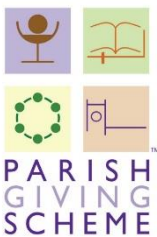
For example, the Coronation Window situated in the Martyrdom, which depicts Queen Elizabeth II with other members of the Royal Family at her coronation, was donated by the Freemasons of Kent in 1954. An earlier example is the East Window in the Chapter House (illustrated on the front cover of this Order of Service), which was donated in 1896 by Freemasons, to mark the 1,300th anniversary of the landing in England of St. Augustine.

To mark the three-hundred-year celebration of Freemasonry in 2017, a major donation of £300,000 was made jointly by the Freemasons of East Kent, West Kent, Surrey and Sussex, to support the restoration of the Cathedral's North-West Transept. Freemasonry's strong support of this iconic Cathedral has a long history, which is sure to continue from generation to generation.

## Livestreaming

This service will be livestreamed and you may be seen on camera, although we will not deliberately take any close-ups of the congregation. By attending you agree to be seen in this way.

If you have any concerns please speak to a member of the clergy.



**THE COLLECTION** is an opportunity to give generously to Canterbury Cathedral in response to God's generosity, and there are many ways to give regularly. **Use this QR code** to make a donation.

**By cash or cheques** payable to 'Canterbury Cathedral' in Gift Aid envelopes - UK taxpayers please fill in the details on the envelope. Or you can give a one-off donation at one of our **contactless donation points** in the South Transept after the service.



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.

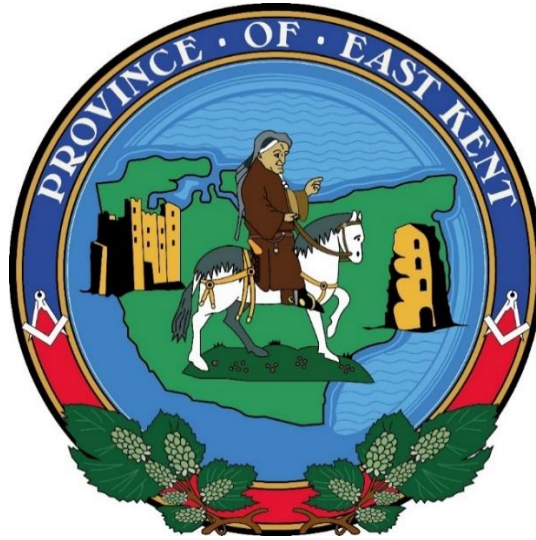


An induction loop system for the hard of hearing is installed in the Cathedral. Hearing aid users should adjust their aid to T.



**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*

*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: Matthew Wood (b. 1972)*

*Sit as the choir sings*

## **Psalm**      75

Unto thee, O God, do we give thanks :  
yea, unto thee do we give thanks.

Thy Name also is so nigh :  
and that do thy wondrous works declare.

When I receive the congregation :  
I shall judge according unto right.

The earth is weak, and all the inhabitants thereof :  
I bear up the pillars of it.

I said unto the fools, Deal not so madly :  
and to the ungodly, Set not up your horn.

Set not up your horn on high :  
and speak not with a stiff neck.

For promotion cometh neither from the east, nor from the west :  
nor yet from the south.

And why? God is the Judge :  
he putteth down one, and setteth up another.

For in the hand of the Lord there is a cup, and the wine is red :  
it is full mixed, and he poureth out of the same.

As for the dregs thereof :  
all the ungodly of the earth shall drink them, and suck them out.

But I will talk of the God of Jacob :  
and praise him for ever.

All the horns of the ungodly also will I break :  
and the horns of the righteous shall be exalted.

*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**      *1 Kings 6.11-14, 23-end*

Read by the Provincial Grand Master

Now the word of the Lord came to Solomon, 'Concerning this house that you are building, if you will walk in my statutes, obey my ordinances, and keep all my commandments by walking in them, then I will establish my promise with you, which I made to your father David. I will dwell among the children of Israel, and will not forsake my people Israel.' So Solomon built the house, and finished it.

In the inner sanctuary he made two cherubim of olive wood, each ten cubits high. Five cubits was the length of one wing of the cherub, and five cubits the length of the other wing of the cherub; it was ten cubits from the tip of one wing to the tip of the other. The other cherub also measured ten cubits; both cherubim had the same measure and the same form. The height of one cherub was ten cubits, and so was that of the other cherub. He put the cherubim in the innermost part of the house; the wings of the cherubim were spread out so that a wing of one was touching one wall, and a wing of the other cherub was touching the other wall; their other wings towards the centre of the house were touching wing to wing. He also overlaid the cherubim with gold. He carved the walls of the house all round about with carved engravings of cherubim, palm trees, and open flowers, in the inner and outer rooms. The floor of the house he overlaid with gold, in the inner and outer rooms.

For the entrance to the inner sanctuary he made doors of olive wood; the lintel and the doorposts were five-sided. He covered the two doors of olive wood with carvings of cherubim, palm trees, and open flowers; he

overlaid them with gold, and spread gold on the cherubim and on the palm trees.

So also he made for the entrance to the nave doorposts of olive wood, each four-sided, and two doors of cypress wood; the two leaves of one door were folding, and the two leaves of the other door were folding. He carved cherubim, palm trees, and open flowers, overlaying them with gold evenly applied upon the carved work. He built the inner court with three courses of dressed stone to one course of cedar beams.

In the fourth year the foundation of the house of the Lord was laid, in the month of Ziv. In the eleventh year, in the month of Bul, which is the eighth month, the house was finished in all its parts, and according to all its specifications. He was seven years in building it.

*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: Herbert Howells (1892-1983), Collegium Regale*

*Sit*

## New Testament Reading

*Acts 12.1-17*

King Herod laid violent hands upon some who belonged to the church. He had James, the brother of John, killed with the sword. After he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter also. (This was during the festival of Unleavened Bread.) When he had seized him, he put him in prison and handed him over to four squads of soldiers to guard him, intending to bring him out to the people after the Passover. While Peter was kept in prison, the church prayed fervently to God for him.

The very night before Herod was going to bring him out, Peter, bound with two chains, was sleeping between two soldiers, while guards in front of the door were keeping watch over the prison. Suddenly an angel of the Lord appeared and a light shone in the cell. He tapped Peter on the side and woke him, saying, 'Get up quickly.' And the chains fell off his wrists. The angel said to him, 'Fasten your belt and put on your sandals.' He did so. Then he said to him, 'Wrap your cloak around you and follow me.' Peter went out and followed him; he did not realize that what was happening with the angel's help was real; he thought he was seeing a vision. After they had passed the first and the second guard, they came before the iron gate leading into the city. It opened for them of its own accord, and they went outside and walked along a lane, when suddenly the angel left him. Then Peter came to himself and said, 'Now I am sure that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from the hands of Herod and from all that the Jewish people were expecting.'

As soon as he realized this, he went to the house of Mary, the mother of John whose other name was Mark, where many had gathered and were praying. When he knocked at the outer gate, a maid named Rhoda came to answer. On recognizing Peter's voice, she was so overjoyed that, instead of opening the gate, she ran in and announced that Peter was standing at the gate. They said to her, 'You are out of your mind!' But she insisted that it was so. They said, 'It is his angel.' Meanwhile, Peter continued knocking; and when they opened the gate, they saw him and were amazed. He motioned to them with his hand to be silent, and described for them how the Lord had brought him out of the prison. And he added, 'Tell this to James and to the believers.' Then he left and went to another place.

*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: Herbert Howells (1892-1983), Collegium Regale*

*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: Matthew Wood (b. 1972)*

## **The Collects**

O God, whose never-failing providence ordereth all things both in heaven and earth; We humbly beseech thee to put away from us all hurtful things, and to give us those things which be profitable for us; 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**

And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.

And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.

And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.

*Words:* Revelation 21.1-4

*Music:* Edgar Bainton (1880-1966)

## **Sermon**

The Reverend L A Yates, Canon Precentor

*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



Ye that know the Lord is gracious,  
ye for whom a corner-stone  
stands, of God elect and precious,  
laid that ye may build thereon,  
see that on that sure foundation  
ye a living temple raise,  
towers that may tell forth salvation,  
walls that may re-echo praise.

<sup>2</sup>Living stones, by God appointed  
each to his allotted place,  
kings and priests, by God anointed,  
shall ye not declare his grace?  
Ye, a royal generation,  
tell the tidings of your birth,  
tidings of a new creation  
to an old and weary earth.

<sup>3</sup>Tell the praise of him who called you  
out of darkness into light,  
broke the fetters that enthralled you,  
gave you freedom, peace and sight:  
tell the tale of sins forgiven,  
strength renewed and hope restored,  
till the earth, in tune with heaven,  
praise and magnify the Lord.

Words: Cyril Argentine Alington (1872-1955)

Tune: HYFRYDOL

AM 828

*Remain standing for*

## **The Blessing**

God the Holy Trinity make you strong in faith and love,  
defend you on every side,  
and guide you in truth and peace;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

*All remain standing as the choir and clergy depart*

## **Organ Voluntary**

Some material included in this service is copyright:

© The Archbishops' Council 2000

© The Crown/Cambridge University Press:  
The Book of Common Prayer (1662)

Hymns and songs reproduced under CCLI number: 1031280

Produced by the Music & Liturgy Department:

[precentor@canterbury-cathedral.org](mailto:precentor@canterbury-cathedral.org)

01227 865281

[www.canterbury-cathedral.org](http://www.canterbury-cathedral.org)