



THE CATHEDRAL AND METROPOLITICAL CHURCH OF CHRIST, CANTERBURY

# Choral Evensong

## in Christian Aid Week



9<sup>th</sup> May 2026

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 81 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 81 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 81 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: Bernard Rose (1916-96)*

*Sit as the choir sings*

## **Psalm**      48

Great is the Lord, and highly to be praised :  
in the city of our God, even upon his holy hill.

The hill of Sion is a fair place, and the joy of the whole earth :  
upon the north-side lieth the city of the great King;  
God is well known in her palaces as a sure refuge.

For lo, the kings of the earth :  
are gathered, and gone by together.

They marvelled to see such things :  
they were astonished, and suddenly cast down.

Fear came there upon them, and sorrow :  
as upon a woman in her travail.

Thou shalt break the ships of the sea :  
through the east-wind.

Like as we have heard, so have we seen in the city of the Lord of hosts,  
in the city of our God :  
God upholdeth the same for ever.

We wait for thy loving-kindness, O God :  
in the midst of thy temple.

O God, according to thy Name, so is thy praise unto the world's end :  
thy right hand is full of righteousness.

Let the mount Sion rejoice, and the daughters of Judah be glad :  
because of thy judgements.

Walk about Sion, and go round about her :  
and tell the towers thereof.

Mark well her bulwarks, set up her houses :  
that ye may tell them that come after.

For this God is our God for ever and ever :  
he shall be our guide unto death.

*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**

*Deuteronomy 24.14-22*

You shall not withhold the wages of poor and needy labourers, whether other Israelites or aliens who reside in your land in one of your towns. You shall pay them their wages daily before sunset, because they are poor and their livelihood depends on them; otherwise they might cry to the Lord against you, and you would incur guilt.

Parents shall not be put to death for their children, nor shall children be put to death for their parents; only for their own crimes may persons be put to death. You shall not deprive a resident alien or an orphan of justice; you shall not take a widow's garment in pledge. Remember that you were a slave in Egypt and the Lord your God redeemed you from there; therefore I command you to do this.

When you reap your harvest in your field and forget a sheaf in the field, you shall not go back to get it; it shall be left for the alien, the orphan, and the widow, so that the Lord your God may bless you in all your undertakings. When you beat your olive trees, do not strip what is left; it shall be for the alien, the orphan, and the widow.

When you gather the grapes of your vineyard, do not glean what is left; it shall be for the alien, the orphan, and the widow. Remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt; therefore I am commanding you to do this.

*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: Judith Bingham (b. 1952), Oriel College service*

*Sit*

## **New Testament Reading**

*1 Peter 3.13-22*

Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defence to anyone who demands from you an account of the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight people, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

*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: Judith Bingham (b. 1952), Oriel College 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: Bernard Rose (1916-96)*

## **The Collects**

O Lord, from whom all good things do come: Grant to us thy humble servants, that by thy holy inspiration we may think those things that be good, and by thy merciful guiding may perform 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**

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.  
Congregavit nos in unum Christi  
amor.

Exultemus, et in ipso iucundemur.  
Timeamus, et amemus Deum  
vivum.

Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero.  
*Amen.*

*Where charity and love are, God is  
there.*

*Christ's love has gathered us into one.*

*Let us rejoice and be pleased in him.*

*Let us fear, and let us love the living  
God.*

*And may we love each other  
with a sincere heart. Amen.*

*Words: Latin hymn*

*Music: Maruice Duruflé (1902-86)*

## **Address**

David Ormrod, Professor of Economic and Cultural  
History, University of Kent.

*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*





When I needed a neighbour,  
were you there, were you there?  
When I needed a neighbour,  
were you there?  
And the creed and the colour  
and the name won't matter,  
were you there?

<sup>2</sup>I was hungry and thirsty,  
were you there, were you there?  
I was hungry and thirsty,  
were you there?  
And the creed and the colour  
and the name won't matter,  
were you there?

<sup>3</sup>I was cold, I was naked,  
were you there, were you there?  
I was cold, I was naked,  
were you there?  
And the creed and the colour  
and the name won't matter,  
were you there?

<sup>4</sup>When I needed a shelter,  
were you there, were you there?  
When I needed a shelter,  
were you there?  
And the creed and the colour  
and the name won't matter,  
were you there?

<sup>5</sup>When I needed a healer,  
were you there, were you there?  
When I needed a healer,  
were you there?  
And the creed and the colour  
and the name won't matter,  
were you there?

<sup>6</sup>Wherever you travel  
I'll be there, I'll be there,  
wherever you travel  
I'll be there.  
And the creed and the colour  
and the name won't matter,  
I'll be there.

Words: Sydney Carter (1915-2004)

Tune: NEIGHBOUR

AM 575

*Remain standing for*

## **The Blessing**

*All remain standing as the choir and clergy depart*

## **Organ Voluntary**