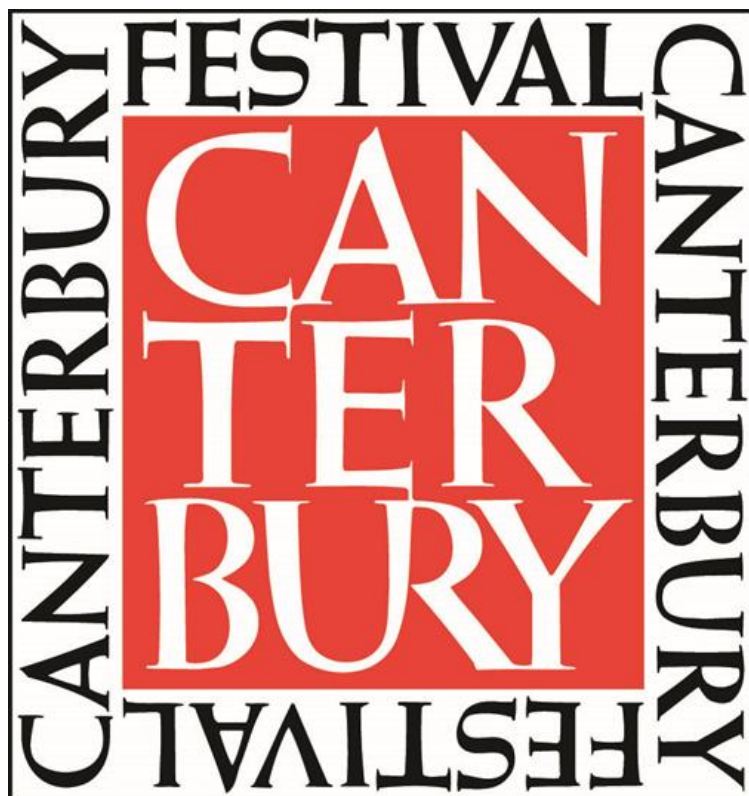


CANTERBURY
CATHEDRAL 

Choral Evensong



Luke the Evangelist

Sunday 18th October 2026

5.30pm

Quire

Welcome to Canterbury Cathedral for this Service

Canterbury Cathedral is the seat of the Archbishop of Canterbury, the cathedral church of the Diocese of Canterbury, the mother church of the Anglican Communion, and a place of pilgrimage welcoming visitors from across the world.

For over fourteen hundred years God has been worshipped here. With its roots in the Benedictine tradition, the ongoing daily pattern of Morning and Evening Prayer and Eucharist (or Holy Communion) continues the prayers and praises of countless generations in this Cathedral.

We welcome you today to share in this special service of Choral Evensong to celebrate this year's Canterbury Festival, the largest festival of arts and culture in the South East. Every year the Festival works closely with the Cathedral throughout the two week period.



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.

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

Introit

Justorum animae in manu Dei sunt,
et non tanget illos tormentum mortis.
Visi sunt oculis insipientium mori,
illi autem sunt in pace.

*The souls of the just are in the hand of
God, and the torment of death shall not
touch them. In the sight of the unwise they
seemed to die; but they are in peace.*

Words: Wisdom 3.1-2

Music: Matthew Martin (b. 1976)

Remain standing as a welcome is offered

The Precentor 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: Andrew Millington (b. 1952)

Sit as the choir sings

Psalm 103

Praise the Lord, O my soul :
and all that is within me praise his holy Name.

Praise the Lord, O my soul :
and forget not all his benefits;

Who forgiveth all thy sin :
and healeth all thine infirmities;

Who saveth thy life from destruction :
and crowneth thee with mercy and loving-kindness;

Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things :
making thee young and lusty as an eagle.

The Lord executeth righteousness and judgement :
for all them that are oppressed with wrong.

He shewed his ways unto Moses :
his works unto the children of Israel.

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy :
long-suffering, and of great goodness.

He will not alway be chiding :
neither keepeth he his anger for ever.

He hath not dealt with us after our sins :
nor rewarded us according to our wickednesses.

For look how high the heaven is in comparison of the earth :
so great is his mercy also toward them that fear him.

Look how wide also the east is from the west :
so far hath he set our sins from us.

Yea, like as a father pitieth his own children :
even so is the Lord merciful unto them that fear him.

For he knoweth whereof we are made :
he remembereth that we are but dust.

The days of man are but as grass :
for he flourisheth as a flower of the field.

For as soon as the wind goeth over it, it is gone :
and the place thereof shall know it no more.

But the merciful goodness of the Lord endureth for ever and ever
upon them that fear him :
and his righteousness upon children's children;

Even upon such as keep his covenant :
and think upon his commandments to do them.

The Lord hath prepared his seat in heaven :
and his kingdom ruleth over all.

O praise the Lord, ye angels of his, ye that excel in strength :
ye that fulfil his commandment, and hearken unto the voice of his words.

O praise the Lord, all ye his hosts :
ye servants of his that do his pleasure.

O speak good of the Lord, all ye works of his, in all places of his dominion :
praise thou the Lord, O my soul.

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 *Ecclesiasticus 38.1-14*

Read by Keith Mander, Chairman of the Canterbury Festival

Honour physicians for their services, for the Lord created them; for their gift of healing comes from the Most High, and they are rewarded by the king. The skill of physicians makes them distinguished, and in the presence of the great they are admired. The Lord created medicines out of the earth, and the sensible will not despise them. Was not water made sweet with a tree in order that its power might be known? And he gave skill to human beings that he might be glorified in his marvellous works. By them the physician heals and takes away pain; the pharmacist makes a mixture from them. God's works will never be finished; and from him health spreads over all the earth.

My child, when you are ill, do not delay, but pray to the Lord, and he will heal you. Give up your faults and direct your hands rightly, and cleanse your heart from all sin. Offer a sweet-smelling sacrifice, and a memorial portion of choice flour, and pour oil on your offering, as much as you can afford. Then give the physician his place, for the Lord created him; do not let him leave you, for you need him. There may come a time when recovery lies in the hands of physicians, for they too pray to the Lord that he will grant them success in diagnosis and in healing, for the sake of preserving life.

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: Francisco Guerrero (1528-99), octavi toni

New Testament Reading *Colossians 4.7-18*

Tychicus will tell you all the news about me; he is a beloved brother, a faithful minister, and a fellow-servant in the Lord. I have sent him to you for this very purpose, so that you may know how we are and that he may encourage your hearts; he is coming with Onesimus, the faithful and beloved brother, who is one of you. They will tell you about everything here.

Aristarchus my fellow-prisoner greets you, as does Mark the cousin of Barnabas, concerning whom you have received instructions—if he comes to you, welcome him. And Jesus who is called Justus greets you. These are the only ones of the circumcision among my co-workers for the kingdom of God, and they have been a comfort to me. Epaphras, who is one of you, a servant of Christ Jesus, greets you. He is always wrestling in his prayers on your behalf, so that you may stand mature and fully assured in everything that God wills. For I testify for him that he has worked hard for you and for those in Laodicea and in Hierapolis. Luke, the beloved physician, and Demas greet you. Give my greetings to the brothers and sisters in Laodicea, and to Nympha and the church in her house. And when this letter has been read among you, have it read also in the church of the Laodiceans; and see that you read also the letter from Laodicea. And say to Archippus, ‘See that you complete the task that you have received in the Lord.’

I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand. Remember my chains. Grace be with you.

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: Tomás Luis de Victoria (c. 1548-1611), tertii toni

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 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.

Music: Andrew Millington (b. 1952)

The Collects

Almighty God, who calledst Luke the Physician, whose praise is in the Gospel, to be an Evangelist, and Physician of the soul: May it please thee that, by the wholesome medicines of the doctrine delivered by him, all the diseases of our souls may be healed; through the merits of thy Son 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

In pace in idipsum, dormiam et
requiescam. Si dederō somnum
occulis meis et palpebris meis
dormitationem. Gloria Patri et Filio et
Spiritu Sancto.

*In peace and into the same I shall sleep and
rest. If I give slumber to my eyes and to my
eyelids drowsiness, I shall sleep and rest.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to
the Holy Spirit.*

Words: Antiphon for Compline

Music: John Taverner (c. 1490-1545)

Sit or kneel

Prayers *led by the Precentor, 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 received*



Rejoice in God's saints, today and all days!
A world without saints forgets how to praise.
Their faith in acquiring the habit of prayer,
their depth of adoring, Lord, help us to share.

²Some march with events to turn them God's way;
some need to withdraw, the better to pray;
some carry the gospel through fire and through flood:
our world is their parish: their purpose is God.

³Rejoice in those saints, unpraised and unknown,
who bear someone's cross, or shoulder their own:
they shame our complaining, our comforts our cares:
what patience in caring, what courage, is theirs!

⁴Rejoice in God's saints, today and all days!
A world without saints forgets how to praise.
In loving, in living, they prove it is true:
the way of self-giving, Lord, leads us to you.

Words: Fred Pratt Green (1903-2000)

Tune: HANNOVER

AM 308

During the hymn, the Archbishop, with two Deans from our link churches in Germany, will go with the Dean to the High Altar

Remain standing for

The Blessing

The two Deans will say part of the Blessing in German

Gott sei uns gnädig
und stärke uns im Glauben und in
der Hoffnung.

*God be merciful to us and
strengthen us in faith and in hope.*

Gott bewahre uns in seinem Frieden
und begleite uns auf unserem
gemeinsamen Weg.

*God keep us in His peace and guide
us on our journey together.*

And the Archbishop says

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

Usual Pattern of Services		
7.30am	Morning Prayer	Monday-Friday
8.00am	Holy Communion	Daily
9.30am	Morning Prayer	Saturday, Sunday, & Bank Holidays
11.00am	Sung Eucharist	Sunday
12.30pm	Taizé Prayer	Monday (in term time)
12.30pm	Prayers for Peace	Tuesday (in term time)
12.30pm	Holy Communion	Wednesday
5.30pm	Choral Evensong	Daily

Safeguarding : Do you need to talk?

Are you concerned about the safety of a child, young person or vulnerable adult?

Or is there something that you would like to discuss that affects you?

A safeguarding concern is anything that may impact the safety and wellbeing of a child, young person or vulnerable adult; if they are being neglected, harmed or at risk of being harmed by others or themselves, and are in need of protection. To report a non-emergency safeguarding concern please scan the QR code and complete our online form or email safeguarding@canterbury-cathedral.org

TO REPORT AN EMERGENCY SAFEGUARDING CONCERN PLEASE

CONTACT THE CATHEDRAL CONSTABLES OFFICE:

Located by the main entrance to the Precincts, Christ Church Gate.

Alternatively, please call 01227 866237



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