



CHORAL EVENSONG

ON THE

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SUNDAY 19 DECEMBER 2021
AT 4.00PM

Welcome

A warm welcome to York Minster and to this service of Choral Evensong. Welcome if you are a regular worshipper and know the Minster well, and welcome if you are experiencing this building and this form of worship for the first time today.

Today's service will be live streamed from the Minster. We hope that this regular provision of choral worship will help us through the months ahead and the challenges of different restrictions due to the pandemic.

In this service we are immersed in the words of scripture, spoken and sung, and we are given time and space to lose ourselves in prayer and come closer to God.

Order of Service

A bell is rung and these prayers are sung:

O praise the Lord, all ye servants of the Lord.

Let us pray.

O Lord, open thou our lips and purify our hearts, that we may worthily magnify thy holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O praise the Lord with me, and let us magnify his name together.

Please stand as the procession enters.

Introit

I will wash my hands in innocency, O lord, and so will I go to thine altar; that I may show the voice of thanksgiving, and tell of all thy wondrous words. I have loved the habitation of thy house, and the place where thine honour dwelleth. My foot standeth right; I will praise the Lord in the congregations.

Words Psalm 26 ♦ *Music* Edward Bairstow (1874–1946)

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 Philip Moore (b. 1943)

Please sit for the singing of the psalms but stand for the final Gloria.

Psalmody

Unto thee lift I up mine eyes ♦ O thou that dwellest in the heavens.

Behold, even as the eyes of servants look unto the hand of their masters, and as
the eyes of a maiden unto the hand of her mistress ♦ even so our eyes wait
upon the Lord our God, until he have mercy upon us.

Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy upon us ♦ for we are utterly despised.

Our soul is filled with the scornful reproof of the wealthy ♦ and with the
despitefulness of the proud.

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 123

Lord, I am not high-minded ♦ I have no proud looks.

I do not exercise myself in great matters ♦ which are too high for me.

But I refrain my soul, and keep it low, like as a child that is weaned from his
mother ♦ yea, my soul is even as a weaned child.

O Israel, trust in the Lord ♦ from this time forth for evermore.

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 131

Please sit.

First Lesson

The First Lesson is from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

Look, the Sovereign, the Lord of hosts,
will lop the boughs with terrifying power;
the tallest trees will be cut down,
and the lofty will be brought low.

He will hack down the thickets of the forest with an axe,
and Lebanon with its majestic trees will fall.

A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.
The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.
His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide by what his ears hear;
but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb,
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
and a little child shall lead them.
The cow and the bear shall graze,
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.
They will not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain;
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord
as the waters cover the sea.

On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations
shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Here ends the First Lesson.

ISAIAH 10.33-11.10

Please stand.

Magnificat

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

Words LUKE I. 46–55

Music EVENING SERVICE COLLEGIUM REGALE, Herbert Howells (1892–1983)

Please sit.

Second Lesson

The Second Lesson is from the Gospel of Matthew.

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.' All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

'Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel',

which means, 'God is with us.' When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

Here ends the Second Lesson.

MATTHEW 1.18–end

Please stand.

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.

Words LUKE 2.29–32

Music EVENING SERVICE COLLEGIUM REGALE, Herbert Howells

Please remain standing.

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 Lesser Litany and Responses

The Lord be with you;
and with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

Please sit or kneel.

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

Our Father, which art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy Name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done,
in earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
And forgive us our trespasses,
As we forgive them that 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 Queen;
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

O Lord, raise up (we pray thee) thy power, and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness, we are sore let and hindered in running the race that is set before us, thy bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through the satisfaction of thy Son our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost be honour and glory, world without end. Amen.

Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious Majesty, to judge both the quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, now and ever. 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.

Music Philip Moore

Please sit.

Anthem

There is no rose of such virtue
as is the rose that bare Jesu;

Alleluia.

For in this rose contained was
heaven and earth in little space;

Res miranda.

By that rose we may well see
that he is God in Persons three,

Pari forma.

Leave we all this worldly mirth,
and follow we this joyful birth;

Transeamus.

Words Anonymous (c. 1420) ♦ *Music* John Joubert (1927–2019)

Sermon

The Revd Dr Victoria Johnson, Canon Precentor

Please stand.

Hymn



The advent of our God
with eager prayers we greet,
and singing haste upon the road
his glorious gift to meet.

The everlasting Son
scorns not the Virgin's womb;
that we from bondage may be won
he bears a bondsman's doom.

Daughter of Sion, rise
to meet thy lowly King;
let not thy stubborn heart despise
the peace he comes to bring.

On clouds of dazzling light,
as Judge he comes again,
his scattered people to unite,
with him in heaven to reign.

Let evil flee away,
ere that great hour shall dawn,
let this old Adam day by day
the new man all put on.

Praise to the incarnate Son,
 who comes to set us free,
with Father and with Spirit one,
 to all eternity. Amen.

Words Charles Coffin (1676–1749) trans. H Putman (1861–1935)
Tune ST THOMAS, NEH 14, from A Williams's *New Universal Psalmodist* (1700)

Please remain standing.

The Blessing

Voluntary

Fugue on the Magnificat, BWV 733

J S Bach