

The Temple Church

Wednesday 9 July 2025

CHORAL EVENSONG, 6.00 p.m.

It is a pleasure for us to see you here this evening. This evening we bid a fond farewell to our Reader, The Reverend Mark Hatcher on his imminent retirement. This evening's music has been chosen by him. The words to the service can be found in the white service booklet from p. 47.

The public-address system has a loop-facility. If you wear a hearing-aid, please turn its setting to T.

ORGAN PRELUDE

Te lucis ante terminum

Marcel Dupré (1886-1971)

All stand at the Introit.

INTROIT

Prevent us, O Lord, in all our doings
with thy most gracious favour,
and further us with thy continual help;
that in all our works begun, continued and ended in thee
we may glorify thy holy name,
and finally by thy mercy obtain everlasting life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Music: William Byrd (c.1540-1623)

HYMN

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| 1. Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;
To his feet thy tribute bring.
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
Who like me his praise should sing?
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise the everlasting King! | 2. Praise him for his grace and favour
To our fathers in distress.
Praise him, still the same as ever,
slow to chide, and swift to bless.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Glorious in his faithfulness! |
| 3. Father-like he tends and spares us;
Well our feeble frame he knows.
In his hand he gently bears us,
Rescues us from all our foes.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Widely as his mercy flows! | 4. Angels, help us to adore him;
Ye behold him face to face.
Sun and moon, bow down before him,
Dwellers all in time and space.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise with us the God of grace! |

Music: Sir John Goss (1800-1880)

Words: Henry Francis Lyte (1793-1847)

BIDDING AND INVITATION TO CONFESSION

We all sit or kneel and say together:

CONFESSION

ABSOLUTION

All say:

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. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, For ever and ever. Amen.

All stand at 'Glory be to the Father'

THE RESPONSES (*Byrd*)

PSALM 150

O praise God in his holiness: praise him in the firmament of his power.
Praise him in his noble acts: praise him according to his excellent greatness.
Praise him in the sound of the trumpet: praise him upon the lute and harp.
Praise him in the cymbals and dances: praise him upon the strings and pipe.
Praise him upon the well-tuned cymbals: praise him upon the loud cymbals.
Let every thing that hath breath: praise the Lord.
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.

All sit.

THE FIRST LESSON

Proverbs 8. 1-17

Doth not wisdom cry? and understanding put forth her voice? She standeth in the top of high places, by the way in the places of the paths. She crieth at the gates, at the entry of the city, at the coming in at the doors. Unto you, O men, I call; and my voice is to the sons of man. O ye simple, understand wisdom: and, ye fools, be ye of an understanding heart.

Hear; for I will speak of excellent things; and the opening of my lips shall be right things. For my mouth shall speak truth; and wickedness is an abomination to my lips. All the words of my mouth are in righteousness; there is nothing froward or perverse in them. They are all plain to him that understandeth, and right to them that find knowledge.

Receive my instruction, and not silver; and knowledge rather than choice gold. For wisdom is better than rubies; and all the things that may be desired are not to be compared to it. I wisdom dwell with prudence, and find out knowledge of witty inventions. The fear of the LORD is to hate evil: pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and the froward mouth, do I hate. Counsel is mine, and sound wisdom: I am understanding; I have strength. By me kings reign, and princes decree justice. By me princes rule, and nobles, even all the judges of the earth. I love them that love me; and those that seek me early shall find me.

All stand.

MAGNIFICAT (*Sumsion in G*)

All sit.

THE SECOND LESSON

Matthew 5. 38-48

Jesus said:

Ye have heard that it hath been said, An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth: But I say unto you, That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also. And if any man will sue thee at the law, and take away thy coat, let him have thy cloak also. And whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him twain. Give to him that asketh thee, and from him that would borrow of thee turn not thou away. Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy. But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust. For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? do not even the publicans the same? And if ye salute your brethren only, what do ye more than others? do not even the publicans so? Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.

All stand.

NUNC DIMITTIS (*Sumsion in G*)

In the tradition of the Temple Church, we face east to say together:

THE CREED

All sit or kneel at 'Let us pray.'

THE LESSER LITANY

THE COLLECTS

O Lord, we beseech thee mercifully to hear us; and grant that we, to whom thou hast given an hearty desire to pray, may by thy mighty aid be defended and comforted in all dangers and adversities; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE ANTHEM

O radiant dawn, splendour of eternal light, sun of justice:
Come, shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death.
Isaiah had prophesied,
The people who walked in darkness have seen the great light.
Upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone. Amen.

Music: James Macmillan (b. 1959)
Words: Antiphon for 21 December, *O Oriens*

PRAYERS

All stand.

HYMN

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|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. | 2. |
| And did those feet in ancient time | Bring me my bow of burning gold! |
| Walk upon England's mountains green? | Bring me my arrows of desire! |
| And was the holy Lamb of God | Bring me my spear! O clouds, unfold! |
| On England's pleasant pastures seen? | Bring me my chariot of fire! |
| And did the countenance divine | I will not cease from mental fight, |
| Shine forth upon our clouded hills? | Nor shall my sword sleep in my hand, |
| And was Jerusalem builded here | Till we have built Jerusalem |
| Among those dark satanic mills? | In England's green and pleasant land. |

Music: Sir Charles Hubert Hastings Parry (1848-1918)
Words: William Blake (1757-1827)

THE BLESSING

THE ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Carillon-Sortie

Henri Mulet (1878-1967)

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There will be a retiring collection.
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Thank you for your support of the Church!***

