

The Temple Church

Sunday 26 October 2025

The Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity

CHORAL MATTINS, 11.15 a.m.



Temple Church Choir 1955

You are most welcome to this morning's service. Today we celebrate almost to the day (30 October 1955) the 70th Anniversary of the reforming of the choir after the Second World War. Included among our choir alumni this morning, are members from that very first cohort. We are delighted to see you all!

We follow the service of the Book of Common Prayer (1662). Much of the service is sung by the Choir alone. We hope that you will be able to enjoy the opportunity this offers to let the music and words take your mind and your heart – with all the concerns you have for those you love and for our world – into the presence of God.

The order of service is printed in the white service booklet, pp. 17-29. The new public-address system has a loop-facility. If you wear a hearing-aid, please turn its setting to T.

TEMPLE CHURCH CHOIR CHORISTER ANNIVERSARY

1955-2025

“The first service with full choir took place on Sunday 30 October 1955. The oldest boy in the new choir, Robin Fairhurst, was already an experienced singer and became Dr Ball’s first head boy.”

‘A Spiritual Song’ – David Lewer

In the first instance there were twelve boy choristers – sometimes referred to thereafter as the ‘original twelve’. Three of this number have sadly passed away:

Paul Minns Martin Ellis Peter Mitchell

The remaining nine are: -

Present

Robin Fairhurst Treble soloist – BBC Radio
Treble principal – Britten Operas – both stage and recordings
Trinity College of Music
Decca recording artist
Baritone: Gelsenkirchen Town Opera
Baritone: Essen Opera
Head of Vocal Studies: Folkwang Music School, Essen

Malcolm Penny	Zoologist, writer, film-maker, conservationist
Jeremy Thuston	retired IT Manager
Barrie Seaman	retired Chartered Accountant
John Cone	Intellectual Property Rights Lawyer, Dallas, Texas
Robin Lough	Documentary film-maker and Screen Director

Absent

Martin Fisher	retired School Teacher, Northumberland
Rev. Peter Fisher	retired Anglican Priest, Durham
Paul Cronin	retired Civil Servant, Clevedon, Avon

Further boy choristers were soon recruited over the coming months and years. Those present today include, from that year and slightly later: -

Alan Bradbrook	Rev Greg Clifton-Smith	John-Paul de Soissons	John Gracey
Tyrone Landau	Ian le Grice	Graham Lough	Alex Marshall
Paul Williams	Richard Brown	Ian Langrish	

ORGAN PRELUDE

Fantasia in G

Sir Charles Hubert Hastings Parry (1848-1918)

The congregation stands.

INTROIT

I would find thee,
Whom here no eye can see:
Only the heart can rise
And reach thy throne beyond the skies.

Words and Music: Sir George Thalben-Ball (1896-1987)

HYMN

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1.
Angel voices ever singing
Round thy throne of light,
Angel-harps for ever ringing,
Rest not day nor night;
Thousands only live to bless thee
And confess thee
Lord of might.</p> <p>3.
Yea, we know that thou rejoicest
O'er each work of thine;
Thou didst ears and hands and voices
For thy praise design;
Craftsman's art and music's measure
For thy pleasure
All combine.</p> | <p>2.
Thou who art beyond the farthest
Mortal eye can scan,
Can it be that thou regardest
Songs of sinful man?
Can we know that thou art near us,
And wilt hear us?
Yea, we can.</p> <p>4.
In thy house, great God, we offer
Of thine own to thee;
And for thine acceptance proffer
All unworthily
Hearts and minds and hands and voices
In our choicest
Psalmody.</p> <p>5.
Honour, glory, might, and merit
Thine shall ever be,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
Blessed Trinity.
Of the best that thou hast given
Earth and heaven
Render thee.</p> |
|--|--|

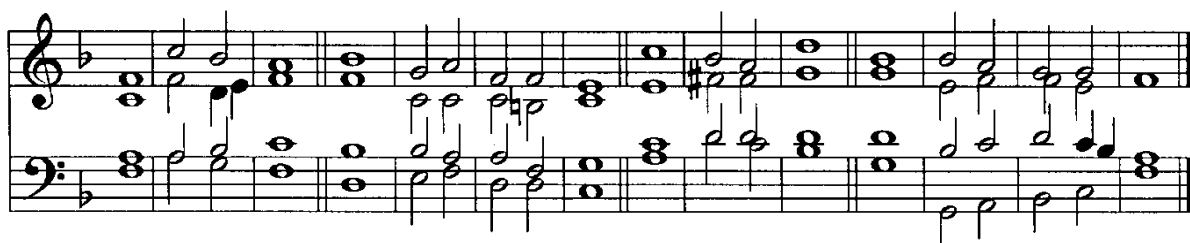
*Music: Angel Voices (Sullivan)
Words: Francis Pott (1832-1909)*

All sit or kneel for the confession.

CONFESSION
(p. 17 of white booklet)

All stand at "Glory be....." RESPONSES (*Rose*)

All remain standing and sing: VENITE (PSALM 95. 1-7)



The first two verses and the Gloria are sung in unison.

- 1 O come let us | sing un-to the | Lord:
let us heartily rejoice in the | strength of | our sal- | vation.
- 2 Let us come before his | presence · with | thanksgiving:
and shew ourselves | glad in | him with | psalms.
- 3 For the Lord is a | great | God:
and a | great King · a- | bove all | gods.
- 4 In his hand are all the | corners · of the | earth:
and the | strength of · the | hills is · his | also.
- 5 The sea is | his and · he | made it:
and his | hands pre- | pared the · dry | land.
- 6 O come let us worship and | fall | down:
and | kneel be-fore the | Lord our | Maker.

2nd Part

- 7 For he is the | Lord our | God:
and we are the people of his | pasture · and the | sheep of · his | hand.
Glory be to the Father and | to the | Son:
And | to the | Ho-ly | Ghost;
As it was in the beginning is now and | ev-er | shall be:
World without | end. A- | — | men.

Music: Edward John Hopkins (1818-1901),
Organist of the Temple Church 1843-1898

The choir sings: PSALM 150 (*Stanford*)

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

Verses from 1 Chronicles 16

Read by Robin Lough, Temple Church Chorister, 1955

So they brought the ark of the Covenant of God and set it in the midst of the tent that David had pitched for it: and they offered burnt sacrifices and peace offerings before God. And when David had made an end of offering the burnt offerings and the peace offerings, he blessed the people in the name of the LORD. And he dealt to every one of Israel, both man and woman, to every one a loaf of bread, and a good piece of flesh, and a flagon of wine. And he appointed certain of the Levites to minister before the ark of the LORD, and to record, and to thank and praise the LORD God of Israel:

Then on that day David delivered first this psalm to thank the LORD into the hand of Asaph the Levite and his brethren:

Give thanks unto the LORD, call upon his name, make known his deeds among the people. Sing unto him, sing psalms unto him, talk ye of all his wondrous works. Glory ye in his holy name: let the heart of them rejoice that seek the LORD. Seek the LORD and his strength, seek his face continually. Remember his marvellous works that he hath done, his wonders, and the judgments of his mouth. Sing unto the LORD, all the earth; shew forth from day to day his salvation. Declare his glory among the heathen; his marvellous works among all nations.

For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised: he also is to be feared above all gods. For all the gods of the people are idols: but the LORD made the heavens. Glory and honour are in his presence; strength and gladness are in his place. Give unto the LORD the glory due unto his name: bring an offering, and come before him: worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness. Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice: and let men say among the nations, The LORD reigneth. Let the sea roar, and the fulness thereof: let the fields rejoice, and all that is therein. Then shall the trees of the wood sing out at the presence of the LORD, because he cometh to judge the earth.

O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good; for his mercy endureth for ever.

All stand.

TE DEUM (*Stanford in B flat*)

All sit.

THE SECOND LESSON

Colossians 3. 12-17

Read by Elliott Hesketh, Temple Church Head Chorister, 2025

Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering; Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye. And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness.

And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

All stand.

JUBILATE (*Britten in C*)

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

THE CREED (*p. 24 of white booklet*)

All sit or kneel at 'Let us pray...' THE RESPONSES

All sit or kneel.

THE COLLECTS

O God, forasmuch as without thee we are not able to please thee; Mercifully grant, that thy Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE ANTHEM

Let all the world in every corner sing, my God and King!
The heavens are not too high, his praise may thither fly;
The earth is not too low, his praise there may grow.
Let all the world in every corner sing, my God and King!

Let all the world in every corner sing, my God and King!
The church with psalms must shout, no door can keep them out;
But, above all, the heart must bear the longest part.
Let all the world in every corner sing, my God and King!

Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

Words: Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

THE PRAYERS

All stand.

HYMN

**Soldiers of Christ, arise,
And put your armour on,
Strong in the strength which God supplies
Through His eternal Son;**

**Strong in the Lord of hosts
And in His mighty power:
Who in the strength of Jesus trusts
Is more than conqueror.**

**Stand then in His great might,
With all His strength endued,
And take, to arm you for the fight,
The panoply of God.**

**From strength to strength go on,
Wrestle and fight and pray;
Tread all the powers of darkness down
And win the well-fought day.**

**That, having all things done,
And all your conflicts past,
Ye may o'ercome, through Christ alone,
And stand entire at last.**

Music: William Monk (1823-1889)
Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

All sit.

THE SERMON AND PRESENTATION The Master

All stand.

HYMN

**O praise ye the Lord! praise him in the height;
Rejoice in his word, ye angels of light;
Ye heavens adore him by whom ye were made,
And worship before him, in brightness arrayed.**

**O praise ye the Lord! praise him upon earth,
In tuneful accord, ye sons of new birth;
Praise him who hath brought you his grace from above,
Praise him who hath taught you to sing of his love.**

**O praise ye the Lord, all things that give sound;
Each jubilant chord re-echo around;
Loud organs, his glory forth tell in deep tone,
And, sweet harp, the story of what he hath done.**

**O praise ye the Lord! thanksgiving and song
To him be outpoured all ages along:
For love in creation, for heaven restored,
For grace of salvation, O praise ye the Lord!**

Music: Sir C. Hubert H. Parry (1848-1918)
Words: H.W. Baker (1821-1877) based on Psalm 150

THE BLESSING

All are invited to sit after the departure of the Clergy for

THE ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Fugue in G

Sir Charles Hubert Hastings Parry (1848-1918)

***There will be a retiring collection. If you would prefer to donate online
kindly scan the QR code below.***



RECEPTION

The congregation is invited to celebratory drinks and cake in the Round after the service. We look forward to catching up with your news!

SAFEGUARDING

If you have any concerns about safeguarding, the Safeguarding Officer can be contacted confidentially at safeguarding@templechurch.com or 020 7427 5650.

**We ask your prayers for those dear to us in this House, and at this time
especially for the following:**

BLESSING OF MARRIAGE

James Bradley and Sarah Heald

MARRIAGE

Matthew Long and Helen Dagg

ANNIVERSARIES OF MARRIAGE

Ajinder and Elizabeth Banns
Michael and Nasrin Belch
Lewis and Hannah Croft
Guy and Lisa Davison
Tom and Jane Dixon
Bruce and Miranda Douglas
Charles and Beth Findlater

Jonathan and Sarah Friend
Dominic and Deborah Lee
Benjamin and Eleanor Leger
Philip and Alison Kazantzis
Jonathan and Joanna Shenkman
Ryan and Emma Taylor
Dean and Judith Wilson

THE DEPARTED

Wilmer Kenneth Blaylock
Helen Lady Delves Broughton
Stephen Brown

John Hilton
Lionel Sawkins

YEAR'S MIND

John Ashton Thomas
Louis Blom-Cooper
Gordon Borrie
Francis Bright
Rupert Bromley
Paul Darling
Roger Delves
Veronica Edwards
James Flynn
Michael Garvin
John Hopkins
David Howker

John Jack Inglis
Helen Khan
Gloria Lawrence
Thomas Legg
Edward Lukaszewski
Patrick Maddams
Kate Mallison
Charles McCullough
David Muir
Keith Nelson
William Petter
Murray Pickering

Jennifer Roberts
Alison Ross
Helen Salmon
Sarah Seabrook
David Sears
Rodney Stewart Smith
Michael Turner
Rory Tussaud
Brian Williamson
Robert Willis
Michael Wood

AUTUMN AND WINTER SPECIAL EVENTS

Wednesday 29 October, 6.00pm

CHORAL EVENSONG for ALL SAINTS and ALL SOULS

Music to include: Justorum animae (Stanford), Canticles (Service for trebles, Weelkes), Selig sind die toten (Schütz)

Tuesday 4 November, 1.00pm

Temple Music Foundation Concert

MOONSTRUCK

Jonathan Aasgaard (Cello), Libby Burgess (piano)

For more information and to book: www.templemusic.org

Tuesday 4 November, 7.30pm

Temple Music Foundation Concert

OUT OF THE SHADOWS

Alessandro Fisher (tenor), Gareth Brynmor John (baritone),
William Vann (piano), Navarra String Quartet

For more information and to book: www.templemusic.org

Wednesday 5 November, 5.45pm (Please note earlier start time)

CHORAL EVENSONG

Prior to Grand Day in Inner Temple

Sunday 9 November, 10.50am (Please note earlier start time)

CHORAL MATTINS FOR REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

Sunday 16 November, 5.00pm

Temple Music Foundation Concert

TEMPLE YOUTH CHOIR: lux aeterna

For more information and to book: www.templemusic.org

Tuesday 18 November, 7.30pm

Temple Music Foundation Concert

HOLST SINGERS

O Antiphons (Lukaszewski), Requiem (Duruflé)

For more information and to book: www.templemusic.org

Wednesday 26 November, 6.00pm
CHORAL EVENSONG
TO CELEBRATE AMERICAN THANKSGIVING (27 November)

ADVENT CAROL SERVICE: Darkness to Light

Wednesday 3 December, 6.00pm

The Temple Church Choir

Tickets not required.

CONCERT: What sweeter music

Friday 5 December, 6.00pm

Temple Singers

Tickets required. For more information and to book: www.templemusic.org

CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE

Sunday 7 December, 11.15am

The Temple Church Choir

CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE

Thursday 11 December, 6.00pm

The Temple Church Choir

(Repeat of Sunday 7 December service)

Tickets not required.

CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE

Monday 15 December, 6.00pm

Temple Singers

Tickets not required.

“BAH, HUMBUG?” – CERTAINLY NOT!
CAROLS AND READINGS FOR CHRISTMAS

Wednesday 17 December, 6.00pm

Temple Singers

Tickets not required.

BRITTEN: A CEREMONY OF CAROLS

Thursday 18 December, 7.00pm

The Temple Church Choristers

Tickets required. For more information and to book: www.templemusic.org



Temple Church Choristers 2025

Archive Materials

With special thanks to Celia Pilkington and Umut Kav for their invaluable assistance and for access to the photographs in the Inner Temple Archives and to Barnaby Bryan and Francesca Tate for the loan of choir materials from the Middle Temple Archives.