

The Temple Church

Wednesday 12 November 2025

CHORAL EVENSONG, 6.00 p.m.

Welcome to this service. It is a great pleasure to see you here this evening. We follow the services of the Book of Common Prayer (1662). The words for the service can be found from page 47 of the white booklet. The public-address system has a loop-facility. If you wear a hearing-aid, please turn its setting to T.

ORGAN PRELUDE

Psalm Prelude, *Lento, poco appenato*

Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

All stand at the entrance of the choir.

INTROIT

Oculi omnium in te sperant Domine:
et tu das illis escam in tempore opportuno.
Gloria tibi, Domine. Amen.

*The eyes of all wait upon thee O Lord:
and thou givest them their meat in due season.
Glory be to thee, O Lord. Amen.*

*Music: Charles Wood (1866-1926)
Words: Psalm 144. 15*

HYMN

**O worship the king all glorious above,
O gratefully sing his power and his love;
Our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days,
Pavilioned in splendour, and girded with praise.**

**O tell of his might, O sing of his grace,
Whose robe is the light, whose canopy space.
His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,
And dark is his path on the wings of the storm.**

**The earth with its store of wonders untold,
Almighty, thy pow'r hath founded of old;
Hath stablished it fast by a changeless decree,
And round it hath cast, like a mantle, the sea.**

**O measureless might! Ineffable love!
While angels delight to hymn thee above,
Thy ransomed creation, though feeble their lays,
With true adoration shall sing to thy praise.**

Music: Sir R. Grant, based on W. Kethe (1561)
Words: Psalm 104

THE BIDDING PRAYER AND INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Almighty God, we give thee heartfelt thanks for the two Honourable Societies of this House; for all our Benchers and members who have discharged the public and arduous functions of the state and of justice; and for all our Benchers who in their various walks of life adorn our realm. We pray for our two Inns, for our Benchers, members and students, and for thy guidance and blessing on their high merits and on the benefit which they shall offer to our commonwealth and to the world through the years and decades to come.

All sit or kneel for the confession.

All stand at 'Glory be to the Father....'

THE RESPONSES *(Smith)*

Please remain standing for the psalm.

PSALM 65

Thou, O God, art praised in Sion:

and unto thee shall the vow be performed in Jerusalem.

Thou that hearest the prayer: unto thee shall all flesh come.

My misdeeds prevail against me: O be thou merciful unto our sins.

Blessed is the man, whom thou choolest, and receivest unto thee:

he shall dwell in thy court, and shall be satisfied with the pleasures of thy
house, even of thy holy temple.

Thou shalt shew us wonderful things in thy righteousness, O God of our
salvation:

thou that art the hope of all the ends of the earth, and of them that remain in
the broad sea.

Who in his strength setteth fast the mountains: and is girded about with power.

Who stilleth the raging of the sea:

and the noise of his waves, and the madness of the people.

They also that dwell in the uttermost parts of the earth shall be afraid at thy tokens:

thou that makest the outgoings of the morning and evening to praise thee.
Thou visitest the earth, and blessest it: thou makest it very plenteous.
The river of God is full of water:

thou preparest their corn, for so thou providest for the earth.
Thou waterest her furrows, thou sendest rain into the little valleys thereof:
thou makest it soft with the drops of rain, and blessest the increase of it.
Thou crownest the year with thy goodness: and thy clouds drop fatness.
They shall drop upon the dwellings of the wilderness:
and the little hills shall rejoice on every side.

The folds shall be full of sheep:

the valleys also shall stand so thick with corn, that they shall laugh and sing.
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 Isaiah 6. 1-8

In the year that king Uzziah died I saw also the LORD sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and his train filled the temple. Above it stood the seraphims: each one had six wings; with twain he covered his face, and with twain he covered his feet, and with twain he did fly.

And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory. And the posts of the door moved at the voice of him that cried, and the house was filled with smoke.

Then said I, Woe is me! for I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips: for mine eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts.

Then flew one of the seraphims unto me, having a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with the tongs from off the altar: And he laid it upon my mouth, and said, Lo, this hath touched thy lips; and thine iniquity is taken away, and thy sin purged. Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me.

All stand.

MAGNIFICAT (*in G minor, Purcell*) (*p. 49 of white booklet*)

All sit.

THE SECOND LESSON

Matthew 6. 19-29

Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

The light of the body is the eye: if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light. But if thine eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness!

No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment? Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they? Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature? And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

All stand.

NUNC DIMITTIS (*in G minor, Purcell*) (*p. 51 of white booklet*)

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

THE CREED

All turn inwards. All sit or kneel at 'Let us pray'.

THE LESSER LITANY

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Grant, we beseech thee, merciful Lord, to thy faithful people pardon and peace; that they may be cleansed from all their sins, and serve thee with a quiet mind; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

ANTHEM

Where thou reignest, King of Glory
Throned in everlasting light.
In thy courts no more is needed
Sun by day nor moon by night.

Soon may we those portals enter
When this earthly strife is o'er,
There to reign with Saints and angels,
In thy presence evermore.

Praise to God, the eternal Father
Praise to God, the eternal Son
Praise to God, the eternal Spirit
One in Three and Three in One.

Honour, praise, thanksgiving, blessing
Now and evermore be done;
God most holy, we adore thee
Ever blessed Trinity.

Music: Franz Schubert (1797-1828)

Words: Franz Schubert and Rev Benjamin Webb

PRAYERS

All stand.

HYMN

1.
Thy hand, O God, has guided
Thy flock, from age to age;
The wondrous tale is written,
Full clear, on every page;
Our fathers owned thy goodness,
And we their deeds record;
And both of this bear witness:
One Church, one faith, one Lord.

2.
Thy heralds brought glad tidings
To greatest, as to least;
They bade men rise, and hasten
To share the great King's feast;
And this was all their teaching,
In every deed and word,
To all alike proclaiming
One Church, one faith, one Lord.

3.
Thy mercy will not fail us,
Nor leave thy work undone;
With thy right hand to help us,
The victory shall be won;
And then, by men and angels,
Thy name shall be adored,
And this shall be their anthem:
One Church, one faith, one Lord.

Music: Basil Harwood (1859-1949)
Words: Edward H. Plumptre (1821-1891)

All remain standing.

THE BLESSING

THE ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Prelude and Fugue in A Minor

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)

*The congregation is invited to drinks in the Round Church after the service.
A donation to help cover our costs is greatly appreciated.*

*There will be a retiring collection.
For online donations, kindly scan the QR code below. Thank you for your
support of the Church.*



SPECIAL HIGHLIGHTS

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 (Durufle)

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

Wednesday 26 November, 6.00pm

CHORAL EVENSONG

To celebrate American Thanksgiving (27 November)

Music to include: With Prayer and Supplication (Amy Beach),
Sing ye praises (Copland), The Road Home (Paulus)

Wednesday 3 December, 6.00pm

ADVENT CAROL SERVICE: Darkness to Light

The Temple Church Choir

Tickets not required.

Thursday 4 December, 7.30pm

BACH: CHRISTMAS ORATORIO, BWV248

Cantatas I-III and VI

The Bar Choral Society

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

Friday 5 December, 6.00pm

CONCERT: What sweeter music

Temple Singers

Thomas Allery (Conductor), Charles Andrews (Organ)

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

Sunday 7 December, 11.15am

CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE

The Temple Church Choir

Tickets not required.

Thursday 11 December, 6.00pm

CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE

The Temple Church Choir

(Repeat of Sunday 7 December service).

Tickets not required.

Sunday 14 December, 11.15am

CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE

The Temple Church Choir

(Repeat of Sunday 7 December service)

Tickets required. This service is now fully booked!

Sunday 14 December, 3.30pm

NATIVITY PLAY FOR CHILDREN

Tickets not required. If your children or grandchildren would like to take part, please contact Catherine de Satgé in the Church Office, catherine@templechurch.com

SAFEGUARDING

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