

The Temple Church

Sunday 15 February 2026

Quinquagesima

CHORAL MATTINS, 11.15 a.m.

You are most welcome to this morning's service. 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.

It is traditional here for the congregation to stand for the Venite and the Canticles; if it would be more comfortable for you to remain seated, please do.

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.

ORGAN PRELUDE

Prelude in A minor BWV 543

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

The congregation stands.

INTROIT

God be in my head, and in my understanding;
God be in my eyes, and in my looking;
God be in my mouth, and in my speaking;
God be in my heart, and in my thinking;
God be at mine end, and at my departing.

*Music: Sir John Rutter (b. 1945)
Words: Sarum Primer, 1558*

HYMN 205 (*t. Blaenwern*)
Love divine, all loves excelling

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 (*p. 20 of white booklet*)

The choir sings: PSALM 72. 1-8 (*Walmisley*)

Give the King thy judgements, O God:
and thy righteousness unto the King's son.
Then shall he judge thy people according unto right: and defend the poor.
The mountains also shall bring peace:
and the little hills righteousness unto the people.
He shall keep the simple folk by their right:
defend the children of the poor, and punish the wrong doer.
They shall fear thee, as long as the sun and moon endureth:
from one generation to another.
He shall come down like the rain into a fleece of wool:
even as the drops that water the earth.
In his time shall the righteous flourish:
yea, and abundance of peace, so long as the moon endureth.
His dominion shall be also from the one sea to the other:
and from the flood unto the world's end.
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
Genesis 9. 8-17

And God spake unto Noah, and to his sons with him, saying, And I, behold, I establish my covenant with you, and with your seed after you; And with every living creature that is with you, of the fowl, of the cattle, and of every beast of the earth with you; from all that go out of the ark, to every beast of the earth. And I will establish my covenant with you, neither shall all flesh be cut off any more by the waters of a flood; neither shall there any more be a flood to destroy the earth.

And God said, This is the token of the covenant which I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for perpetual generations: I do set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be for a token of a covenant between me and the earth. And it shall come to pass, when I bring a cloud over the earth, that the bow shall be seen in the cloud: And I will remember my covenant, which is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall no more become a flood to destroy all flesh. And the bow shall be in the cloud; and I will look upon it, that I may remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is upon the earth.

And God said unto Noah, This is the token of the covenant, which I have established between me and all flesh that is upon the earth.

All stand.

TE DEUM (*Britten in C*)

All sit.

THE SECOND LESSON

Luke 18. 31-43

Then Jesus took unto him the twelve, and said unto them, Behold, we go up to Jerusalem, and all things that are written by the prophets concerning the Son of man shall be accomplished. For he shall be delivered unto the Gentiles, and shall be mocked, and spitefully entreated, and spitted on: And they shall scourge him, and put him to death: and the third day he shall rise again. And they understood none of these things: and this saying was hid from them, neither knew they the things which were spoken.

And it came to pass, that as he was come nigh unto Jericho, a certain blind man sat by the way side begging: And hearing the multitude pass by, he asked what it meant. And they told him, that Jesus of Nazareth passeth by. And he cried, saying, Jesus, thou son of David, have mercy on me. And they which went before rebuked him, that he should hold his peace: but he cried so much the more, Thou son of David, have mercy on me. And Jesus stood, and commanded him to be brought unto him: and when he was come near, he asked him, Saying, What wilt thou that I shall do unto thee? And he said, Lord, that I may receive my sight. And Jesus said unto him, Receive thy sight: thy faith hath saved thee. And immediately he received his sight, and followed him, glorifying God: and all the people, when they saw it, gave praise unto God.

All stand.

JUBILATE (*Plainsong*)

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 (*Rose*)

All sit or kneel.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

O Lord, who hast taught us that all our doings without charity are nothing worth: Send thy Holy Ghost, and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of charity, the very bond of peace and of all virtues, without which whosoever liveth is counted dead before thee. Grant this for thine only Son Jesus Christ's sake. *Amen.*

THE ANTHEM

All wisdom cometh from the Lord, and is with Him forever.
Who can number the sand of the sea and the drops of rain and the days of
eternity? Who can find out the height of heaven?
and the breadth of the earth and the deep and wisdom.
Wisdom hath been created before all things
and the understanding of prudence from everlasting.
The word of God most high is the fountain of wisdom,
and her ways are everlasting commandments.
To whom hath the root of wisdom been revealed?
Or who hath known her wise counsels?
There is one wise and greatly to be feared, the Lord sitting upon his throne.
He created her, and saw her and numbered her,
and poured her out upon all his works.
She is with all flesh according to his gifts,
and he hath given her to them that love him.
The fear of the Lord is honour and glory and gladness, and a crown of
rejoicing.
The fear of the Lord maketh a merry heart
and bringeth joy and gladness and a long life.
Teach me, O Lord, the way of thy statutes: and I shall keep it unto the end.
Give me understanding and I shall keep thy law;
yea I shall keep it with my whole heart.
Make me go in the way of thy commandments: for therein is my desire.
O stablish thy word in thy servant: that I may fear thee.
Behold my delight is in thy commandments.
O quicken me in thy righteousness.

Music: Philip Moore (b 1943)

Words: From the Book of Ecclesiasticus and Psalm 119

THE PRAYERS

All stand.

HYMN 197
The King of love my shepherd is

All sit.

THE SERMON
The Master

All stand.

HYMN 375
Let all the world in every corner sing

THE BLESSING

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

THE ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Fugue in A minor BWV 543

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

There will be a retiring collection. It will be of great advantage to the Church if you would kindly fill in a Gift Aid envelope and drop it into a collection-basket as you leave, stating the amount of your cash or contactless gift. If you would prefer to donate online kindly scan the QR code below.



SAFEGUARDING

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

PHOTOGRAPHY

Please refrain from filming and photography during the service.
Thank you.

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

BAPTISMS

Jean Betty Hamper-Potts
Cedric William Tan

ANNIVERSARIES OF MARRIAGE

Kartik and Vivienne Aiyar
Shina and Hannah Animashaun
John and Elise Crump

Ian and Jennifer Fitzgerald
Matthew and Claire White
Richard and Sonja Jayne Fowler

THE SICK

Charles Elliott

THE DEPARTED

Avril Bateman
Michael Gale
Celia Palmer

YEAR'S MIND

Joseph Butler-Sloss
Michael Connell
Richard Edwards
Roger Ellis
Mark George
Wendy Grayson

James Guthrie
Blackwood Hodge
Ben Hytner
David Sears
Philippa Soole
Nicholas Wood

SPECIAL HIGHLIGHTS FOR FEBRUARY AND MARCH

It would be lovely to see you again at some of these special events.

Tuesday 17 February, 7.00pm

MERLIN'S ISLE: A JOURNEY IN WORDS AND MUSIC

Malcolm Guite and the St Martin's Voices

*Tickets: £15 (£10 concessions). For more information and to book,
www.canterburypress.hymnsam.co.uk/events*

Wednesday 18 February, 6.00pm

CHORAL EVENSONG: ASH WEDNESDAY

*Music to include: Nolo mortem peccatoris (Morley), Miserere mei (Allegri),
Emendemus in Melius (Byrd)*

Tuesday 24 February, 7.30pm

TEMPLE MUSIC FOUNDATION

CONCERT: THINGS INVISIBLE TO SEE

**Hamish McLaren *countertenor*, Ana Beard Fernández *soprano*,
Matthew Jorysz *piano***

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

Wednesday 25 February, 6.00pm

CHORAL EVENSONG FOR ST DAVID'S DAY

Sung by The London Welsh Male Voice Choir

Tickets are not required.

Wednesday 4 March, 6.00pm

CHORAL EVENSONG

Temple Church Choir

with special guests, the Choir of Norwich Cathedral

Thursday 5 March, 9.00pm
COMPLINE

Wednesday 11 March
NO EVENSONG SERVICE THIS EVENING

Thursday 12 March, 7.30pm
TEMPLE MUSIC FOUNDATION
Bach: St John Passion
Thomas Allery *conductor*,
Temple Singers, Temple Players
For more information and to book: www.templemusic.org

Sunday 15 March, 11.15am
CHORAL MATTINS: MOTHERING SUNDAY
*Followed by Special Mothers' Day Sunday lunch in Inner Temple for
members of the Inns and their guests.*
To book for lunch: www.innertemple.org.uk/events

Wednesday 18 March, 6.00pm
CHORAL EVENSONG: FOR ST PATRICK'S DAY
*Music to include: A Prayer for St Patrick (Rutter),
Beati quorum via (Stanford), Irish Blessing (Chilcott)*

Sunday 29 March, 11.15am
CHORAL COMMUNION: PALM SUNDAY
*Music to include: Hosanna to the Son of David (Weelkes),
Pueri Hebraeorum (Victoria)*
