

The Temple Church

Wednesday 4 March 2026, 6.00 p.m.

CHORAL EVENSONG

Welcome to this service. It is a pleasure to see you here. We extend an especially warm welcome to our visitors, the choristers of Norwich Cathedral who join our own choir this evening. We follow the services of the Book of Common Prayer (1662). The words for the service can be found from p. 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

Fantasia in G

Sir C. Hubert H. Parry (1848-1918)

All stand at the entrance of the choir.

INTROIT

Hear my prayer O Lord
And let my cry come unto thee.

*Music: Henry Purcell (1659-1695)
Words: Psalm 102. 1*

HYMN

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|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 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. | 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. |
| 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. | 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. |

**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.**

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

THE RESPONSES (*Rose*)

PSALM 19. 1-9 (*Walmisley*)

The heavens declare the glory of God:
and the firmament sheweth his handy-work.
One day telleth another: and one night certifieth another.
There is neither speech nor language:
but their voices are heard among them.
Their sound is gone out into all lands:
and their words into the ends of the world.
In them hath he set a tabernacle for the sun:
which cometh forth as a bridegroom out of his chamber,
and rejoiceth as a giant to run his course.
It goeth forth from the uttermost part of the heaven,
and runneth about unto the end of it again:
and there is nothing hid from the heat thereof.
The law of the Lord is an undefiled law, converting the soul:
the testimony of the Lord is sure, and giveth wisdom unto the simple.
The statutes of the Lord are right, and rejoice the heart:
the commandment of the Lord is pure, and giveth light unto the eyes.
The fear of the Lord is clean, and endureth for ever:
the judgements of the Lord are true, and righteous altogether.
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 42. 1-10

Behold my servant, whom I uphold; mine elect, in whom my soul delighteth; I have put my spirit upon him: he shall bring forth judgment to the Gentiles. He shall not cry, nor lift up, nor cause his voice to be heard in the street. A bruised reed shall he not break, and the smoking flax shall he not quench: he shall bring forth judgment unto truth. He shall not fail nor be discouraged, till he have set judgment in the earth: and the isles shall wait for his law. Thus saith God the Lord, he that created the heavens, and stretched them out; he that spread forth the earth, and that which cometh out of it; he that giveth breath unto the people upon it, and spirit to them that walk therein:

I the Lord have called thee in righteousness, and will hold thine hand, and will keep thee, and give thee for a covenant of the people, for a light of the Gentiles; To open the blind eyes, to bring out the prisoners from the prison, and them that sit in darkness out of the prison house.

I am the Lord: that is my name: and my glory will I not give to another, neither my praise to graven images. Behold, the former things are come to pass, and new things do I declare: before they spring forth I tell you of them. Sing unto the Lord a new song, and his praise from the end of the earth, ye that go down to the sea, and all that is therein; the isles, and the inhabitants thereof.

All stand.

MAGNIFICAT (*Stanford in C*)

All sit.

THE SECOND LESSON

Colossians 3. 1-2, 12-17

If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. 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.

NUNC DIMITTIS (*Stanford in C*)

All remain standing and in the tradition of the Temple Church face East to say together:

THE CREED (*p. 51, white booklet*)

All sit or kneel at 'Let us pray'

THE RESPONSES (*Rose*)

THE COLLECTS

Almighty God, who seest that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies, and inwardly in our souls; that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Almighty and everlasting God, who hatest nothing that thou hast made and dost forgive the sins of all them that are penitent; Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins, and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of thee, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

All sit.

ANTHEM

For lo, I raise up that bitter and hasty nation, which march through the breadth of the earth, to possess the dwelling places that are not theirs. They are terrible and dreadful: their judgement and their dignity proceed from themselves. Their horses also are swifter than leopards, and are more fierce than the evening wolves, and their horsemen spread themselves, yea, their horsemen come from far. They fly as an eagle that hasteth to devour, they come all of them for violence; their faces are set as the east wind, and they gather captives as the sand. Yea, he scoffeth at kings, and princes are a derision unto him. For he heapeth up dust and taketh it. Then shall he sweep by as a wind that shall pass over and be guilty, even he whose might is his God. Art not Thou from everlasting, O Lord my God, mine Holy One? We shall not die.

O Lord, thou hast ordained him for judgement and thou, O Rock, hast established him for correction. I will stand upon my watch and set me upon the tower and look forth to see what he will say to me and what I shall answer concerning my complaint. And the Lord answered me and said: The vision is yet for the appointed time, and it hasteth toward the end and shall not lie; Though it tarry, wait for it, because it will surely come. For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea. But the Lord is in his holy temple: let all the earth keep silence before Him.

Music: Sir Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924)

Words: Habakkuk 1:6-12, 2:1-3, 14, 20

HYMN

1.
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.

3.
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 has done.

2.
O praise ye the Lord!
Praise him upon earth,
In tuneful accord,
Ye sons of new birth;
Praise him who has brought you
His grace from above,
Praise him who has taught you
To sing of his love.

4.
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

THE ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Fugue in G

Sir C. Hubert H. Parry (1848-1918)

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



The congregation is warmly invited to refreshments in the Round Church after the service. A donation to help cover our costs is greatly appreciated. Thank you!

CONFIRMATION

Our annual celebratory service of Baptism, Confirmation and Communion will take place on Sunday 19 July at 11.15am.

If you, your children or grandchildren are considering Confirmation this year, the Revd Griffith-Jones will be delighted to hear from you. Master@templechurch.com

KEEPING IN TOUCH

If you would like to join our emailing list and be among the first to hear of our special services and events, you will find cards at the South Door exit. Kindly write your name and email address on a card and leave it in the bowl provided.

PHOTOGRAPHY

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

CHORISTER RECRUITMENT

Do you have a child who enjoys singing? We would be delighted to hear from you. To register interest in our choir or for enquiries about any aspect of our choristerships, please email Susan@templechurch.com

SAFEGUARDING

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

SPECIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Thursday 5 March, 9.00pm
COMPLINE

Thursday 12 March, 7.30pm
BACH: ST JOHN PASSION

Thomas Allery *conductor*, Temple Singers, Temple Players

This concert is sponsored by The Temple Music Foundation.

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

Sunday 15 March, 11.15am

CHORAL MATTINS: MOTHERING SUNDAY

Followed by a 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)*

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

Wednesday 1 April, 6.00pm
CHORAL EVENSONG FOR HOLY WEEK
Temple Singers

Thursday 2 April, 1.15pm
CHORAL COMMUNION: MAUNDY THURSDAY
Temple Singers

Friday 3 April, 11.15am
CHORAL MATTINS: GOOD FRIDAY
Temple Church Choir

Saturday 4 April, 8.00pm
EASTER VIGIL AND FIRST COMMUNION OF EASTER
Temple Singers

Sunday 5 April, 11.15am
CHORAL COMMUNION: EASTER SUNDAY
Temple Church Choir

Wednesday 15 April, 6.00pm
EASTER CAROL SERVICE
Temple Singers

Sunday 19 April, 11.15am
EASTER CAROL SERVICE
Music to include: Five Mystical Songs (Vaughan Williams)
Temple Singers