

The Temple Church

Wednesday 27 May 2026, 6.00 p.m.

CHORAL EVENSONG

The Wednesday after Pentecost

Welcome to this service. It is a pleasure to see you here. 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

Master Tallis's testament

Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

All stand at the entrance of the choir.

INTROIT

Come Holy Ghost the Maker come; Take in the souls of thine thy place;
Thou whom our hearts had being from, Oh, fill them with thy heav'n-ly grace.
Thou art that comfort from above, The highest doth by gift impart;
Thou spring of life, a fire of love, And the anointing spirit art.

Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625)

HYMN

**Come down, O Love divine,
Seek thou this soul of mine,
And visit it with thine own ardour glowing;
O comforter, draw near,
Within my heart appear,
And kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.**

**O let it freely burn,
Till earthly passions turn
To dust and ashes, in its heat consuming;
And let thy glorious light
Shine ever on my sight,
And clothe me round, the while my path illuming.**

**Let holy charity
Mine outward vesture be,
And lowliness becomes mine inner clothing;
True lowliness of heart,
Which takes the humbler part,
And o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.**

**And so the yearning strong,
With which the soul will long,
Shall far outpass the power of human telling;
For none can guess its grace,
Till he become the place
Wherein the Holy Spirit makes his dwelling.**

Music: Down Ampney, Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

Words: Discendi, amor santo Bianco da Siena (died 1434)
translated Richard Frederick Littledale (1833-1890)

THE RESPONSES *(Smith)*

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

PSALM 33 *(Pye)*

Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous:

for it becometh well the just to be thankful.

Praise the Lord with harp:

sing praises unto him with the lute, and instrument of ten strings.

Sing unto the Lord a new song:

sing praises lustily unto him with a good courage.

For the word of the Lord is true: and all his works are faithful.

He loveth righteousness and judgement:

the earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.

By the word of the Lord were the heavens made:

and all the hosts of them by the breath of his mouth.

He gathereth the waters of the sea together, as it were upon an heap:

and layeth up the deep, as in a treasure-house.

Let all the earth fear the Lord:

stand in awe of him, all ye that dwell in the world.

For he spake, and it was done: he commanded, and it stood fast.

The Lord bringeth the counsel of the heathen to nought:

and maketh the devices of the people to be of none effect, and casteth out the counsels of princes.

The counsel of the Lord shall endure for ever:

and the thoughts of his heart from generation to generation.

Blessed are the people, whose God is the Lord Jehovah:

and blessed are the folk, that he hath chosen to him to be his inheritance.

The Lord looked down from heaven, and beheld all the children of men:

from the habitation of his dwelling he considereth all them that dwell on the earth.

He fashioneth all the hearts of them: and understandeth all their works.

There is no king that can be saved by the multitude of an host:

neither is any mighty man delivered by much strength.

A horse is counted but a vain thing to save a man:

neither shall he deliver any man by his great strength.

Behold, the eye of the Lord is upon them that fear him:

and upon them that put their trust in his mercy;

To deliver their soul from death: and to feed them in the time of dearth.

Our soul hath patiently tarried for the Lord: for he is our help, and our shield.

For our heart shall rejoice in him: because we have hoped in his holy Name.

Let thy merciful kindness, O Lord, be upon us:

like as we do put our trust in thee.

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

Ezekiel 11. 14-20

Again the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, Son of man, thy brethren, even thy brethren, the men of thy kindred, and all the house of Israel wholly, are they unto whom the inhabitants of Jerusalem have said, Get you far from the LORD: unto us is this land given in possession.

Therefore say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Although I have cast them far off among the heathen, and although I have scattered them among the countries, yet will I be to them as a little sanctuary in the countries where they shall come.

Therefore say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; I will even gather you from the people, and assemble you out of the countries where ye have been scattered, and I will give you the land of Israel.

And they shall come thither, and they shall take away all the detestable things thereof and all the abominations thereof from thence. And I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within you; and I will take the stony heart out of their flesh, and will give them an heart of flesh: That they may walk in my statutes, and keep mine ordinances, and do them: and they shall be my people, and I will be their God.

All stand.

MAGNIFICAT (*Octavi Toni, Victoria*)

All sit.

THE SECOND LESSON

Acts 2. 14-28, 36

On the day of Pentecost, Peter standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, Ye men of Judaea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words: For these are not drunken, as ye suppose, seeing it is but the third hour of the day. But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel; And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams: And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy: And I will shew wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapour of smoke: The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and notable day of the Lord come: And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.

Ye men of Israel, hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know: Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain: Whom God hath raised up, having loosed the pains of death: because it was not possible that he should be holden of it.

For David speaketh concerning him, I foresaw the Lord always before my face, for he is on my right hand, that I should not be moved: Therefore did my heart rejoice, and my tongue was glad; moreover also my flesh shall rest in hope: Because thou wilt not leave my soul in hell, neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption. Thou hast made known to me the ways of life; thou shalt make me full of joy with thy countenance. Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made the same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ.

All stand. NUNC DIMITTIS (*Short Service, Gibbons*)

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.

THE COLLECTS

God, who as at this time didst teach the hearts of thy faithful people, by the sending to them the light of thy Holy Spirit; Grant us by the same Spirit to have a right judgement in all things, and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort; through the merits of Christ Jesus our Saviour, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the same Spirit, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

All sit.

ANTHEM

Loquebantur variis linguis Apostoli magnalia Dei,
prout Spiritus Sanctus dabat eloqui illis, alleluia.
Repleti sunt omnes Spiritu Sancto, et coeperunt loqui.

*The Apostles spoke in many languages of the great works of God,
as the Holy Spirit gave them the gift of speech, alleluia.
They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak.*

Music: Thomas Tallis (1505-1585)

Words: Responsory for Pentecost, based on Acts 2. 4

PRAYERS

HYMN

**Lord, for the years your love has kept and guided,
urged and inspired us, cheered us on our way,
sought us and saved us, pardoned and provided,
Lord of the years, we bring our thanks today.**

**Lord, for that word, the word of life which fires us,
speaks to our hearts and sets our souls ablaze,
teaches and trains, rebukes us and inspires us,
Lord of the word, receive your people's praise.**

**Lord, for our land in this our generation,
spirits oppressed by pleasure, wealth and care:
for young and old, for commonwealth and nation,
Lord of our land, be pleased to hear our prayer.**

**Lord, for our world when we disown and doubt him,
loveless in strength, and comfortless in pain;
hungry and helpless, lost indeed without him,
Lord of the world, we pray that Christ may reign.**

**Lord for ourselves; in living power remake us,
self on the cross and Christ upon the throne;
past put behind us, for the future take us,
Lord of our lives, to live for Christ alone.**

Music: Michael Baughen (b. 1930)
Words: Timothy Dudley-Smith (1926-2024)

THE BLESSING

THE ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Kyrie Gott, Heiliger Geist BWV 671

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

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!

SPECIAL DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

**WEDNESDAY 22 JULY, 6PM
CHORAL EVENSONG AND FAREWELL**

A special service as we bid farewell and happy retirement to Robin Griffith-Jones, The Reverend and Valiant Master of the Temple.
Followed by drinks and jazz in Church Court.

SPECIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Monday 8 June, 5.00pm

CHORAL EVENSONG AT ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL

Sung by The Temple Church Choir

To include music by Noble and Bairstow

Tuesday 9 June, 7.30pm

**CONCERT: Courtney Pine presents Song
(The Ballad Book)**

We are delighted to welcome to Temple Church ground-breaking saxophonist and multi-instrumentalist, Courtney Pine CBE for an intimate show with MOBO award-winning pianist, Zoe Rahman.

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

Wednesday 17 June, 6.00pm

CHORAL EVENSONG

Sung by The Bar Choral Society

Sunday 21 June, 11.15am

CHORAL MATTINS

Sung by The Temple Church Choir

*Followed by Father's Day Sunday lunch in Middle Temple for
members of the Inns and their guests.*

To book for the lunch: 020 7427 4800

Tuesday 23 June, 7.30pm

CONCERT: A CELEBRATION OF BENJAMIN BRITTEN

The Bar Choral Society

Greg Morris, *conductor*; Francois Cloete, *organ*

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

Thursday 25 June, 6pm-7pm

CONCERT: SONGS OF THE BRITISH ISLES

Temple Singers, Temple Church Choristers, Temple City Singers,
and children from local schools.

This concert will centre around Michael Tippett's 'Four Songs
from the British Isles' alongside folksong arrangements by
Benjamin Britten. This concert is kindly supported by The
Michael Tippett Musical Foundation.

Free Admission

Friday 26 June, 8pm

COMPLINE

Sung by the Temple Church Youth Choir

Sunday 28 June, 11.15am

CHORAL COMMUNION

*Followed by the Big Picnic in Inner Temple Gardens.
To book for the Big Picnic: www.innertemple.org.uk/events*

THURSDAY 2 JULY, 6.30pm

CONCERT: SPEM IN ALIUM THE 40 VOICE SPECTACULAR

Temple Singers, Thomas Allery, conductor

Music to include: Celia Virgo (Gabriel Jackson),

Hymn to the Mother of God (Tavener).

Promoted by Temple Music Foundation

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

THURSDAY 16 JULY, 7.00pm

CONCERT: THE KING SHALL REJOICE: A BAROQUE CORONATION

Temple Church Choir, Temple Players

Thomas Allery, conductor; Charles Andrews, organ

Music to include: Zadok the Priest, Let thy Hand be strengthened (Handel).

Promoted by Temple Music Foundation

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