Temple Church

Wednesday 4 November 2026

Grand Day, Inner Temple

CHORAL EVENSONG, 5.45 p.m.

According to the Book of Common Prayer (1662)

Welcome to this service at which the Temple Church Choir will sing and the Master, The Reverend Dr Andrew Bowyer, will officiate.

This order of service is to be used in conjunction with pp 47-54 of the white laminated book.

The public-address system has a loop-facility. If you wear a hearing-aid, please turn its setting to T.

Photography and filming are not permitted during the service.

ORGAN PRELUDE

Toccata in F *Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)*

All stand at the entrance of the choir.

INTROIT

Ave Maria, gratia plena,	*Hail Mary, full of grace,*
Dominus tecum,	*The Lord is with Thee:*
benedicta tu in mulieribus	*Blessed art Thou among women:*
et benedictus fructus ventris tui,	*And blessed is the fruit of thy womb,*
Jesus.	*Jesus.*
Sancta Maria! Mater Dei	*Holy Mary, Mother of God,*
ora pro nobis, nobis peccatoribus,	*pray for us sinners,*
nunc et in hora mortis nostrae.	*now and at the hour of our death.*
Amen.	*Amen.*

Music: Anton Bruckner (1824-1896)
Words: Luke 1

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

1.
Guide me, O thou great Redeemer,
Pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak but thou art mighty;
Hold me with thy powerful hand:
Bread of heaven,
Feed me now and evermore.

2.
Open now the crystal fountain
Whence the healing stream doth flow;
Let the fiery cloudy pillar
Lead me all my journey through:
Strong deliverer,
Be thou still my strength and shield.

3.
When I tread the verge of Jordan,
Bid my anxious fears subside;
Death of death, and hell's destruction,
Land me safe on Canaan's side:
Songs and praises
I will ever give to thee.

Music: Cwm Rhondda, John Hughes (1873-1932)
Words: William Williams (1717-1791)

THE RESPONSES *(Clucas)*
(p. 48 of white book)

PSALM 148. 1-6 *(Smart)*

O praise the Lord of heaven: praise him in the height.
Praise him, all ye angels of his: praise him, all his host.
Praise him, sun and moon: praise him, all ye stars and light.
Praise him, all ye heavens: and ye waters that are above the heavens.
Let them praise the Name of the Lord:
for he spake the word, and they were made; he commanded, and they were created.
He hath made them fast for ever and ever:
he hath given them a law which shall not be broken.
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
Proverbs 3. 27-end

Withhold not good from them to whom it is due, when it is in the power of thine hand to do it. Say not unto thy neighbour, Go, and come again, and to morrow I will give; when thou hast it by thee.

Devise not evil against thy neighbour, seeing he dwelleth securely by thee. Strive not with a man without cause, if he have done thee no harm. Envy thou not the oppressor, and choose none of his ways.

For the froward is abomination to the LORD: but his secret is with the righteous. The curse of the LORD is in the house of the wicked: but he blesseth the habitation of the just. Surely he scorneth the scorners: but he giveth grace unto the lowly. The wise shall inherit glory: but shame shall be the promotion of fools.

All stand. MAGNIFICAT *(Second Service, Gibbons)*
(p. 49 of white book)

All sit. THE SECOND LESSON
Matthew 18. 21-end

Then came Peter to him, and said, Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times? Jesus saith unto him, I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven.

Therefore is the kingdom of heaven likened unto a certain king, which would take account of his servants. And when he had begun to reckon, one was brought unto him, which owed him ten thousand talents. But forasmuch as he had not to pay, his lord commanded him to be sold, and his wife, and children, and all that he had, and payment to be made.

The servant therefore fell down, and worshipped him, saying, Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay thee all. Then the lord of that servant was moved with compassion, and loosed him, and forgave him the debt.

But the same servant went out, and found one of his fellowservants, which owed him an hundred pence: and he laid hands on him, and took him by the throat, saying, Pay me that thou owest. And his fellowservant fell down at his feet, and besought him, saying, Have patience with me, and I will pay thee all. And he would not: but went and cast him into prison, till he should pay the debt. So when his fellowservants saw what was done, they were very sorry, and came and told unto their lord all that was done.

Then his lord, after that he had called him, said unto him, O thou wicked servant, I forgave thee all that debt, because thou desiredst me: Shouldest not thou also have had compassion on thy fellowservant, even as I had pity on thee?

And his lord was wroth, and delivered him to the tormentors, till he should pay all that was due unto him. So likewise shall my heavenly Father do also unto you, if ye from your hearts forgive not every one his brother their trespasses.

All stand. NUNC DIMITTIS *(Second Service, Gibbons)*
(p. 51 of white book)

In the tradition of the Temple Church, we all turn East to say together:

THE CREED
(p. 51 of white book)

All sit or kneel at 'Let us pray.'

THE RESPONSES *(Clucas)*

THE COLLECT

O Almighty God, who hast knit together thine elect in one communion and fellowship, in the mystical body of thy Son Christ our Lord: Grant us grace so to follow thy blessed Saints in all virtuous and godly living, that we may come to those unspeakable joys, which thou hast prepared for them that unfeignedly love thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ANTHEM

O sing unto the Lord a new song,
sing unto the Lord all the whole earth.
Sing unto the Lord and praise his name,
be telling of his salvation from day to day.
For he cometh to judge the earth,
and with righteousness to judge the world
and the people with his truth.

Music: James Macmillan (b. 1959)
Words: Psalm 96. 1 2, 13

All remain seated or kneel.

THE PRAYERS

All stand.

HYMN

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;
To his feet thy tribute bring.
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
Who like me his praise should sing?
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise the everlasting King!

Praise him for his grace and favour
To our fathers in distress.
Praise him, still the same as ever,
Slow to chide, and swift to bless.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Glorious in his faithfulness!

Father-like he tends and spares us;
Well our feeble frame he knows.
In his hand he gently bears us,
Rescues us from all our foes.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Widely as his mercy flows!

Angels, help us to adore him;
Ye behold him face to face.
Sun and moon, bow down before him,
Dwellers all in time and space.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise with us the God of grace!

Music: Sir John Goss (1800-1880)
Words: Henry Francis Lyte (1793-1847)

THE BLESSING

THE ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Toccata *Placare Christe servulis* *Marcel Dupré (1886-1971)*

DRINKS IN THE ROUND

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

COLLECTION

There will be a retiring collection. Contactless giving is also available at the South Door as you leave the church. If you prefer to donate online, kindly scan the QR code below.

University Students, Trainee Solicitors & Pupil Barristers

Join our Whatsapp group for invitations to special services, reading groups and social events. Scan this QR code to join the group.

Praying at Home with the Church of England

Text and audio versions of Morning and Evening Prayer can be accessed by downloading the Daily Prayer App, accessible by scanning this QR code:

Volunteering at Temple Church

There are many volunteering opportunities at the Church. If you would like to get involved, kindly contact Lee Prevett, lee@templechurch.com

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Safeguarding

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

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REGULAR SERVICES IN TERM

SUNDAY
8.30am Holy Communion
11.15am Choral Mattins/Choral Communion
(Mattins: 1st and 3rd Sunday, Communion: 2nd, 4th and 5th Sunday)

TUESDAY
8.30am Morning Prayer
1.15pm Holy Communion

WEDNESDAY
8.30am Morning Prayer
6.00pm Choral Evensong

THURSDAY
8.30am Morning Prayer
1.15pm Holy Communion

FRIDAY
8.30am Holy Communion

FORTHCOMING SPECIAL SERVICES

Sunday 8 November, 10.50am
CHORAL MATTINS FOR REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY
Music: They shall grow not old (Guest), And I saw a new Heaven (Bainton)

Sunday 22 November, 5.00pm
TEMPLE MUSIC FOUNDATION CONCERT
Sung by The Temple Youth Choir
'WE SHALL REMEMBER THEM'
For more information and to book, www.templemusic.org

Wednesday 2 December, 1.15pm
AN ADVENT ORGAN RECITAL
Charles Andrews, *organ*
(Free event)
and at 6.00pm
TEMPLE CHURCH ADVENT CAROL SERVICE
'THE DAWNING OF THE LIGHT'
Sung by the Temple Church Choir
A programme of carols, readings, and prayers
(Free event)

Thursday 3 December, 7.00pm
TEMPLE MUSIC FOUNDATION CONCERT
'MESSIAH'
Sung by the Temple Church Choir, accompanied by the Temple Players
Thomas Allery, *director*
Tickets required. For more information and to book, www.templemusic.org

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Tuesday 8 December, 6.15pm
CAROLS FOR PRO BONO 2026
Tickets required. For more information and to book, www.templemusic.org

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Sunday 6 December, 11.15am
TEMPLE CHURCH CAROL SERVICE
Sung by the Temple Church Choir

Monday 14 December, 6.00pm
TEMPLE CHURCH CAROL SERVICE
Sung by the Temple Church Choir

Wednesday 16 December, 1.15pm – 1.45pm
LUNCHTIME CAROL SING-ALONG
30min of informal carol singing. Requests will be taken!
and at 6.00pm
A CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION OF READINGS AND CAROLS
Sung by the Temple Singers

Thursday 17 December, 7.00pm
TEMPLE MUSIC FOUNDATION CONCERT
'A CEREMONY OF CAROLS'
Sung by the Temple Church Choristers, accompanied by
Keziah Thomas, harp, Thomas Allery, conductor
Tickets required. For more information and to book, www.templemusic.org

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Thursday 24 December, 11.15pm
CHRISTMAS EVE: CHORAL COMMUNION
Sung by the Temple Singers

Friday 25 December, 11.15am
CHRISTMAS DAY: CHORAL MATTINS
Sung by the Temple Church Choir