Temple Church

Wednesday 11 November 2026, 6.00 p.m.

CHORAL EVENSONG

According to the Book of Common Prayer (1662)

Welcome to this service at which the Temple Singers will sing and the Master 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

Elegy *Sir George Thalben-Ball (1896-1987)*

All stand.

INTROIT

Round me falls the night;
Saviour, be my light.
Through the hours in darkness shrouded
Let me see thy face unclouded;
Let thy glory shine
In this heart of mine.

Earthly work is done;
Earthly sounds are none.
Rest in sleep and silence seeking,
Let me hear you softly speaking;
In my spirit's ear
Whisper, I am near.

Blessed, heavenly light,
Shining through earth's night,
Voice that oft of love has told me,
Arms so strong to clasp and hold me;
Thou thy watch wilt keep,
Saviour, o'er my sleep.

Music: Annabel Rooney
Words: William Romanis (1824-1899)

HYMN

Abide with me; fast falls the eventide;
The darkness deepens; Lord with me abide.
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, O abide with me.

Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
Earth's joys grow dim; its glories pass away;
Change and decay in all around I see;
O thou who changest not, abide with me.

I need thy presence every passing hour.
What but thy grace can foil the tempter's power?
Who, like thyself, my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, Lord, abide with me.

I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;
Ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still, if thou abide with me.

Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes;
Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies.
Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

Music: William Henry Monk (1823-1889)
Words: Henry Francis Lyte (1793-1847)

All sit for the Confession and Absolution (p. 47 of white book)

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

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

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
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 *(Chichester Service, Walton)*
(p. 49 of white book)

All sit. THE SECOND LESSON
Matthew 5. 17-26

Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil. For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.

Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

For I say unto you, That except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven. Ye have heard that it was said of them of old time, Thou shalt not kill; and whosoever shall kill shall be in danger of the judgment:

But I say unto you, That whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment: and whosoever shall say to his brother, Raca, shall be in danger of the council: but whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire.

Therefore if thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath ought against thee; Leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way; first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift.

Agree with thine adversary quickly, whiles thou art in the way with him; lest at any time the adversary deliver thee to the judge, and the judge deliver thee to the officer, and thou be cast into prison.

Verily I say unto thee, Thou shalt by no means come out thence, till thou hast paid the uttermost farthing.

All stand. NUNC DIMITTIS *(Chichester service, Walton)*
(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 *(Radcliffe)*

THE COLLECTS

O God, our refuge and strength, who art the author of all godliness: Be ready, we beseech thee, to hear the devout prayers of thy Church; and grant that those things which we ask faithfully we may obtain effectually; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ANTHEM

Verleih uns Frieden gnädiglich,	*In these our days so perilous,*
Herr Gott, zu unsern Zeiten.	*Lord, peace in mercy send us;*
Es ist doch ja kein andrer nicht,	*No God but thee can fight for us,*
der für uns könnte streiten,	*No God but thee defend us;*
denn du, unser Gott, alleine.	*Thou our only God and Saviour.*

Music: Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)
Words: Martin Luther (1483-1546)

All remain seated or kneel.

THE PRAYERS

All stand.

HYMN

Dear Lord and Father of mankind,
Forgive our foolish ways!
Re-clothe us in our rightful mind,
In purer lives thy service find,
In deeper reverence praise.

In simple trust like theirs who heard,
Beside the Syrian sea,
The gracious calling of the Lord,
Let us, like them, without a word
Rise up and follow thee.

O Sabbath rest by Galilee!
O calm of hills above,
Where Jesus knelt to share with thee
The silence of eternity,
Interpreted by love!

Drop thy still dews of quietness,
Till all our strivings cease;
Take from our souls the strain and stress,
And let our ordered lives confess
The beauty of thy peace.

Breathe through the heats of our desire
Thy coolness and thy balm;
Let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;
Speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire,
O still small voice of calm!

Music: Sir Charles Hubert Hastings Parry (1848-1918)
Words: John Greenleaf Whittier (1807-1892)

THE BLESSING

Go forth into the world in peace; be of good courage; hold fast that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the faint hearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honour all people; love and serve the Lord; rejoice in the power of the Holy Ghost. So may the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be upon you and remain with you always.

THE ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Prelude in C minor, BWV 546 *J. S. Bach (1685-1750)*

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.

On **Wednesday 18 November**, post Evensong drinks will include a short performance by our Choral Scholars. Do come and join us.

COLLECTION

There will be a retiring collection. Contactless giving is also available at the South Door as you leave the church. If you would 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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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 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*
For more information and to book, www.templemusic.org

Sunday 6 December, 11.15am
TEMPLE CHURCH CAROL SERVICE
Sung by the Temple Church Choir
This service will be sung again on Sunday 13 December at 11.15am and on Monday 14 December at 6.00pm. ***Tickets required for 13 December only.***

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

Sunday 13 December, 11.15am
TEMPLE CHURCH CAROL SERVICE
(Ticketed. This service is now fully booked)
Sung by the Temple Church Choir
and at 3.30pm – 4.00pm
TEMPLE CHURCH NATIVITY PLAY

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

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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