



# Choral Evensong

## For the Feast of the Presentation of Christ in the Temple Candlemas

Preacher: **The Very Revd David Monteith**  
Dean of Leicester

Cantor: **Motje Wolf**  
Acting Director of Mission through Music  
Organist: **Simon Headley**  
Principal Organist  
Minister: **The Revd. Wendy Dalrymple**  
Rector

Evensong is based upon a monastic office of the medieval Church. This version, from the 1662 Book of Common Prayer, has been a form of corporate prayer and worship for millions of Anglican Christians throughout the world for centuries. Whether you are familiar with these texts or whether this is a new experience for you we hope that through the music and words that are offered you will be able to come close to God.

The opening hymn and anthem this evening have been recorded by members of our adult and children's choirs from their own homes. If you would like to find out about joining the choir please contact Motje on [music@allsaintsloughborough.org.uk](mailto:music@allsaintsloughborough.org.uk) all ages and abilities are welcome. During lockdown rehearsals are on zoom, Wednesdays after school for the children and Friday evenings for the adults.

### Opening hymn

O gladsome Light, O Grace  
of God the Father's face,  
th'eternal splendor wearing;  
celestial, holy, blest,  
our Savior Jesus Christ,  
joyful in Thine appearing!

Now, as day fadeth quite,  
we see the evening light,  
our wonted hymn outpouring;  
Father of might unknown,  
Thee, His incarnate Son,  
and Holy Ghost adoring.

To Thee of right belongs  
all praise of holy songs,  
O Son of God, Life-giver;  
Thee, therefore, O Most High,  
the world does glorify  
and shall exalt forever.

## **Introduction**

Beloved, we are come together in the presence of almighty God and of the whole company of heaven to offer unto him through our Lord Jesus Christ our worship and praise and thanksgiving; to make confession of our sins; to pray, as well for others as for our ourselves, that we may know more truly the greatness of God's love and shew forth in our lives the fruits of his grace; and to ask on behalf of all such things as their well-being doth require.

Wherefore let us kneel in silence, and remember God's presence with us now.

*Silence is kept.*

**Almighty and most merciful Father,  
we have erred, and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep.  
We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts.  
We have offended against thy holy laws.  
We have left undone those things which we ought to have done;  
and we have done those things which we ought not to have done;  
and there is no health in us.  
But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders.  
Spare thou them, O God, which confess their faults.  
Restore thou them that are penitent;  
according to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesu our Lord.  
And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake,  
that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life,  
to the glory of thy holy name. Amen.**

Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who desireth not the death of a sinner,  
but rather that he may turn from his wickedness and live;  
and hath given power, and commandment, to his ministers  
to declare and pronounce to his people, being penitent,  
the absolution and remission of their sins;  
he pardoneth and absolveth all them that truly repent and unfeignedly believe his holy  
gospel.  
Wherefore let us beseech him to grant us true repentance,  
and his Holy Spirit,  
that those things may please him which we do at this present;  
and that the rest of our life hereafter may be pure and holy;  
so that at the last we may come to his eternal joy;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

**Our Father, which art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come; thy will be done,  
in earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive them that trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

*The minister and cantor chant the Preces.*

## **Preces**

O Lord, open thou our lips  
and our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

O God, make speed to save us.  
O Lord, make haste to help us.

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.

Praise ye the Lord.  
The Lord's name be praised.

## **Psalm 24**

- 1 The earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.
- 2 For he hath founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the floods.
- 3 Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? or who shall stand in his holy place?
- 4 He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully.
- 5 He shall receive the blessing from the Lord, and righteousness from the God of his salvation.
- 6 This is the generation of them that seek him, that seek thy face, O Jacob. Selah.
- 7 Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in.
- 8 Who is this King of glory? The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle.
- 9 Lift up your heads, O ye gates; even lift them up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in.
- 10 Who is this King of glory? The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory.

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.

## **First Reading - Hebrews 2:14-18**

Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

## Magnificat

My soul doth magnify the Lord:  
and my spirit hath rejoicèd  
in God my Saviour.  
For he hath regardèd:  
the lowliness of his handmaiden.  
For behold, from henceforth:  
all generations shall call me blessed.

For he that is mighty hath magnified me:  
and holy is his Name.  
And his mercy is on them that fear him :  
throughout all generations.  
He hath shewed strength with his arm:  
he hath scattered the proud  
in the imagination of their hearts.  
He hath put down  
the mighty from their seat:  
and hath exalted the humble and meek.  
He hath filled the hungry with good things:  
and the rich he hath sent empty away.  
He remembering his mercy  
hath holpen his servant Israel:  
as he promised to our forefathers,  
Abraham and his seed for ever.

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.

## New Testament Reading - Luke 2:22-40

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord'), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.'

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

'Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.'

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband for seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

## **Nunc Dimittis**

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant  
depart in peace: according to thy word.  
For mine eyes have seen: thy salvation.  
Which thou hast prepared:  
before the face of all people.  
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles:  
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

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.

*We say together the statement of Christian belief.*

## **Apostles Creed**

**I believe in God the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth:  
and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried.  
He descended into hell;  
the third day he rose again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty;  
from thence he shall come  
to judge the quick and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Ghost;  
the holy catholic Church;  
the communion of saints;  
the forgiveness of sins;  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*The minister and cantor chant the Responses.*

## **Responses**

The Lord be with you.  
And with thy spirit.  
Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us.  
Christ, have mercy upon us.  
Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come; thy will be done,  
in earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive them that trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil. Amen.

O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.  
And grant us thy salvation.

O Lord, save the Queen.  
And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Endue thy ministers with righteousness.  
And make thy chosen people joyful.

O Lord, save thy people.  
And bless thine inheritance.

Give peace in our time, O Lord.  
Because there is none other that fighteth for us,  
but only thou, O God.

O God, make clean our hearts within us.  
And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

### **Collect of the Day**

Almighty and ever living God, we humbly beseech thy Majesty, that, as thy only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple in the substance of our flesh, so we may be presented unto thee with pure and clean hearts, by the same thy Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **Collect for Peace**

O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed;  
give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give;  
that both, our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments,  
and also that, by thee,  
we being defended from the fear of our enemies  
may pass our time in rest and quietness;  
through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour.  
Amen.

### **Collect for Aid**

Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord;  
and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night;  
for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ.  
Amen.

### **Anthem**

Holy is the light by Harris

## Prayers of Intercession

*Prayers are led by the minister, ending with*

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
and the love of God,  
and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost,  
be with us all evermore.  
Amen.**

*Notices*

## Blessing

Christ the Son of God, born of Mary,  
Fill you with his grace to trust his promises and obey his will:  
And the blessing of God almighty,  
The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,  
Be among you and remain with you always.  
**Amen.**

## Organ Voluntary

Herr Gott, nun schleuß den Himmel auf by J.S Bach  
BWV 1092

Our next Evensong will be live streamed on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> February at 6pm from the homes of members of the choir and Martyn Davison who will be leading the service.

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## Giving to the work of All Saints

If you would like to make a donation today towards the ongoing mission and ministry of our church, please use this link:

<https://givealittle.co/campaigns/cc9b5c2a-567d-4055-9c20-88aaf54e0ca5>

We encourage everyone who considers All Saints to be their church community to consider giving regularly as each is able. To set up a regular donation please call the **Parish Giving Scheme** on **0333 002 1271** and use the reference number for our church: **190 619 199**

Whatever gift you give, however large or small will be gratefully received.

**Thank you, from the Rector and Church Wardens.**

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