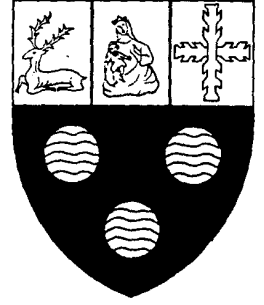


**Southwell  
Minster**

THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF  
THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY



# FESTAL EVENSONG WITH PROCESSION

**Christ the King  
(The Sunday next before Advent)**

Sunday 26 November 2023

3.30pm

## Welcome to Southwell Minster



As you prepare for worship, please be sensitive to the needs of those around you who may wish to pray in silence. Please switch off mobile telephones and do not use photographic, video or recording equipment at any time.



A loop system is in operation throughout the Minster. Hearing aids that are equipped to do so should be switched to the 'T' position or the loop setting appropriate to your equipment.



**Large print** orders of service are available. Please ask a Churchwarden, Sidesman or Verger for a copy.



Toilet facilities (including disabled access) are situated in the Archbishop's Palace, opposite the South Door of the Minster.



We are a Fairtrade cathedral, committed to continuing and increasing our use of fairly traded goods wherever possible.



This Order of Service is printed on sustainably produced paper.

The congregation is invited to join in all texts printed in **bold**.

The Cathedral Choir is directed by Paul Provost, *Rector Chori*.

The organ is played by Jonathan Allsopp, *Assistant Director of Music*.

This service will be live-streamed to the internet, and will be available at [www.southwellminster.org/worship-online](http://www.southwellminster.org/worship-online) and on the Minster's YouTube channel, for one day. Live-streaming allows those joining from home to participate in the same act of worship as those in the Cathedral.

A collection for the mission and ministry of the Cathedral will be taken during the Offertory Hymn at this service. If you are a UK taxpayer, you are invited to fill in your



details on the Gift Aid envelopes provided so that we can reclaim your income tax and thus increase your donation by 25p for every £1 given. Cash donations can also be placed in the donation box near each entrance or card donations made using the contactless card station. Alternatively, to make a donation online, please scan this QR code or visit [www.southwellminster.org/donate](http://www.southwellminster.org/donate). Please give generously.

## The Service of Evensong

The experience of the service of Evensong is unique. It takes place at the end of the working day, and the choir leads worship through their singing. The service is centred around the singing of psalms, ancient texts that speak powerfully and accessibly to our very human hopes, fears and dreams. Every service of Evensong also includes two canticles, or songs, recorded in St Luke's Gospel: the *Magnificat* and *Nunc dimittis*. Both canticles focus on hope and the fulfilment of what God promised to his people, and so have acted as a foundation for prayer and reflection towards the end of the day for many hundreds of years. The beauty of daily sung services in cathedrals is that no two composers' interpretation of these texts is the same, so in the repetition of familiar texts we find fresh meaning every single day.

The gift of the service of Evensong is that it requires little active participation from the congregation; it is a service of respite from the stresses of the day. Our hope is that those of you for whom this is your first taste of Evensong will let yourselves be immersed in the experience: you need simply to be receptive, and to allow yourself to be carried by the choir in song and prayer. In letting others take on the responsibility for prayer on your behalf, you are left with greater freedom to be open to the presence and grace of God.

## Standing, Sitting and Kneeling

Throughout the booklet, you will find various references to posture:

- **Standing** is used for parts of the service where the emphasis is on praising or praying to God together; so we usually stand to sing hymns, and for certain important prayers.
- **Sitting** indicates listening and receiving; so we sit for the first and second readings from the Bible, and for the sermon.
- **Kneeling** is the traditional position for personal prayer. Please speak to one of the Vergers or Sidesmen if you would like a cushion for kneeling.

Adopting the same posture is a way of showing that we are worshipping God together, as his people. However, please always feel free to adopt a different posture, especially if standing or kneeling is uncomfortable.

# ORDER OF SERVICE

## ORGAN PRELUDE

*Adagio espressivo (from Sonata in A minor)*

William Harris (1883-1973)

INTROIT *sung by the choir from the North Transept*

Let all mortal flesh keep silence,  
And stand with fear and trembling,  
And lift itself above all earthly thought.

For the King of kings and Lord of lords, Christ our God,  
Cometh forth to be our oblation,  
And to be given for food to the faithful.

Before him come the choirs of angels,  
With every principality and power,  
The Cherubim with many eyes,  
And winged Seraphim,  
Who veil their faces as they shout exultingly the hymn:  
*Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*

*Words: Greek hymn, 3rd century  
after Habakkuk 2: 20*

*Music: Edward Bairstow (1874-1946)*

*Please stand at the entry of the choir and ministers*

PRECES *sung by the Canon Precentor and choir*

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.

*Music: Bernard Rose (1916-96)*

*The Canon Precentor welcomes the congregation to the service.*

OFFICE HYMN



Ruler of all from heav'ns high throne,  
O Christ, our King ere time began,  
We kneel before thee, Lord, to own  
Thy empire o'er the heart of man

**The hosts of heav'n adoring kneel,  
And hymns of praise to thee they sing;  
We too rejoice and honour thee  
As Lord of all, and sov'reign King.**

O Prince of Peace, O Christ, subdue  
Those rebel hearts, thy peace restore;  
Into thy sheepfold lead anew  
Thy scattered sheep, to stray no more.

**For this upon the tree of shame  
Thy body hung, with arms spread wide,  
The spear revealed the heart of flame  
That burned within thy sacred side.**

For this our altars here are spread  
With mystic feast of bread and wine;  
Still thy redeeming blood is shed  
From that sore-stricken heart of thine.

**Jesus, to thee be honour done,  
Who rulest all in equity.  
With Father, Spirit, ever one,  
From age to age eternally.  
Amen.**

*Tune: EXULTET CAELUM LAUDIBUS NEH 214 (t. i)  
Mode ii*

*Please sit*

PSALMODY *sung by the choir*

Psalm 93

The Lord is King, and hath put on glorious apparel:  
the Lord hath put on his apparel, and girded himself with strength.  
He hath made the round world so sure:  
that it cannot be moved.  
Ever since the world began hath thy seat been prepared:  
thou art from everlasting.  
The floods are risen, O Lord, the floods have lift up their voice:  
the floods lift up their waves.  
The waves of the sea are mighty, and rage horribly:  
but yet the Lord, who dwelleth on high, is mightier.  
Thy testimonies, O Lord, are very sure:  
holiness becometh thine house for ever.

*Please stand*

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.

*Music: George Alexander Macfarren (1813-87)*

*Please sit*

Now these are the last words of David:  
The oracle of David, son of Jesse,  
the oracle of the man whom God exalted,  
the anointed of the God of Jacob,  
the favourite of the Strong One of Israel:

The spirit of the Lord speaks through me,  
his word is upon my tongue.  
The God of Israel has spoken,  
the Rock of Israel has said to me:  
One who rules over people justly,  
ruling in the fear of God,  
is like the light of morning,  
like the sun rising on a cloudless morning,  
gleaming from the rain on the grassy land.

Is not my house like this with God?  
For he has made with me an everlasting covenant,  
ordered in all things and secure.  
Will he not cause to prosper  
all my help and my desire?  
But the godless are all like thorns that are thrown away;  
for they cannot be picked up with the hand;  
to touch them one uses an iron bar  
or the shaft of a spear.  
And they are entirely consumed in fire on the spot.

*Please stand*

ANTIPHON AND MAGNIFICAT *sung by the choir*

And he hath on his garment and on his thigh written:  
King of kings, and Lord of lords.  
To him be glory and empire  
for ever and for ever.

My soul doth magnify the Lord:  
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.  
For he hath regarded:  
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.

And he hath on his garment and on his thigh written:  
King of kings, and Lord of lords.  
To him be glory and empire  
for ever and for ever.

*Words: Luke 1: 46-55*

*Music: from EVENING SERVICE IN E FLAT (NO 2)  
Charles Wood (1866-1926)*

*Antiphon: HABET IN VESTIMENTO  
Mode vii*

*Please sit*



Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshipped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.'

*Please stand*

NUNC DIMITTIS *sung by the choir*

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.

*Words: Luke 2: 29-32*

*Music: from EVENING SERVICE IN E FLAT (NO 2)*

*Charles Wood (1866-1926)*

*Please turn East to face towards the High Altar*

## 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.

*Please turn back*

LESSER LITANY, LORD'S PRAYER AND RESPONSES

*sung by the Canon Precentor and choir*

The Lord be with you:

And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

*Please sit or kneel*

Lord, have mercy upon us:

Christ, have mercy upon us:

Lord, have mercy upon us.

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 let us not be led into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.

Amen.

O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us:

And grant us thy salvation.

O Lord, save the King:

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 FOR THE DAY

Stir up, we beseech thee, O Lord, the wills of thy faithful people;  
that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works,  
may of thee be plenteously rewarded;  
through 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 AGAINST ALL PERILS

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.

*Music: Philip Moore (b. 1943)*

*Please sit*

*ANTHEM sung by the choir*

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised:  
in the city of our God, in the mountain of his holiness.  
Beautiful in elevation, the joy of the whole earth, is mount Zion:  
on the sides of the north, the city of the great King.  
God hath made himself known in her palaces for a refuge.  
For, lo! the kings assembled themselves, they passed by together.  
They saw, then were they amazed:  
they were dismayed, they hasted away.  
Trembling took hold of them there:  
pain, as of a woman in travail.  
As with the east wind that breaketh the ships of Tarshish.  
As we have heard, so have we seen in the city of the Lord of hosts,  
in the city of our God:  
God will establish it for ever.  
We have thought on thy lovingkindness, O God:  
in the midst of thy temple.  
As is thy name, O God, so is thy praise unto the ends of the earth:  
thy right hand is full of righteousness.  
Let mount Zion be glad, let the daughters of Judah rejoice:  
because of thy judgements.  
Walk about Zion and go round about her:  
tell the towers thereof.  
Mark ye well her bulwarks, consider her palaces:  
that ye may tell it to the generation following.  
For this God is our God for ever and ever:  
he will be our guide even unto death. Amen.

*Words: Psalm 48*

*Music: Edward Elgar (1857-1934)*

*HOMILY given by the Revd David McCoulough, Priest Vicar*

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION *led by the Revd Paul Rattigan, Canon Missioner*

*One of the following responses, or another, may be used:*

Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Lord, hear us.  
**Lord, graciously hear us.**

THE GRACE

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

*Please stand*

OFFERTORY HYMN *during which a collection is taken for the mission and ministry of the Cathedral*




Sing praise to God who reigns above,  
The God of all creation,  
The God of power, the God of love,  
The God of our salvation;  
With healing balm my soul he fills,  
And every faithless murmur stills:  
*To God all praise and glory!*

The angel host, O King of kings,  
Thy praise for ever telling,  
In earth and sky all living things  
Beneath thy shadow dwelling,  
Adore the wisdom which could span  
And power which formed creation's plan:  
*To God all praise and glory!*

What God's almighty power hath made  
His gracious mercy keepeth;  
By morning glow or evening shade  
His watchful eye ne'er sleepeth:  
Within thy kingdom of his might  
Lo! all is just, and all is right:  
*To God all praise and glory!*


O ye who name Christ's holy name,  
Give God all praise and glory:  
All ye who own his power, proclaim  
Aloud the wondrous story!  
Cast each false idol from his throne,  
The Lord is God, and he alone:  
*To God all praise and glory!*

*Precentor*



Let us pro-ceed in peace:

*All*



in the name of Christ. A - men.

HYMN *during which all are invited to join the procession into the Nave, concluding in front of the Christus Rex.*



**Hail Redeemer, King divine!  
 Priest and Lamb, the throne is thine;  
 King, whose reign shall never cease,  
 Prince of everlasting peace.**

*Angels, saints and nations sing:  
 'Praised be Jesus Christ our King;  
 Lord of life, earth, sky and sea,  
 King of love on Calvary.'*

**King whose name creation thrills,  
 Rule our minds, our hearts, our wills,  
 Till in peace each nation rings  
 With thy praises, King of kings.**

*Angels, saints and nations sing...*

**King most holy, King of truth,  
 Guard the lowly, guide the youth;  
 Christ thou King of glory bright,  
 Be to us eternal light.**

*Angels, saints and nations sing...*



Shepherd-King, o'er mountains steep  
Homeward bring the wandering sheep;  
Shelter in one royal fold  
States and kingdoms, new and old.  
*Angels, saints and nations sing...*

Eucharistic King, what love  
Draws thee daily from above.  
Clad in signs of bread and wine;  
Feed us, lead us, keep us thine.  
*Angels, saints and nations sing...*

Words: Patrick Brennan (1877-1952)  
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Tune: KING DIVINE NEP 614  
Charles Rigby (1901-62)

*Precentor* Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
*All* **Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David.**

O Christ, the King of glory,  
who through the everlasting gates didst ascend to thy Father's throne,  
and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers:  
grant that, whilst thou dost reign in heaven,  
we may not be bowed down to the things of the earth,  
but that our hearts may be lifted up  
whither thou, our redemption, are gone before,  
who with the Father and the Holy Spirit livest and reignest,  
one God, now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

## BLESSING

*Precentor* Christ our King make you faithful and strong to do his will,  
that you may reign with him in glory;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,  
be upon you and remain with you always.  
**Amen.**

DISMISSAL *sung by the Canon Precentor and choir*

The Lord be with you:  
And with thy Spirit.

Let us bless the Lord:  
Thanks be to God.

*Music: Bernard Rose (1916-96)*

ORGAN VOLUNTARY *during which the ministers and choir depart*

*Choral No 3 in A minor*

César Franck (1822-90)

**Next Sunday** is Advent Sunday, and our **Advent Procession** service will take place here at 6.30pm (which will replace our normal Sunday afternoon Evensong service). This atmospheric service begins in darkness, building up to a glorious light as the coming of Jesus is foretold. In word and music, themes of prophecy and expectation come together, pointing the way towards the salvation of the world. Beautiful music is sung by the Cathedral Choir, whose journey through the building reminds us of our own spiritual journey towards the light of Christ, in anticipation of the glories of Christmas. Entry is not ticketed; however early arrival is advised.

*For full details of all of our Advent and Christmas services and events, please visit our website: **[www.southwellminster.org/christmas2023](http://www.southwellminster.org/christmas2023)***

*Please note that Mini Pew News (the abridged version of the Weekly notice sheet), is available as a separate document given out at Minster services each Sunday. The full version of Pew News can be found online at <https://www.southwellminster.org/worship/pew-news/>. Alternatively, we can e-mail you a link to the latest edition of Pew News as it is published each Friday (please complete the web form at <https://www.southwellminster.org/newsletter/> to sign up to receive this regular e-mail). Similarly, the full service list for the next week, including the music, is available at <https://www.southwellminster.org/worship/services-calendar/>.*

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***Please take this order of service away with you.***

#### Acknowledgements

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