

Choral Evensong

Saturday, 18th July, 2026



*Welcome to this service of Choral Evensong, led by The Reverend Nitano Muller,
Canon for Worship and Welcome.*

*Today we welcome Nonsuch Singers, directed by Tom Bullard. The organist is
Richard Pearce.*

The responses are those by Richard Ayleward (1626-1669).

*We encourage our visitors to take photographs of our beautiful cathedral,
but please no photography during the service.*

If you would like to access the loop system, please speak to one of the vergers.

Introit

Ave Maria, gratia plena, Dominus tecum.

Benedicta tu in mulieribus et benedictus fructus ventris tui, Jesus.

Sancta Maria, regina cæli, dulcis et pia, o Mater Dei,

ora pro nobis peccatoribus, ut cum electis te videamus.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.

Blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, queen of heaven, gentle and loving, O mother of God,

pray for us sinners that with the chosen we may look upon thee.

Words: Luke I vv. 28, 42

Music: Tomás Luis de Victoria (c. 1548–1611)

Psalm 148

1. O praise the Lord of heaven ♦
praise him in the height.

2. Praise him, all ye angels of his ♦
praise him, all his host.

3. Praise him, sun and moon ♦
praise him, all ye stars and light.

4. Praise him, all ye heavens ♦
and ye waters that are above the heavens.

5. Let them praise the Name of the Lord ♦
for he spake the word, and they were made;
he commanded, and they were created.

6. He hath made them fast for ever and ever ♦
he hath given them a law which shall not be broken.

7. Praise the Lord upon earth ♦
ye dragons, and all deeps;

8. Fire and hail, snow and vapours ♦
wind and storm, fulfilling his word;

9. Mountains and all hills ♦
fruitful trees and all cedars;

10. Beasts and all cattle ♦
worms and feathered fowls;

11. Kings of the earth and all people ♦
princes and all judges of the world;

12. Young men and maidens, old men and children,
praise the Name of the Lord ♦
for his Name only is excellent, and his praise above heaven and earth.

13. He shall exalt the horn of his people; all his saints shall praise him ♦
even the children of Israel, even the people that serveth him.

Psalms 149

1. O sing unto the Lord a new song ♦
let the congregation of saints praise him.

2. Let Israel rejoice in him that made him ♦
and let the children of Zion be joyful in their King.

3. Let them praise his Name in the dance ♦
let them sing praises unto him with tabret and harp.

4. For the Lord hath pleasure in his people ♦
and helpeth the meek-hearted.

5. Let the saints be joyful with glory ♦
let them rejoice in their beds.

6. Let the praises of God be in their mouth ♦
and a two-edged sword in their hands;

7. To be avenged of the heathen ♦
and to rebuke the people;

8. To bind their kings in chains ♦
and their nobles with links of iron.

9. That they may be avenged of them, as it is written ♦
Such honour have all his saints.

Psalm 150

1. O praise God in his holiness ♦
praise him in the firmament of his power.
2. Praise him in his noble acts ♦
praise him according to his excellent greatness.
3. Praise him in the sound of the trumpet ♦
praise him upon the lute and harp.
4. Praise him in the cymbals and dances ♦
praise him upon the strings and pipe.
5. Praise him upon the well-tuned cymbals ♦
praise him upon the loud cymbals.
6. Let every thing that hath breath ♦
praise the Lord.

The First Lesson

²⁰ Mordecai recorded these things, and sent letters to all the Jews who were in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, both near and far, ²¹enjoining them that they should keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar and also the fifteenth day of the same month, year by year, ²²as the days on which the Jews gained relief from their enemies, and as the month that had been turned for them from sorrow into gladness and from mourning into a holiday; that they should make them days of feasting and gladness, days for sending gifts of food to one another and presents to the poor. ²³So the Jews adopted as a custom what they had begun to do, as Mordecai had written to them.

²⁴ Haman son of Hammedatha the Agagite, the enemy of all the Jews, had plotted against the Jews to destroy them, and had cast Pur—that is, ‘the lot’—to crush and destroy them; ²⁵but when Esther came before the king, he gave orders in writing that the wicked plot that he had devised against the Jews should come upon his own head, and that he and his sons should be hanged on the gallows. ²⁶Therefore these days are called Purim, from the word Pur. Thus because of all that was written in this letter, and of what they had faced in this matter, and of

what had happened to them, ²⁷the Jews established and accepted as a custom for themselves and their descendants and all who joined them, that without fail they would continue to observe these two days every year, as it was written and at the time appointed. ²⁸These days should be remembered and kept throughout every generation, in every family, province, and city; and these days of Purim should never fall into disuse among the Jews, nor should the commemoration of these days cease among their descendants.

Esther 9:20-28

The Magnificat

Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (1526-1594)

The Second Lesson

¹ I myself, Paul, appeal to you by the meekness and gentleness of Christ—I who am humble when face to face with you, but bold towards you when I am away!— ²I ask that when I am present I need not show boldness by daring to oppose those who think we are acting according to human standards. ³Indeed, we live as human beings, but we do not wage war according to human standards; ⁴for the weapons of our warfare are not merely human, but they have divine power to destroy strongholds. We destroy arguments ⁵and every proud obstacle raised up against the knowledge of God, and we take every thought captive to obey Christ. ⁶We are ready to punish every disobedience when your obedience is complete. ⁷ Look at what is before your eyes. If you are confident that you belong to Christ, remind yourself of this, that just as you belong to Christ, so also do we. ⁸Now, even if I boast a little too much of our authority, which the Lord gave for building you up and not for tearing you down, I will not be ashamed of it. ⁹I do not want to seem as though I am trying to frighten you with my letters. ¹⁰For they say, ‘His letters are weighty and strong, but his bodily presence is weak, and his speech contemptible.’ ¹¹Let such people understand that what we say by letter when absent, we will also do when present. ¹² We do not dare to classify or compare ourselves with some of those who commend themselves. But when they measure themselves by one another, and compare themselves with one another, they do not show good sense. ¹³We, however, will

not boast beyond limits, but will keep within the field that God has assigned to us, to reach out even as far as you. ¹⁴For we were not overstepping our limits when we reached you; we were the first to come all the way to you with the good news of Christ. ¹⁵We do not boast beyond limits, that is, in the labours of others; but our hope is that, as your faith increases, our sphere of action among you may be greatly enlarged, ¹⁶so that we may proclaim the good news in lands beyond you, without boasting of work already done in someone else's sphere of action. ¹⁷'Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.' ¹⁸For it is not those who commend themselves that are approved, but those whom the Lord commends.

2 Corinthians 10

The Nunc Dimittis

Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (1526-1594)

The Collect of the Day

Lord of all power and might, who art the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of thy name, increase in us true religion, nourish us with all goodness, and of thy great mercy keep us in the same; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Anthem

Laudibus in sanctis Dominum celebrate supremum: firmamenta sonent inclyta facta Dei; inclyta facta Dei cantate sacraque potentis voca potestatem saepe sonate manus. Magnificum Domini cantet tuba martia nomen: pieria Domino concelebrate lyra. Laude Dei resonent resonentia tympana summi: alta sacri resonent organa laude Dei. Hunc arguta canant tenui psalteria corda, hunc agili laudet laeta chorea pede. Concava divinas effundant cymbala laudes, cymbala dulcesona laude repleta Dei. Omne quod aethereis in mundo vescitur auris, Halleluia canat, tempus in omne Deo.

Praise ye the Lord. Praise God in his sanctuary: praise him in the firmament of his power. Praise him for his mighty acts: praise him according to his excellent greatness. Praise him with the sound of the trumpet: praise him with the psaltery and harp. Praise him with the timbrel and dance: praise him with stringed instruments and organs. Praise him upon the loud cymbals: praise him

upon the high sounding cymbals. Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord. Praise ye the Lord.

cf. Psalm 150
Music by William Byrd (1543-1623)

The Hymn

**God, that madest earth and heaven,
darkness and light;
who the day for toil hast given,
for rest the night;
may thine angel-guards defend us,
slumber sweet thy mercy send us,
holy dreams and hopes attend us,
this livelong night.**

**Guard us waking, guard us sleeping,
and, when we die,
may we in thy mighty keeping
all peaceful lie:
when the last dread call shall wake us,
do not thou our God forsake us,
but to reign in glory take us
with thee on high.**

Words by Reginald Heber (1783-1826) and Richard Whately (1787-1863)

Tune CP 15 Ar Hyd Y Nos Welsh traditional melody

Voluntary

Piece d'Orgue by Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

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Monday - Friday

8:30 – 9:00am: *Morning Prayer & Holy Communion*

12 – 12:10pm: *The Litany of Reconciliation*

(followed on Thursdays by BCP Holy Communion)

4 – 4:30pm: *Evening Prayer*

(or Wednesday and Thursday during school terms: Choral Evensong, 5:15 - 6pm)

Saturday

12 – 12:10pm: *The Litany of Reconciliation*

Sunday

10:30 – 11:45am: *The Cathedral Eucharist*

4 – 5pm: *Choral Evensong*