

CHICHESTER
CATHEDRAL



CHORAL EVENSONG

IN CELEBRATION OF AMERICAN THANKSGIVING

THURSDAY 27TH NOVEMBER 2025
5.30PM

WELCOME

This booklet contains all you will need to follow the service. Please ask a Steward if you would like a large-print copy.

This service will be live-streamed and broadcast online via the Cathedral's website, YouTube channel and Facebook pages. Typically, services are made available for up to 48 hours, however this period may be longer for special recordings. For further information, please contact:

info@chichestercathedral.org.uk

Photography, filming and audio recordings are not permitted during this service. Please ensure that mobile telephones are switched off or silenced.

An induction loop is provided for the benefit of hearing aid users. To use this, please switch your hearing aid to 'T'.

Parents and caregivers are reminded that children remain in their care throughout this service and must not be left unattended or to wander around the Cathedral by themselves.

Toilets and baby-changing facilities can be accessed from the North Transept of the Cathedral. Children using these facilities must be accompanied by a parent or caregiver.

In the event of an emergency please follow the direction of the Vergers and Stewards.

www.chichestercathedral.org.uk

ORDER OF SERVICE

Please stand as the procession enters.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN



Come, ye thankful people, come,
raise the song of harvest-home!
All be safely gathered in,
ere the winter storms begin;
God, our Maker, doth provide
for our wants to be supplied;
come to God's own temple, come;
raise the song of harvest-home!

All the world is God's own field,
fruit unto his praise to yield;
wheat and tares together sown,
unto joy or sorrow grown;
first the blade and then the ear,
then the full corn shall appear:
grant, O harvest Lord, that we
wholesome grain and pure may be.

For the Lord our God shall come,
and shall take his harvest home;
from his field shall purge away
all that doth offend, that day;
give his angels charge at last
in the fire the tares to cast,
but the fruitful ears to store
in his garner evermore.

Then, thou Church triumphant, come,
raise the song of harvest-home;
all be safely gathered in,
free from sorrow, free from sin,
there for ever purified
in God's garner to abide;
come, ten thousand angels, come,
raise the glorious harvest-home!

NEH 259
Henry Alford (1810-1871)

St George's Windsor
George Elvey (1816-1893)

WELCOME

The Dean
The Very Reverend Dr Edward Dowler

The cantor and choir sing

THE PRECES AND RESPONSES

○ Lord, open thou our lips.
And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

○ God, make speed to save us.
○ 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.

The Book of Common Prayer

John Reading (c. 1645-1692)

Please sit.

The choir sings

PSALM 116

I am well pleased: that the Lord hath heard the voice of my prayer;
That he hath inclined his ear unto me: therefore will I call upon him
as long as I live.

The snares of death compassed me round about: and the pains of
hell gat hold upon me.

I shall find trouble and heaviness, and I will call upon the Name of
the Lord: O Lord, I beseech thee, deliver my soul.

Gracious is the Lord, and righteous: yea, our God is merciful.

The Lord preserveth the simple: I was in misery, and he helped me.

Turn again then unto thy rest, O my soul: for the Lord hath rewarded
thee.

And why? thou hast delivered my soul from death: mine eyes from
tears, and my feet from falling.

I will walk before the Lord: in the land of the living.

I believed, and therefore will I speak; but I was sore troubled: I said
in my haste, All men are liars.

What reward shall I give unto the Lord: for all the benefits that he
hath done unto me?

I will receive the cup of salvation: and call upon the Name of the Lord.

I will pay my vows now in the presence of all his people: right dear in
the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints.

Behold, O Lord, how that I am thy servant: I am thy servant, and the
son of thine handmaid; thou hast broken my bonds in sunder.

I will offer to thee the sacrifice of thanksgiving: and will call upon the
Name of the Lord.

I will pay my vows unto the Lord, in the sight of all his people: in the
courts of the Lord's house, even in the midst of thee, O Jerusalem.
Praise the Lord.

Please stand as the choir sings the Gloria:

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.

Please sit.

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Read by Julian Tregoning, Emeritus Trustee

The Lord summoned Moses and spoke to him from the tent of meeting, saying: Speak to the people of Israel and say to them: When any of you bring an offering of livestock to the Lord, you shall bring your offering from the herd or from the flock. If the offering is a burnt-offering from the herd, you shall offer a male without blemish; you shall bring it to the entrance of the tent of meeting, for acceptance in your behalf before the Lord. You shall lay your hand on the head of the burnt-offering, and it shall be acceptable in your behalf as atonement for you.

Leviticus 1: 1-4

Please stand. The choir sings the canticle

MAGNIFICAT

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.

Luke 1: 46-55

*T. Tertius Noble (1867-1953) in B minor
Organist of St Thomas, Fifth Avenue, New York City 1913–1943*

Please sit.

THE NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

*Read by Jeannie Whitman Esdaile,
Trustee and Chairman of the American Patrons' Committee*

Jesus said, 'There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, "Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me." So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and travelled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, "How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.'" So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son." But the father said to his slaves, "Quickly, bring out a robe – the best one – and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!" And they began to celebrate. 'Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, "Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound." Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, "Listen! For all these years I have been working

like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!" Then the father said to him, "Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.""

Luke 15: 11-32

Please stand. The choir sings the canticle

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.

Luke 2: 29-32

*Amy Beach (1867-1944)
leading American composer and pianist*

Remain standing to say together

THE APOSTLES' CREED

All **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 cantor and choir sing

THE PRECES AND RESPONSES

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

THE COLLECTS

Almighty and gracious Father,
we give thee thanks for the fruits of the earth in their season
and for the labours of those who harvest them.
Make us, we beseech thee, faithful stewards of thy great bounty,
for the provision of our necessities
and the relief of all who are in need,
to the glory of thy Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Choir: Amen.

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.
Choir: Amen.

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.
Choir: Amen.

Please sit. The choir sings

THE ANTHEM

Ego sum panis vivus.

Patres vestri manducaverunt manna in deserto, et mortui sunt.

Hic est panis de caelo descendens.

Si quis ex ipso manducaverit non morietur.

I am the bread of life.

Your forefathers ate manna in the desert, and died.

This is the bread which comes down from heaven.

Whoever eats of this bread shall not die.

John 6: 48-50

Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (c. 1525-1594)

HOMILY

"Drawing Near and Giving Thanks"

The Reverend Dr Mark Scarlata

Tutor and Senior Lecturer, St Mellitus College

THE PRAYERS

Please sit or kneel. The Prayers conclude with the Grace:

All **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.

HYMN

The American Patrons are proudly collecting donations for the Chichester Cathedral Platinum Endowment Fund for Music. Please consider contributing to this important cause, either with cash or by scanning this QR code. Your support will help secure the future of Chichester's rich musical heritage, preserving the Cathedral's choral tradition for generations to come.



If you would like to discuss your gift for music, please contact Alison George 01243 812480 or alison.george@chichestercathedral.org.uk

Chichester Cathedral Restoration & Development Trust CIO (Charity No. 1156729) is the corporate trustee for Chichester Cathedral Platinum Endowment Trust for Music (CCPETM)



**In Christ there is no east or west,
in him no south or north,
but one great fellowship of love
throughout the whole wide earth.**

**In him shall true hearts everywhere
their high communion find;
his service is the golden cord,
close binding humankind.**

**Join hands, then, children of the faith,
whate'er your race may be;
who serves my Father as his child
is surely kin to me.**

**In Christ now meet both east and west,
in him meet south and north;
all Christlike souls are one in him,
throughout the whole wide earth.**

*Common Praise 477
John Oxenham (1852-1941)*

*McKee
African-American,
adapted by Harry T. Burleigh (1866-1949)*

THE BLESSING

May God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who is the source of goodness and growth,
pour his blessing upon all things created,
and upon you his children,
that you may use his gifts to his glory
and the welfare of all peoples;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

CLOSING MUSIC

FOUNDATION

from SEVEN SETTINGS OF AMERICAN FOLK HYMNS

Wilbur Held (1914-2015)

Please remain standing as the procession departs.

All are welcome to join us for refreshments after the service, which will be served in the South Transept.

CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL

AMERICAN PATRONS

Thank you for joining us for today's American Thanksgiving service.

Please complete the following to hear about our American Patrons initiative, including celebrations to mark the 250th Anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence in 2026.

My Details

Title	First Name	Surname
Postal Address (Including Postcode)		
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Receive updates & communication

☐	By ticking this box, I consent to the entities of Chichester Cathedral (comprising the Chapter of Chichester Cathedral, the Chichester Cathedral Restoration & Development Trust, the Chichester Cathedral Friends and Chichester Cathedral Enterprises Limited) communicating with me (as specified below). <i>Please note, if you already receive information from us, we will use this form to update the record we have on file.</i>
☐	Please tick this box if you consent to receiving information about our fundraising, including invitations to special events organised by Chichester Cathedral Trust (inc. American Patrons) <i>Please note, this can only be ticked if you consent to receive information from the entities of Chichester Cathedral – see above.</i>

I would like to hear from Chichester Cathedral in the following way:

☐	Email	☐	SMS/ Phone	☐	Post
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Please complete and return this form to:

Chichester Cathedral Trust, The Royal Chantry, Cathedral Cloisters, Chichester, West Sussex, PO19 1PX
E: trustsvp@chichestercathedral.org.uk T: 01243 812991