



CHICHESTER  
CATHEDRAL

CHORAL EVENSONG  
THANKYOU950

SUNDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2026  
3.00PM



For over 950 years, Chichester Cathedral has been  
a place of worship, welcome and community.  
Now, in 2025, it costs us approximately £7,000 a day  
to maintain the Cathedral.

Chichester Cathedral does not receive any regular funding  
from government or from central church sources,  
and relies heavily on generous donations.

We kindly ask you to make a cash donation  
to the collection taken during this service.  
Whatever you give, whether large or small,  
will help to secure the future of this Cathedral.

If you do not have any cash, please scan the QR code  
below to donate online or tap to donate as you exit the  
Cathedral – our Stewards will be available to assist you.



Charity Name: Chichester Cathedral  
Charity Number: 1205740

# 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](mailto: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](http://www.chichestercathedral.org.uk)**

# ORDER OF SERVICE

*Please stand as the procession enters.*

## PROCESSIONAL HYMN



A - men.

Christ is made the sure foundation,  
and the precious corner-stone,  
who, the two walls underlying,  
bound in each, binds both in one,  
holy Sion's help for ever,  
and her confidence alone.

All that dedicated city,  
dearly loved by God on high,  
in exultant jubilation  
pours perpetual melody,  
God the One, in Threefold glory,  
singing everlastingly.

To this temple, where we call thee,  
come, O Lord of hosts, today;  
with thy wonted loving-kindness,  
hear thy people as they pray;  
and thy fullest benediction  
shed within its walls for ay.

Here vouchsafe to all thy servants  
gifts of grace by prayer to gain;  
here to have and hold for ever,  
those good things their prayers obtain,  
and hereafter, in thy glory,  
with thy blessed ones to reign.

Laud and honour to the Father,  
laud and honour to the Son,  
laud and honour to the Spirit,  
ever Three, and ever One,  
consubstantial, co-eternal,  
while unending ages run. Amen.

*NEH 205*  
*c. 7<sup>th</sup>-century Latin*  
*tr. J. M. Neale (1818-1866)*

*Westminster Abbey*  
*Adapted from the Alleluias*  
*in O God, thou art my God*  
*Henry Purcell (1659-1695)*

WELCOME

*The Dean*  
*The Very Reverend Dr Edward Dowler*

*Remain standing as 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 Book of Common Prayer*

*Thomas Morley (1557-1602)*

*Please sit. The choir sings*

## PSALM 148

○ praise the Lord of heaven: praise him in the height.  
Praise him, all ye angels of his: praise him, all his host.  
Praise him, sun and moon: praise him, all ye stars and light.  
Praise him, all ye heavens: and ye waters that are above the heavens.  
Let them praise the Name of the Lord: for he spake the word, and  
they were made; he commanded, and they were created.  
He hath made them fast for ever and ever: he hath given them a law  
which shall not be broken.  
Praise the Lord upon earth: ye dragons, and all deeps;  
Fire and hail, snow and vapours: wind and storm, fulfilling his word;  
Mountains and all hills: fruitful trees and all cedars;  
Beasts and all cattle: worms and feathered fowls;  
Kings of the earth and all people: princes and all judges of the world;

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.

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.

*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

Does not wisdom call, and does not understanding raise her voice? The Lord created me at the beginning of his work, the first of his acts of long ago. Ages ago I was set up, at the first, before the beginning of the earth. When there were no depths I was brought forth, when there were no springs abounding with water. Before the mountains had been shaped, before the hills, I was brought forth – when he had not yet made earth and fields, or the world's first bits of soil. When he established the heavens, I was there, when he drew a circle on the face of the deep, when he made firm the skies above, when he established the fountains of the deep, when he assigned to the sea its limit, so that the waters might not transgress his command, when he marked out the foundations of the earth, then I was beside him, like a master worker; and I was daily his delight, rejoicing before him always, rejoicing in his inhabited world and delighting in the human race.

*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*

*Collegium Regale - Herbert Howells (1892-1983)*

*Please sit.*

## THE NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

After this I looked, and there in heaven a door stood open! And the first voice, which I had heard speaking to me like a trumpet, said, 'Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this.' At once I was in the spirit, and there in heaven stood a throne, with one seated on the throne! And the one seated there looks like jasper and cornelian, and around the throne is a rainbow that looks like an emerald. Around the throne are twenty-four thrones, and seated on the thrones are twenty-four elders, dressed in white robes, with golden crowns on their heads. Coming from the throne are flashes of lightning, and rumblings and peals of thunder, and in front of the throne burn seven flaming torches, which are the seven spirits of God; and in front of the throne there is something like a sea of glass, like crystal.

Around the throne, and on each side of the throne, are four living creatures, full of eyes in front and behind: the first living creature like a lion, the second living creature like an ox, the third living creature with a face like a human face, and the fourth living creature like a flying eagle. And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and inside. Day and night without ceasing they sing, 'Holy, holy, holy, the Lord God the Almighty, who was and is and is to come.' And whenever the living creatures give glory and honour and thanks to the one who is seated on the throne, who lives for ever and ever, the twenty-four elders fall before the one who is seated on the throne and worship the one who lives for ever and ever; they cast their crowns before the throne, singing, 'You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honour and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created.'

*Revelation 4*

*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*

*Collegium Regale - Herbert Howells (1892-1983)*

*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

O Lord God,  
who seest that we put not our trust in any thing that we do:  
mercifully grant that by thy power  
we may be defended against all adversity;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
*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.*

*The Book of Common Prayer*

*Thomas Morley (1557-1602)*

*Please sit. The choir sings*

## THE ANTHEM

Everyone who serves the Lord,  
all the servants of the Lord,  
come and offer praises.  
Everyone who serves the Lord,  
all ye servants in the halls of the house of God,  
bless ye the Lord.  
Raise your hands into holy things, lift your hands in prayer.  
Raise up your hands in the holy place, bless the Lord!  
Lift your hands in prayer, and praise ye the Lord!  
The Lord is the Creator of Heaven and Earth,  
and I pray that the Lord will bless you.

*Psalm 134*  
*translated by John Wycliffe (c. 1328-1384)*  
*Revised Standard Version (1952)*  
*and Contemporary English version (1991)*

*Judith Bingham (b. 1952)*

## HOMILY

*The Dean*  
*The Very Reverend Dr Edward Dowler*

## 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

*during which a cash collection is taken*

*Chichester Cathedral relies heavily on your generous donations. Whatever you give, whether large or small, helps us to maintain this special place and everything we offer. Other ways to donate are detailed at the front of this booklet.*



**Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!  
early in the morning our song shall rise to thee;  
Holy, Holy, Holy! Merciful and mighty!  
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!**

Holy, Holy, Holy! all the saints adore thee,  
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;  
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,  
which wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, Holy, Holy! though the darkness hide thee,  
though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see,  
only thou art holy, there is none beside thee,  
perfect in power, in love, and purity.

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!  
all thy works shall praise thy name, in earth, and sky, and sea;  
Holy, Holy, Holy! Merciful and mighty!  
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

*NEH 146*  
*Reginald Heber (1783-1826)*

*Nicaea*  
*J. B. Dykes (1823-1876)*

## THE BLESSING

The peace of God,  
which passes all understanding,  
keep your hearts and minds  
in the knowledge and love of God,  
and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord;  
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

TOCCATA IN D

Timothy Ravalde (b. 1988)

*Please remain standing as the procession departs.*

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

We hope that you have enjoyed today's service.  
If you have not yet been able to make a donation, there  
will be an opportunity to donate either by cash or card  
as you leave (our Stewards will be available to assist you),  
or you can scan the QR code below to donate online.

