



CHORAL EVENSONG

WITH THE COMMISSIONING OF
**THE REVEREND DR
ANDREW MANSON-BRAILSFORD**

AS
**BISHOP'S LIAISON OFFICER
FOR THE LGBTQIA+ COMMUNITY**

**TENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY
SUNDAY 9TH AUGUST 2026
3.00PM**

WELCOME

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

We are delighted to welcome the choir of St George's Church, Beckenham as our visiting choir for this service.

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'.

At Chichester Cathedral, we want everyone to feel safe and cared for. If you have any concerns about safety or wellbeing, never leave with a worry. A member of the clergy, staff, or our Safeguarding Team will be happy to listen. You can contact our Safeguarding Officer on **07827 275670** or by emailing **safeguarding@chichestercathedral.org.uk**

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

THE REVEREND DR ANDREW MANSON-BRAILSFORD

Fr Andrew was born in Chesterfield, in Derbyshire.

Reading English language and literature at Ulster, he went on to study for a master's degree looking at Evelyn Waugh, and a doctorate looking at the religious beliefs of Christopher Marlowe. Fr Andrew attended Cuddesdon for his theological training.

He first took up a curacy in Warrington, Diocese of Chester and then went on to Morecambe, Diocese of Blackburn. Some thirty years ago he came to the Diocese of Chichester where he has been incumbent of St George's Church, Kemptown, Brighton. Many things have happened over the thirty years including the building of a community centre, and working on Diocesan committees including social responsibilities, and buildings. His greatest joy has been fostering relationships between local people and the church.

As he takes up his new role, he recently attended the Kemptown Community Pride event over Pride weekend – an attempt to bring the focus of Pride activities back to local people living, working and sharing together.



ORDER OF SERVICE

Please stand as the procession enters.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN



O thou who camest from above,
the pure celestial fire to impart,
kindle a flame of sacred love
on the mean altar of my heart.

There let it for thy glory burn
with inextinguishable blaze,
and trembling to its source return
in humble prayer, and fervent praise.

Jesus, confirm my heart's desire
to work, and speak, and think for thee;
still let me guard the holy fire,
and still stir up thy gift in me.

**Ready for all thy perfect will,
my acts of faith and love repeat,
till death thy endless mercies seal,
and make my sacrifice complete.**

NEH 431
Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Hereford
Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810-1876)

Please sit.

THE COMMISSIONING OF THE BISHOP'S LIAISON OFFICER FOR THE LGBTQIA+ COMMUNITY

The Bishop's Liaison Officer for the LGBTQIA+ Community designate stands before the Bishop. The Associate Archdeacon for Diversity & Inclusion presents the Liaison Officer designate to the Acting Bishop of Chichester:

Reverend Father in God, I present THE REVEREND DR ANDREW MANSON-BRAILSFORD to be commissioned as the Bishop's Liaison Officer for the LGBTQIA+ Community.

The Bishop thanks the Associate Archdeacon for their presentation and introduces the Commissioning, before addressing the Liaison Officer designate:

We are called to be the Body of Christ, the community of the Holy Spirit. The risen Lord Jesus pours out on his baptized people gifts and graces for the various tasks of the Church.

Dear Brother in Christ, you have been appointed as the Bishop's Liaison Officer for the LGBTQIA+ Community, to serve in this Diocese. I now ask you to answer before God and in the presence of this congregation:

Will you undertake your tasks wholeheartedly, faithfully, and alive to the joy that Christian service brings?

Liaison Officer designate:

I will, with God's help, and the prayerful support of others.

The Bishop then addresses the congregation, saying

You have heard our brother affirm his intention. Will you pray for him, support and encourage him, so that Christ's church in this diocese may be built up in love?

All **We will, with God's help.**

The Bishop addresses the Liaison Officer designate:

ANDREW, I commission you for the ministry to which you have been called, and assure you of my prayers and support.

The Liaison Officer receives their commissioning documents.

The Bishop then blesses the newly commissioned Bishop's Liaison Officer for the LGBTQIA+ Community:

The Lord bless you and keep you;
the Lord make his face to shine upon you,
and be gracious to you;
the Lord lift up his countenance upon you,
and give you peace.

All **Amen.**

The newly commissioned Liaison Officer is greeted with applause.

Please stand. *The cantor and choir sing*

THE PRECES AND RESPONSES

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.

The Book of Common Prayer

Humphrey Clucas (b. 1941)

Please sit. The choir sings

THE PSALM

Bow down thine ear, O Lord, and hear me: for I am poor, and in misery.

Preserve thou my soul, for I am holy: my God, save thy servant that putteth his trust in thee.

Be merciful unto me, O Lord: for I will call daily upon thee.

Comfort the soul of thy servant: for unto thee, O Lord, do I lift up my soul.

For thou, Lord, art good and gracious: and of great mercy unto all them that call upon thee.

Give ear, Lord, unto my prayer: and ponder the voice of my humble desires.

In the time of my trouble I will call upon thee: for thou hearest me.

Among the gods there is none like unto thee, O Lord: there is not one that can do as thou doest.
All nations whom thou hast made shall come and worship thee, O Lord: and shall glorify thy Name.
For thou art great, and doest wondrous things: thou art God alone.
Teach me thy way, O Lord, and I will walk in thy truth: O knit my heart unto thee, that I may fear thy Name.
I will thank thee, O Lord my God, with all my heart: and will praise thy Name for evermore.
For great is thy mercy toward me: and thou hast delivered my soul from the nethermost hell.
O God, the proud are risen against me: and the congregations of naughty men have sought after my soul, and have not set thee before their eyes.
But thou, O Lord God, art full of compassion and mercy: long-suffering, plenteous in goodness and truth.
O turn thee then unto me, and have mercy upon me: give thy strength unto thy servant, and help the son of thine handmaid.
Shew some token upon me for good, that they who hate me may see it and be ashamed: because thou, Lord, hast holpen me and comforted me.

Psalm 86

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

Now the rest of the acts of Solomon, all that he did as well as his wisdom, are they not written in the Book of the Acts of Solomon? The time that Solomon reigned in Jerusalem over all Israel was forty years. Solomon slept with his ancestors and was buried in the city of his father David; and his son Rehoboam succeeded him.

Rehoboam went to Shechem, for all Israel had come to Shechem to make him king. When Jeroboam son of Nebat heard of it (for he was still in Egypt, where he had fled from King Solomon), then Jeroboam returned from Egypt. And they sent and called him; and Jeroboam and all the assembly of Israel came and said to Rehoboam, 'Your father made our yoke heavy. Now therefore lighten the hard service of your father and his heavy yoke that he placed on us, and we will serve you.' He said to them, 'Go away for three days, then come again to me.' So the people went away.

Then King Rehoboam took counsel with the older men who had attended his father Solomon while he was still alive, saying, 'How do you advise me to answer this people?' They answered him, 'If you will be a servant to this people today and serve them, and speak good words to them when you answer them, then they will be your servants for ever.' But he disregarded the advice that the older men gave him, and consulted the young men who had grown up with him and now attended him. He said to them, 'What do you advise that we answer this people who have said to me, "Lighten the yoke that your father put on us"? The young men who had grown up with him said to him, 'Thus you should say to this people who spoke to you, "Your father made our yoke heavy, but you must lighten it for us"; thus you should say to them, "My little finger is thicker than my father's loins. Now, whereas my father laid on you a heavy yoke, I will add to your yoke. My father disciplined you with whips, but I will discipline you with scorpions.'"

So Jeroboam and all the people came to Rehoboam on the third day, as the king had said, 'Come to me again on the third day.' The king answered the people harshly. He disregarded the advice that the older men had given him and spoke to them according to the advice of the young men, 'My father made your yoke heavy, but I will add to your yoke; my father disciplined you with whips, but I will discipline you with scorpions.' So the king did not listen to the people, because it was a turn of affairs brought about by the Lord that he might fulfil his word, which the Lord had spoken by Ahijah the Shilonite to Jeroboam son of Nebat.

When all Israel saw that the king would not listen to them, the people answered the king, 'What share do we have in David? We have no inheritance in the son of Jesse. To your tents, O Israel! Look now to your own house, O David.' So Israel went away to their tents. But Rehoboam reigned over the Israelites who were living in the towns of Judah. When King Rehoboam sent Adoram, who was taskmaster over the forced labour, all Israel stoned him to death. King Rehoboam then hurriedly mounted his chariot to flee to Jerusalem. So Israel has been in rebellion against the house of David to this day.

When all Israel heard that Jeroboam had returned, they sent and called him to the assembly and made him king over all Israel. There was no one who followed the house of David, except the tribe of Judah alone.

1 Kings 11: 41–12: 20

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

Herbert Sumsion (1899-1995) in A

Please sit.

THE NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

In Lystra there was a man sitting who could not use his feet and had never walked, for he had been crippled from birth. He listened to Paul as he was speaking. And Paul, looking at him intently and seeing that he had faith to be healed, said in a loud voice, 'Stand upright on your feet.' And the man sprang up and began to walk. When the crowds saw what Paul had done, they shouted in the Lycaonian language, 'The gods have come down to us in human form!' Barnabas they called Zeus, and Paul they called Hermes, because he was the chief speaker. The priest of Zeus, whose temple was just outside the city, brought oxen and garlands to the gates; he and the crowds wanted to offer sacrifice. When the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard of it, they tore their clothes and rushed out into the crowd, shouting, 'Friends, why are you doing this? We are mortals just like you, and we bring you good news, that you should turn from these worthless things to the living God, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and all that is in them. In past generations he allowed all the nations to follow their own ways; yet he has not left himself without a witness in doing good – giving you rains from heaven and fruitful seasons, and filling you with food and your hearts with joy.' Even with these words, they scarcely restrained the crowds from offering sacrifice to them.

But Jews came there from Antioch and Iconium and won over the crowds. Then they stoned Paul and dragged him out of the city, supposing that he was dead. But when the disciples surrounded him, he got up and went into the city. The next day he went on with Barnabas to Derbe.

Acts 14: 8-20

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

Herbert Sumsion (1899-1995) in A

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

Let thy merciful ears, O Lord,
be open to the prayers of thy humble servants;
and that they may obtain their petitions
make them to ask such things as shall please thee;
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.

Please sit. The choir sings

THE ANTHEM

My soul, there is a country
far beyond the stars,
where stands a wingèd sentry
all skilful in the wars:

There, above noise and danger,
sweet Peace sits crown'd with smiles,
and One born in a manger
commands the beauteous files.

He is thy gracious Friend,
and—O my soul, awake!—
did in pure love descend
to die here for thy sake.

If thou canst get but thither,
there grows the flower of Peace,
the Rose that cannot wither,
thy fortress, and thy ease.

Leave then thy foolish ranges;
for none can thee secure
but One who never changes—
thy God, thy life, thy cure.

Henry Vaughan (1622-1695)

C. Hubert H. Parry (1848-1918)

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 to support the mission and ministry of
Chichester Cathedral.*

*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.*



**O praise ye the Lord!
 praise him in the height;
rejoice in his word,
 ye angels of light;
ye heavens adore him
 by whom ye were made,
and worship before him
 in brightness arrayed.**

O praise ye the Lord!
praise him upon earth,
in tuneful accord,
ye sons of new birth;
praise him who has brought you
his grace from above,
praise him who has taught you
to sing of his love.

O praise ye the Lord!
all things that give sound;
each jubilant chord,
re-echo around;
loud organs, his glory
forth tell in deep tone,
and sweet harp, the story
of what he has done.

O praise ye the Lord!
thanksgiving and song
to him be outpoured
all ages along:
for love in creation,
for heaven restored,
for grace of salvation,
O praise ye the Lord!



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

NU LA OSS TAKKE GUD

Egil Hovland (1924-2013)

Please remain standing as the procession departs.

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