

# Choral Evensong

## Christ the King

with

Lancashire Mayors in attendance,  
Chorister Promotions, Valedictions

and

Admission of  
Junior Choral Scholars

*Sunday, 26 November, 2023*

*4.00pm*

# Welcome to this afternoon's service

The Service is led by  
**The Very Reverend Peter Howell-Jones**  
*The Dean*

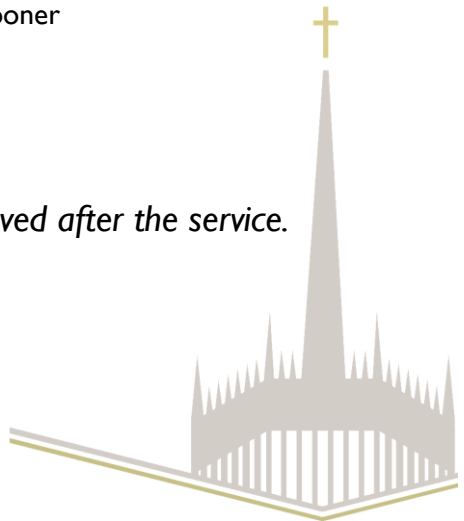
The responses are  
*Philip Radcliffe (1905-86)*

The canticles are  
*Herbert Sumsion (1899-1995)*

**The Cathedral Choir**  
is directed by  
**John Robinson**  
*Organist and Director of Music*

**Organ**  
Nigel Spooner

*Refreshments will be served after the service.*



# The Gathering

*Please stand as the choir and ministers enter.*

## Opening responses

*The cantor and choir sing the 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.*

## Welcome and Introduction

*The Dean, the Very Reverend Peter Howell-Jones, introduces the service.*

## Valediction

*The Director of Music brings the choristers to stand before the Dean, and says*

Mr Dean, I present to you

Darcy Tayler and Joseph Baron,

Past Head Choristers and Prefects of this Cathedral Choir.  
In answering the call to be a chorister, each has now completed  
their time in the Cathedral Choir.

*The Dean says*

Darcy and Joseph, in the name of God, and on behalf of the  
Chapter and Congregation of this Cathedral Church, I thank you  
for the service you have given to our worship as a member of  
the Cathedral Choir.

May God bless you and hold you in his keeping all your days.

*Darcy and Joseph will now be presented with a tie to mark their entry into Blackburn Cathedral Choir Association, and flowers for parents in thanks for all of their support.*

*The Director of Music says*

Darcy and Joseph, please take these flowers to your parents, in recognition of the support each family has given you, during your time here.

*The candidates take flowers to their parents, and sit down.*

## **Promotions to Chorister**

*The Director of Music brings the probationers to stand before the Dean, and says*

Mr. Dean, I here present to you

Albert Wilson

Alexander Backshall

Chizabam Ozurumba

Wilson Haddow

who by their progress, effort and good character have proved themselves worthy of being made full Choristers in the Cathedral Choir.

*The Dean says*

Albert, Alexander, Chizabam and Wilson,

I raise you to the status of Chorister in the Cathedral Choir.

May the Lord bless you, preserve you,

and increase your joy and devotion in singing God's praises.

*The Dean robes each new Choristers a surplice.*

*They return to their places.*

## Promotions to Prefect

*The Director of Music brings the choristers to stand before the Dean, and says*

Mr. Dean, I here present to you

Jacob Hayhurst  
Jasper Clarke  
Rose Goodbody

who by their service and loyalty have proved themselves worthy of being raised to the status of Prefect in the Cathedral Choir.

*The Dean says*

Jacob, Jasper and Rose,  
I invest you with the Cross and Cloak, signs of  
authority as a Prefect in the Choir of this Cathedral Church.  
May the Lord bless each of you and increase your joy and  
devotion in singing God's praises.

*The Prefects return to their places.*

## Promotion to Deputy Head Chorister

*The Director of Music brings the choristers to stand before the Dean, and says*

Mr Dean, I here present to you

Amy Partington  
Naomi Jones

who by their service and loyalty have proved themselves worthy of being raised to the status of Deputy Head Chorister in the Cathedral Choir.

*The Dean says*

Amy and Naomi,  
I raise you to the office and dignity of  
Deputy Head Chorister in our Cathedral Choir.

May the Lord bless you and increase their joy and devotion  
in singing God's praises.

*The Deputy Head Choristers return to their places.*

## **Promotion to Head Chorister**

*The Director of Music brings the chorister to stand before the Dean, and says*

Mr Dean, I here present to you

Giwan Feng

who by her service and loyalty  
has proved herself worthy of being raised  
to the status of Head Chorister in the Cathedral Choir.

*The Dean says*

Giwan,

I raise you to the office and dignity of Head Chorister  
in the Cathedral Choir.

May the Lord bless you and increase your joy and devotion  
in singing God's praises.

*The Head Chorister returns to her place.*

## **New Junior Choral Scholars**

*The Director of Music brings the Junior Choral Scholars to stand before the Dean, and says*

Mr. Dean, I present to you Darcy Tayler

*The Dean says*

Darcy, do you wish to become Junior Choral Scholars  
in the Cathedral Choir?

*They reply*

**I do.**

Will you be regular in attendance, careful in your work and  
reverent in this house of God?

*They reply*

***I will.***

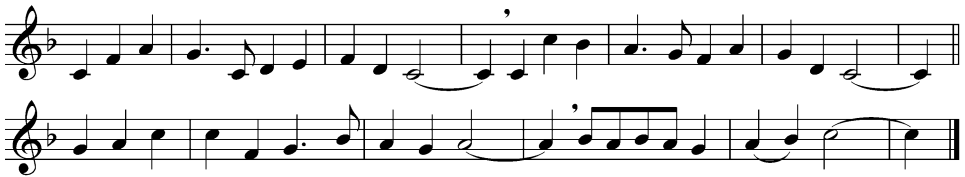
Darcy, I admit you as a Junior Choral Scholar  
in the Cathedral Choir

The Lord bless your going out and your  
coming in from this time forth for evermore.

*The Junior Choral Scholars return to their places.*

## Office Hymn

ENGELBERG 335



All praise to thee, for thou, O King divine,  
didst yield the glory that of right was thine,  
that in our darkened hearts thy grace might shine: Alleluia!

Thou cam'st to us in lowliness of thought;  
by thee the outcast and the poor were sought,  
and by thy death was God's salvation wrought: Alleluia!

Let this mind be in us which was in thee,  
who wast a servant that we might be free,  
humbling thyself to death on Calvary: Alleluia!

Wherefore, by God's eternal purpose, thou  
art high exalted o'er all creatures now,  
and given the name to which all knees shall bow: Alleluia!

Let every tongue confess with one accord  
in heaven and earth that Jesus Christ is Lord;  
and God the Father be by all adored: Alleluia!

*Francis Bland Tucker (1895-1984), based on Philippians 2:5-11*

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*Please sit down.*

## 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.

*Please sit down.*

## First Reading

*2 Samuel 23.1-7*

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 for the Magnificat which is sung by the choir.*

## **Magnificat**

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

For he hath regarded :  
the lowliness of his hand-maiden.

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.

*Please sit down.*

## **Second Reading**

*Matthew 28.16-20*

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 for the Nunc dimittis which is sung by the choir.*

## **Nunc dimittis**

Lord, now lettest 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.

*Please remain standing for the creed.*

## **The Apostles 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****

## **Responses**

*The cantor and choir sing*

*The Lord be with you.  
And with thy spirit.  
Let us pray.*

**Please kneel or sit down.**

*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.*

## **Collects**

*Eternal Father,  
whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven  
that he might rule over all things as Lord and King:  
keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit  
and in the bond of peace,  
and bring the whole created order to worship at his feet;  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. 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. 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.  
Amen.

*Please sit down.*

## **Anthem**

Hallelujah! For the Lord God omnipotent reigneth.  
The Kingdom of this world is become the kingdom of our Lord  
and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever;  
King of Kings and Lord of Lords. Hallelujah!

*from "Messiah" by Handel (1685-1759)*

## **Prayers**

*Ending with*

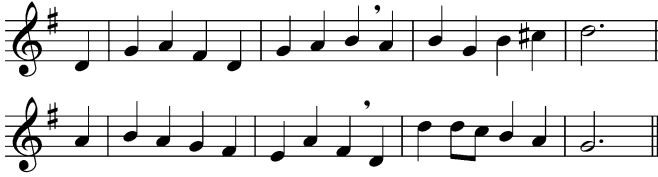
**The grace  
of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
and the love of God,  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,  
be with us all evermore.  
Amen.**

*2 Corinthians 13.14*

*Please stand to sing*

## Final Hymn

ST MAGNUS 134



The head that once was crowned with thorns  
is crowned with glory now:  
a royal diadem adorns  
the mighty victor's brow.

The highest place that heaven affords  
is his, is his by right,  
the King of kings, and Lord of lords,  
and heaven's eternal light;

The joy of all who dwell above,  
the joy of all below,  
to whom he manifests his love,  
and grants his name to know.

To them the cross, with all its shame,  
with all its grace, is given:  
their name an everlasting name,  
their joy the joy of heaven.

They suffer with their Lord below,  
they reign with him above;  
their profit and their joy to know  
the mystery of his love.

The cross he bore is life and health,  
though shame and death to him;  
his people's hope, his people's wealth,  
their everlasting theme.

*Thomas Kelly (1769-1854)*

# The Blessing

## The Organ Voluntary

Water Music Suite No. 2 in D Major,  
HWV 349 - II. Alla Hornpipe

*George Frideric Handel*  
(1685-1759)

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