



ELY CATHEDRAL

*Joyfully proclaiming the love of God in worship,
outreach, welcome and care*

Choral Evensong

Second Sunday before Advent

19 November 2023

4pm



We are delighted to welcome you to Ely Cathedral and to this service of Choral Evensong.

Today's service is livestreamed and can be viewed on the Cathedral YouTube page or via our website. If you would prefer to sit out of sight of the cameras, please ask a steward to direct you.



There is an Induction Loop in both the North and South Transepts, the Choir and the Presbytery, for those using a hearing aid, and large copies of the service sheet are available on request.



Photography or video recording are not permitted at this service. Please ensure your mobile phone is on silent mode throughout the service.



Service sheets can be downloaded onto your mobile device by scanning the QR code. Once downloaded, you can create a permanent link on your device enabling you to access service sheets each week and help us reduce our carbon footprint by printing fewer paper copies.

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When the bell rings, please stand

WELCOME

Precentor O Lord, open thou our lips.

Choir And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

Precentor O God, make speed to save us.

Choir 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.

Precentor Praise ye the Lord.

Choir The Lord's name be praised

Music: Bernard Rose 1916-1996

PSALM 97 *sung by the choir. Please sit*

- 1 The Lord is King, the earth may be glad thereof :
yea, the multitude of the isles may be glad thereof.
- 2 Clouds and darkness are round about him :
righteousness and judgement are the habitation of his seat.
- 3 There shall go a fire before him :
and burn up his enemies on every side.
- 4 His lightnings gave shine unto the world :
the earth saw it, and was afraid.
- 5 The hills melted like wax at the presence of the Lord :
at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth.
- 6 The heavens have declared his righteousness :
and all the people have seen his glory.
- 7 Confounded be all they that worship carved images,
and that delight in vain gods : worship him, all ye gods.
- 8 Sion heard of it, and rejoiced : and the daughters of Judah were
glad, because of thy judgements, O Lord.
- 9 For thou, Lord, art higher than all that are in the earth :
thou art exalted far above all gods.
- 10 O ye that love the Lord, see that ye hate the thing which is evil :
the Lord preserveth the souls of his saints;
he shall deliver them from the hand of the ungodly.
- 11 There is sprung up a light for the righteous :
and joyful gladness for such as are true-hearted.
- 12 Rejoice in the Lord, ye righteous :
and give thanks for a remembrance of his holiness.

Please stand for 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.

FIRST LESSON *Please sit*
Daniel 10.10-end

But then a hand touched me and roused me to my hands and knees. He said to me, 'Daniel, greatly beloved, pay attention to the words that I am going to speak to you. Stand on your feet, for I have now been sent to you.' So while he was speaking this word to me, I stood up trembling. He said to me, 'Do not fear, Daniel, for from the first day that you set your mind to gain understanding and to humble yourself before your God, your words have been heard, and I have come because of your words.'

But the prince of the kingdom of Persia opposed me for twenty-one days. So Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, and I left him there with the prince of the kingdom of Persia, and have come to help you understand what is to happen to your people at the end of days. For there is a further vision for those days.'

While he was speaking these words to me, I turned my face towards the ground and was speechless. Then one in human form touched my lips, and I opened my mouth to speak, and said to the one who stood before me, 'My lord, because of the vision such pains have come upon me that I retain no strength. How can my lord's servant talk with my lord? For I am shaking, no strength remains in me, and no breath is left in me.'

Again one in human form touched me and strengthened me. He said, 'Do not fear, greatly beloved, you are safe. Be strong and courageous!' When he spoke to me, I was strengthened and said, 'Let my lord speak, for you have strengthened me.' Then he said, 'Do you know why I have come to you? Now I must return to fight against the prince of Persia, and when I am through with him, the prince of Greece will come. But I am to tell you what is inscribed in the book of truth. There is no one with me who contends against these princes except Michael, your prince.'

Here endeth the Lesson.

OFFICE HYMN 202 *sung by the choir. Please stand*

O blest Creator of the light,
Who makest day with radiance bright,
And o'er the forming world didst call
The light from chaos first of all;

Whose wisdom joined in meet array
The morn and eve, and named them Day:
Night comes with all its darkling fears;
Regard thy people's prayers and tears:

Lest, sunk in sin and whelm'd with strife,
They lose the gift of endless life;
While, thinking but the thoughts of time,
They weave them chains of guilt and crime.

But grant them grace that they may strain
The heavenly gate and prize to gain:
Each harmful lure aside to cast,
And purge away each error past.

O Father, that we ask be done,
Through Jesus Christ, thine only Son,
Who with the Spirit and with thee
Doth live and reign eternally. Amen.

Words: Latin, 8th century or earlier Tr Percy Dearmer 1867-1936
Music: Lucis Creator Mode viii

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 showed 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.

Words: Luke 1.46-55
Music: *Service in A Flat* Sarah MacDonald b.1968

SECOND LESSON *Please sit* Revelation 1.4-18

John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

Look! He is coming with the clouds;
every eye will see him,
even those who pierced him;
and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.
So it is to be. Amen.

‘I am the Alpha and the Omega,’ says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

I, John, your brother who share with you in Jesus the persecution and the kingdom and the patient endurance, was on the island called Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. I was in the spirit on the Lord’s day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet saying, ‘Write in a book what you see and send it to the seven churches, to Ephesus, to Smyrna, to Pergamum, to Thyatira, to Sardis, to Philadelphia, and to Laodicea.’

Then I turned to see whose voice it was that spoke to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands, and in the midst of the lampstands I saw one like the Son of Man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash across his chest. His head and his hair were white as white wool, white as snow; his eyes were like a flame of fire, his feet were like burnished bronze, refined as in a furnace, and his voice was like the sound of many waters. In his right hand he held seven stars, and from his mouth came a sharp, two-edged sword, and his face was like the sun shining with full force.

When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he placed his right hand on me, saying, ‘Do not be afraid; I am the first and the last, and the living one. I was dead, and see, I am alive for ever and ever; and I have the keys of Death and of Hades.

Here endeth the Lesson.

NUNC DIMITTIS *Please stand*

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.

Words: Luke 2:29-32
Music: *Service in A Flat* Sarah MacDonald b.1968

APOSTLES' CREED *Please remain standing and turn to face east*

Precentor I believe in God:
**All 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 choir sings the Lesser Litany and Responses

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

Please sit

Choir Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

The choir sings the Lord's Prayer

Precentor O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.
Choir And grant us thy salvation.

Precentor O Lord, save the King.
Choir And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Precentor Endue thy Ministers with righteousness.
Choir And make thy chosen people joyful.

Precentor O Lord, save thy people.
Choir And bless thine inheritance.

Precentor Give peace in our time, O Lord.
Choir Because there is none other that fighteth for us,
but only thou, O God.

Precentor O God, make clean our hearts within us.
Choir And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

Precentor O God, whose blessed Son was manifested that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life: grant us, we beseech thee, that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves, even as he is pure, that when he shall appear again with power and great glory we may be made like unto him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where with thee, O Father, and thee, O Holy Spirit, he liveth and reigneth, 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.

Music: Bernard Rose 1916-1996

ANTHEM *Please sit*

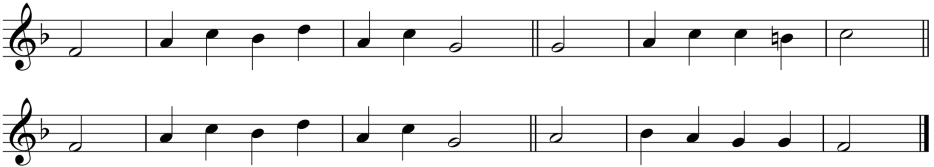
Vast Ocean of light, whose rays surround
The Universe, Who know'st nor ebb nor shore,
Who lend'st the Sun his sparkling drop, to store
With overflowing beams Heav'n, air, ground,
Whose depths, beneath the centre, none can sound,
Whose heights above heav'n and thoughts so lofty soar.
Whose breadth no feet, no lines, no chains, no eyes survey,
Whose length no thoughts can reach, no worlds can bound.
What cloud can mask Thy face? Where can Thy ray
Find an eclipse? What night can hide eternal Day?

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The prayers end with The Grace

**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.**

HYMN *please stand*



Pray that Jerusalem may have
Peace and felicity:
Let them that love thee and thy peace
Have still prosperity.

Therefore I wish that peace may still
Within thy walls remain,
And ever may thy palaces
Prosperity retain.

Now, for my friends' and brethren's sake,
Peace be in thee, I'll say;
And for the house of God our Lord
I'll seek thy good alway.

Words: Scottish Psalter 1650
Music: York NEH 441 Melody from the *Scottish Psalter* 1615
as harmonised by John Milton the elder in Ravenscroft's *Psalmes* 1621

BLESSING

ORGAN Sacred and Hallowed Fire - Cecilia McDowall b.1951

NOTICES

Please send notice requests to notices@elycathedral.org by 9.00am on the Tuesday before the Sunday you wish them to appear.

Men's Breakfast

The next men's breakfast will be held at The Lighthouse Fellowship on Saturday 2 December at 08.45 for 09.00 until 10.00. Members of the congregation and friends are warmly invited. The cost will be £7.50 pp. For more information please contact John Buttifant (01353 654195 or buttifant222@btinternet.com) or John Marshall (01353 664927 or jan-drmarshall68@yahoo.co.uk).

News from The Friends: We will be hosting a special Christmas Wreath Demonstration on Tuesday 28 November, 10.30am in the Lady Chapel. This is a unique opportunity and the morning will be led by Freda Orgee and Sue Fuller from Ely Cathedral Flower Guild. Tickets £8 Friends/£10 Guests include coffee and cake and are available from sue.hunting@elycathedral.org. All very welcome!

Christmas with Henry VIII

25 November 2023, 11.00am - Entry included with Cathedral pass or ticket

Join Henry VIII and his court to find out how Christmas was celebrated in Tudor times. Create some Tudor Christmas treats and decorations to take home. Suitable for all ages.

A Christmas Carol

Friday 8 & Saturday 9 December, 7.30pm

Chapterhouse Theatre Company is proud to bring you A Christmas Carol, Charles Dickens' timeless tale of hope and redemption. With dazzling musical sequences and authentic period costuming, this production promises to be the perfect accompaniment to the festive season. Join family and friends at the most magical time of the year and be swept back in time nearly two centuries to the world of Scrooge's London. Tickets available from the Cathedral Box Office.



Please consider making a donation to the Cathedral.

All gifts of whatever size are warmly welcomed and equally valued. If you regularly attend the Cathedral, please join the Parish Giving Scheme to contribute regularly to its mission and ministry. Visitors are invited to make a donation by cash or card at the South Door, or online at <https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/4773/> or by scanning the QR code to the left.

Community Christmas Carols

9 December 2023, 2.00 pm

Come and sing along to your favourite Christmas carols with Littleport Brass Band, with Christmas music, readings and prayers.

The Community Choir sing again!

Come and sing in the festive season. No previous singing experience necessary but enthusiasm and a smile is required. Rehearsals in the Song School, directed by Glen Dempsey, 12.45pm to 1.30pm on Thursdays 23 and 30 November and 7 December. Singing at Community Christmas Carols with the Littleport Brass Band on Saturday 9 December at 2.00pm and 'Simply Singing Carols' on the East Lawn on Sunday 17 December at 5.15pm.

For enquiries email: communitychoir@elycathedral.org.

Christmas by Candlelight

15 December 7.30pm

The Piccadilly Sinfonietta present a programme of Baroque music including excerpts from Handel's Messiah, as well as two of Bach's violin Concertos and the Air on the G string. Details and tickets available from the Cathedral Box Office

Advent & Christmas Services

Sunday 3 December, 6pm

Advent Procession

This service helps us prepare our hearts and minds for the season of Advent, a time of patient waiting and joyful expectation.

Tuesdays 5, 12 & 19 December, 8pm

Advent Compline

A beautiful candlelit service in the Lady Chapel to help wind down at the end of the day. Sung by the Compline Choir.

Saturday 9 December, 5.30pm

Evensong featuring Britten's Ceremony of Carols, accompanied by Anne Denholm, Official Harpist to the Prince of Wales 2015-19

Sunday 10 December, 5.15pm

The Big Christmas Tree Lights Switch-on Service

This popular family event celebrates the festive season in song and prayer, concluding with the blessing of the magnificent tree!

Sunday 10 December, 6.30pm

Advent Taizé Service

Contemplative worship in the Taizé tradition.

Saturday 16 December, 3pm

Christingle Service in aid of the Children's Society

A family celebratory and community event. Sung by the Ely Imps.

Saturday 23 & Sunday 24 December, 3pm

Crib Services

The children of the Cathedral retell the story of Christmas in this wonderful tableau of shepherds, angels and wise men.

Saturday 23* & Sunday 24 December, 6pm

Carol Services

*British Sign Language interpreted

Sunday 24 December, 11pm

Midnight Mass

British Sign Language interpreted

Monday 25 December

10.30am Christmas Day Orchestral Eucharist

4pm Christmas Day Festal Evensong