



Where all find a welcome and are nurtured in their journey with Christ.

# Choral Evensong

The Choir of St Mary's Church, Whitkirk  
Sunday 4 December 2022, 6.00 pm



# Welcome to St Mary's



## **Please sanitise your hands**

Please clean your hands using the provided hand sanitiser when entering and leaving the building.



## **Masks welcome**

If you feel more comfortable wearing a face covering, please do so. If you've forgotten a face covering and would like one, please speak to a member of our team.



## **Keeping your distance**

If you want to keep some extra space between yourself and others, we recommend sitting in our physically distanced pews at the north side of the building.



## **Follow the instructions of our stewards**

Please follow all instructions from our stewards.



## **Hearing loop available**

Our building is fitted with an inductive loop system which can be picked up by setting hearing aids to the "T" position.



## Support our work

St Mary's is a charity which receives no funding from the government and is entirely dependent on donations and fees to keep operating.

If you would like to donate to support our work you can give during the service as giving plates are passed. Alternatively, you can place your offering in the plate by the door as you leave, or tap your contactless card or device.

You can also donate online by card or directly from your bank account by scanning this QR Code with your camera or by visiting [wkrk.uk/donate](https://wkrk.uk/donate).



If you'd like to give in some other way, find out more about planned giving, or learn how we use donations then please ask a member of our team.

# What is Evensong?

Evensong is a combination of two of the seven offices (services) that made up the daily round of monastic prayer. These were the evening offices of Vespers and Compline which consisted of responses, psalms, canticles, readings and prayers. The liturgy of Evensong was first written down in 1549 in Archbishop Thomas Cranmer's *Book of Common Prayer*. Several revisions to the book were made over subsequent years with the definitive version published in 1662. Widely known for the beauty and richness of its language, including Myles Coverdale's translation of the psalms, the 1662 edition of the *Book of Common Prayer* remains the official prayer book of the Church of England.

The service of Evensong is renowned for its choral music. Several sections of the liturgy are sung by the choir though there are various ways in which everyone can participate. For example, it is an ancient custom in the *Magnificat* and the *Nunc Dimittis* as the choir sings the first two lines of the *Gloria* ('Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost') to make the sign of the cross and to bow one's head in honour of God the Holy Trinity.

Ever since its foundation this church has been a house of prayer. The first recorded priest of St Mary's Whitkirk was Paulinus who was the priest here in 1185 AD. The worship we share today gives a powerful sense of connecting the present with the past and of being part of a great, and continuing, tradition. Thank you for being part of this act of worship as we join our prayers and praises with those that have been offered here at St Mary's for over eight hundred years.

# The Service of Choral Evensong

*Our worship begins at the sound of the bell, please stand as the sacred ministers enter, during which the introit hymn is sung.*

## Hymn

**Ye servants of the Lord,  
Each for his coming wait,  
Observant of his heav'nly word,  
And watchful at his gate.**

**Let all your lamps be bright,  
And trim the golden flame;  
Gird up your loins as in his sight,  
For awesome is his name.**

**Watch! 'tis your Lord's command,  
And while we speak, he's near;  
Mark the first signal of his hand,  
And ready all appear.**

**O happy servants they,  
In such a posture found,  
Who share their Saviour's triumph day,  
With joy and honour crowned.**

**Christ shall the banquet spread  
With his own royal hand,  
And raise reach faithful servant's head  
Amid th'angelic band.**

*Words: P. Doddridge (1702-1751) alt.*

*Music: melody from J. Leisentritt's*

*'Catholicum Hymnologium Germanicum' (1584)*

*adapted by W. H. Havergal (1793-1870)*

*Hymn Tune: NARENZA*

## **Sentences of the Scriptures**

*Please remain standing.*

Dearly beloved brethren,  
the scripture moveth us in sundry places  
to acknowledge and confess  
our manifold sins and wickedness;  
and that we should not dissemble nor cloke them  
before the face of Almighty God our heavenly Father;  
but confess them with an humble,  
lowly, penitent, and obedient heart;  
to the end that we may obtain forgiveness of the same,  
by his infinite goodness and mercy.  
And although we ought at all times  
humbly to acknowledge our sins before God;  
yet ought we most chiefly so to do,  
when we assemble and meet together  
to render thanks for the great benefits  
that we have received at his hands,

to set forth his most worthy praise,  
to hear his most holy Word,  
and to ask those things  
which are requisite and necessary,  
as well for the body as the soul.  
Wherefore I pray and beseech you,  
as many as are here present,  
to accompany me with a pure heart and humble voice  
unto the throne of the heavenly grace, saying after me:

## **General Confession**

*Please kneel or sit.*

**Almighty and most merciful Father,  
We have erred and strayed  
from thy ways like lost sheep,  
We have followed too much  
the devices and desires of our own hearts,  
We have offended against thy holy laws,  
We have left undone those things  
which we ought to have done,  
And we have done those things  
which we ought not to have done,  
And there is no health in us:  
But thou, O Lord,  
have mercy upon us miserable offenders;  
Spare thou them, O God,  
which confess their faults.  
Restore thou them that are penitent,  
According to thy promises**

**declared unto mankind  
in Christ Jesu our Lord:  
And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake;  
That we may hereafter  
live a godly, righteous, and sober life,  
To the glory of thy holy Name.  
Amen.**

## **The Absolution**

*Said by the Priest.*

Almighty God,  
the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who desireth not the death of a sinner,  
but rather that he may turn  
from his wickedness and live;  
and hath given power  
and commandment to his Ministers,  
to declare and pronounce  
to his people, being penitent,  
the Absolution and Remission of their sins:  
He pardoneth and absolveth all them that truly repent  
and unfeignedly believe his holy Gospel.  
Wherefore let us beseech him to grant us  
true repentance and his Holy Spirit,  
that those things may please him  
which we do at this present,  
and that the rest of our life hereafter  
may be pure and holy;



so that at the last we may come to his eternal joy;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

*If no priest be present the following prayer is said.*

*Grant, we beseech thee, merciful Lord,  
to thy faithful people pardon and peace,  
that they may be cleansed from all their sins,  
and serve thee with a quiet mind;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

**Amen.**

## **Preces**

*The Preces (short petitions) are sung alternately by the cantor and the choir.*

○ 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.**

*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.**

Praise ye the Lord.

**The Lord's Name be praised.**

## **Psalmody**

*Please remain standing.*

*The psalms are sacred poems from the Old Testament dating back over three thousand years. The music for the psalm is known as Anglican chant, a short repeating tune.*

### **Psalm 11**

In the Lord put I my trust:  
How say ye then to my soul  
that she should flee as a bird unto the hill?

For lo the ungodly bend their bow  
and make ready their arrows within the quiver:  
That they may privily shoot at them which are true of heart.

For the foundations will be cast down:  
And what hath the righteous done?

The Lord is in his holy temple:  
The Lord's seat is in heaven.

His eyes consider the poor:  
And his eyelids try the children of men.

The Lord alloweth the righteous:  
But the ungodly and him that delighteth in wickedness  
doth his soul abhor.

Upon the ungodly he shall rain snares  
fire and brimstone storm and tempest:  
This shall be their portion to drink.

For the righteous Lord loveth righteousness:  
His countenance will behold the thing that is just.

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.

*Music: G. C. Martin (1844-1916)*

## **Old Testament Lesson**

### **I Kings 18.17-39**

*Please sit.*

*At the end the reader says:*

Here endeth the First Lesson.

# Magnificat

*Please stand.*

*The Magnificat is the song of praise Mary sang after learning that she would give birth to Jesus, as recounted in Luke's gospel (1.46).*

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.

*Music: T. Morley (1557-1602)*

## **New Testament Lesson**

### **John 1.19-28**

*Please sit.*

*At the end the reader says:*

Here endeth the Second Lesson.

# Nunc Dimittis

*Please stand.*

*The Nunc Dimittis is also known as the Song of Simeon. Luke's gospel (2.29) tells us that old Simeon, a devout Jew, had been promised that he would not die until he had seen the promised Saviour. When Jesus was presented to him at the temple in Jerusalem, he at once recognised the Messiah and uttered these words of farewell.*

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.

*Music: T. Morley (1557-1602)*

# The Apostles' Creed

*Please remain standing.*

**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 Catholick Church;  
The Communion of Saints;  
The Forgiveness of sins;  
The Resurrection of the body,  
And the life everlasting.  
Amen.**

# The Lesser Litany and the Responses

*These prayers bind together themes of praise, mercy and the desire for God's protection as night draws in. The Lesser Litany and the Responses are sung alternately by the cantor and the choir.*

The Lord be with you.

**And with thy spirit.**

Let us pray.

*Please kneel or sit.*

Lord, have mercy upon us.

**Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Lord, have mercy upon us.

## The Lord's Prayer

Our Father

**Which art in heaven,**

**Hallowed be thy Name,**

**Thy kingdom come,**

**Thy will be done,**

**In earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;**

**And forgive us our trespasses,**

**As we forgive them that trespass against us;**

**And lead us not into temptation,**

**But deliver us from evil.**

**Amen.**



○ Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.

**And grant us thy salvation.**

○ Lord, save the King.

**And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.**

Endue thy Ministers with righteousness.

**And make thy chosen people joyful.**

○ Lord, save thy people.

**And bless thine inheritance.**

Give peace in our time, ○ Lord.

**Because there is none other that fighteth for us,  
but only thou, ○ God.**

○ God, make clean our hearts within us.

**And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.**

## **The Collect of the Day**

Blessèd Lord,

who hast caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning;

Grant that we may in such wise hear them,

read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them,

that by patience, and comfort of thy holy Word,

we may embrace, and ever hold fast

the blessèd hope of everlasting life,

which thou hast given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

## **The Collect for Peace**

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.**

## **The Collect for Aid against all Perils**

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.**

# The Anthem

*Please sit.*

## **‘On Jordan’s bank’**

On Jordan’s bank the Baptist’s cry  
Announces that the Lord is nigh;  
Awake and hearken, for he brings  
Glad tidings of the King of kings!

Then cleansed be every Christian breast,  
And furnished for so great a guest!  
Yea, let us each our heart prepare  
For Christ to come and enter there.

For thou art our salvation, Lord,  
Our refuge and our great reward;  
Without thy grace we waste away  
Like flowers that wither and decay.

All praise, eternal Son, to thee  
Whose advent sets thy people free,  
Whom, with the Father, we adore,  
And Holy Ghost for evermore.

*Words: C. Coffin (1676-1749)*

*translated by J. Chandler (1806-1876)*

*and the editors of ‘Hymns & Psalms’*

*Music: from ‘Musikalisches Handbuch’ (1690)*

*arranged by M. Archer (b. 1952)*

# The Sermon

*Please remain seated.*

# Hymn

*Please stand.*

**Come, thou long-expected Jesus,  
Born to set thy people free,  
From our fears and sins release us,  
Let us find our rest in thee.**

**Israel's strength and consolation,  
Hope of all the earth thou art,  
Dear desire of ev'ry nation,  
Joy of ev'ry longing heart.**

**Born thy people to deliver,  
Born a child and yet a king,  
Born to reign in us for ever,  
Now thy gracious kingdom bring.**

**By thine own eternal Spirit,  
Rule in all our hearts alone;  
By thine all-sufficient merit  
Raise us to thy glorious throne.**

*Words: C. Wesley (1707-1788)*

*Music: J. Stainer (1840-1901)*

*Hymn Tune: CROSS OF JESUS*

# The Prayers

*Please kneel or sit.*

## Hymn

*Please stand.*

*During this hymn a collection, our financial offering in support of the work of the church both at St. Mary's and across our diocese, is taken.*

*You can place cash or giving envelopes in the collection plates as they are passed around. If you would prefer, or if you miss the plate, you can also give by scanning this QR code, or by tapping your contactless card or device on the giving plate by the door as you leave.*



**Hark! a herald voice is calling:**

**'Christ is nigh!' it seems to say;**

**'Cast away the dreams of darkness,**

**O ye children of the day!'**

**Lo, the Lamb, so long expected,**

**Comes with pardon down from heav'n;**

**Let us haste, with tears of sorrow,**

**One and all to be forgiv'n.**

**So when next he comes with glory,**

**Wrapping all the earth in fear,**

**May he then, as our defender,**

**On the clouds of heav'n appear.**

**Honour, glory, virtue, merit,  
To the Father and the Son,  
With the co-eternal Spirit,  
While unending ages run.**

*Words: 6<sup>th</sup> century translated by E. Caswall (1824-1878)*

*Music: W. H. Monk (1823-1889)*

*Hymn Tune: MERTON*

## **The Blessing or The Grace**

*Thank you for being part of this evening's act of worship.*

**Please Note:**

*As the first Sunday of January falls on New Year's Day, the next Choral Evensong will instead be on **Sunday 8 January 2023** at 6.00 pm.*

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## **Our regular services**

Sung Eucharist:           Every Sunday at 10.00 am  
Said Eucharist:           Every Wednesday at 10.00 am  
Choral Evensong:        Next on Sunday 8 January at 6.00 pm

## **Contact us**




If you'd like to talk to us, you can call us on **0113 264 5790**, send an email to **hello@whitkirkchurch.org.uk**, or find more details on our website at **whitkirkchurch.org.uk/contact**.

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