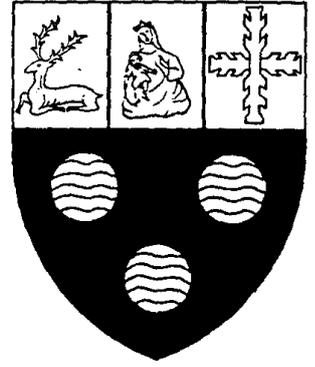


Southwell  
Minster

*The Cathedral and Parish Church  
of the Blessed Virgin Mary*



# EVENSONG

(online)

**Easter Eve**

**Saturday 3 April 2021**

**4.30pm**

## Welcome to this online service from Southwell Minster

Evensong on Easter Eve is necessarily sparse. The altar remains bare; the choir and clergy are without white surplice; no candles are lit; there is little ceremony. This is a day of sorrow, lament and darkness. The familiar canticles of daily Evensong, the *Magnificat* (Song of Mary) and *Nunc dimittis* (Song of Simeon), are sung without a concluding Gloria Patri. Few words are used in the intercessions, for in silence we wait on God. In the desolation of Christ's passion and death for our sins and now his lying in the tomb, we reflect on the words of the creed: 'He descended into hell'.

Please note that there will be no introduction or announcements during this service.

Please do join in at home as you are comfortably able: you may wish to stand, sit and kneel as you normally would in church (we have included instructions for posture in this booklet for this reason), and/or to speak along with the congregational elements of the service.

The Lay Clerks of the Cathedral Choir are directed by Paul Provost, *Rector Chori*.

Donations in support of the mission and ministry of the Cathedral are very welcome: for more details, go to <https://www.southwellminster.org/donate/>. Thank you for your support.

### ORDER OF SERVICE

PSALMODY *sung by the choir*

Psalm 116

I am well pleased:

that the Lord hath heard the voice of my prayer;

That he hath inclined his ear unto me:

therefore will I call upon him as long as I live.

The snares of death compassed me round about:

and the pains of hell gat hold upon me.

I shall find trouble and heaviness, and I will call upon the Name of  
the Lord:

O Lord, I beseech thee, deliver my soul.

Gracious is the Lord, and righteous:

yea, our God is merciful.

The Lord preserveth the simple:  
I was in misery, and he helped me.  
Turn again then unto thy rest, O my soul:  
for the Lord hath rewarded thee.  
And why? thou hast delivered my soul from death:  
mine eyes from tears, and my feet from falling.  
I will walk before the Lord:  
in the land of the living.  
I believed, and therefore will I speak; but I was sore troubled:  
I said in my haste, All men are liars.  
What reward shall I give unto the Lord:  
for all the benefits that he hath done unto me?  
I will receive the cup of salvation:  
and call upon the Name of the Lord.  
I will pay my vows now in the presence of all His people:  
right dear in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints.  
Behold, O Lord, how that I am thy servant:  
I am thy servant, and the son of thine handmaid; thou hast broken my  
bonds in sunder.  
I will offer to thee the sacrifice of thanksgiving:  
and will call upon the Name of the Lord.  
I will pay my vows unto the Lord, in the sight of all his people:  
in the courts of the Lord's house, even in the midst of thee, O  
Jerusalem. Praise the Lord.

*Music: Mode ii*

## FIRST LESSON

Job 19: 21-27

*read by The Revd Dr Richard Frith, Canon Precentor*

Have pity on me, have pity on me, O you my friends,  
for the hand of God has touched me!  
Why do you, like God, pursue me,  
never satisfied with my flesh?  
  
'O that my words were written down!  
O that they were inscribed in a book!  
O that with an iron pen and with lead  
they were engraved on a rock for ever!

For I know that my Redeemer lives,  
and that at the last he will stand upon the earth;  
and after my skin has been thus destroyed,  
then in my flesh I shall see God,  
whom I shall see on my side,  
and my eyes shall behold, and not another.  
My heart faints within me!

*Please stand*

MAGNIFICAT *sung by the choir*

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.

*Words: Luke 1: 46-55*

*Music: from FABURDEN SERVICE  
Thomas Tallis (c.1505-85)*

*Please sit*

SECOND LESSON

1 John 5: 5-12

*read by The Very Revd Nicola Sullivan, Dean of Southwell*

Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth. There are three that testify: the Spirit and the water and the blood, and these three agree. If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

*Please stand*

NUNC DIMITTIS *sung by the choir*

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.

*Words: Luke 2: 29-32*

*Music: from FABURDEN SERVICE  
Thomas Tallis (c.1505-85)*

## 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.

## LESSER LITANY, LORD'S PRAYER AND RESPONSES *sung by the Canon Precentor and choir*

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, 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.

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

O Lord, save the Queen:  
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.

## COLLECT FOR THE DAY

Grant, O Lord,  
that as we are baptised into the death  
of thy blessed Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
so by continual mortifying our corrupt affections  
we may be buried with him;  
and that, through the grave, and gate of death,  
we may pass to our joyful resurrection;

for his merits, who died, and was buried, and rose again for us,  
thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

#### COLLECT FOR THE SEASON OF LENT

Almighty and everlasting God,  
who hatest nothing that thou hast made,  
and dost forgive the sins of all them that are penitent:  
Create and make in us new and contrite hearts,  
that we, worthily lamenting our sins,  
and acknowledging our wretchedness,  
may obtain of thee, the God of all mercy,  
perfect remission and forgiveness;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

#### 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.

#### 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.

*Music: Plainsong*

*Please sit*

ANTHEM *sung by the choir*

Ecce quomodo moritur justus et  
nemo percipit corde: et viri justii  
tolluntur: a facie iniquitatis  
sublatus est justus.

*Behold how the righteous man dies and  
no one understands: righteous men are  
taken away: the righteous man has  
been taken away from present iniquity.*

Et erit in pace memoria eius.

*And his memory shall be in peace.*

Tamquam agnus coram tondente  
se obmutuit, et non aperuit os  
suum: de angustia, et de iudicio  
sublatus est.

*As a sheep before her shearers is  
dumb, so he opened not his mouth:  
he was taken from prison and from  
judgement.*

Et erit in pace memoria eius.

*And his memory shall be in peace.*

*Words: Latin responsory for Holy Saturday  
after Isaiah 57: 1-2, 53: 7*

*Music: Tomás Luis de Victoria (c.1548-1611)*

*Please remain seated or kneel when invited*

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION *led by the Canon Precentor*

*One of the following responses, or another, may be used:*

Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Lord, hear us.  
**Lord, graciously hear us.**

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.**

*The clergy depart in silence.*

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*Join us online or in the Cathedral as we walk the way of the Cross to the glory of the Resurrection. For full details of all of our Holy Week and Easter services this year, go to:*

**[www.southwellminster.org/worship/services-calendar](http://www.southwellminster.org/worship/services-calendar)**

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