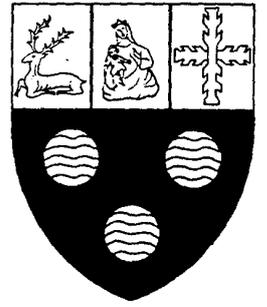


**Southwell
Minster**

THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF
THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY



EVENSONG

The Second Sunday of Advent

Sunday 5 December 2021

3.30pm

Welcome to Southwell Minster



As you prepare for worship, please be sensitive to the needs of those around you who may wish to pray in silence. Please switch off mobile telephones and do not use photographic, video or recording equipment at any time.



A loop system is in operation throughout the Minster. Hearing aids that are equipped to do so should be switched to the 'T' position or the loop setting appropriate to your equipment.



Large print orders of service are available. Please ask a Churchwarden, Sidesman or Verger for a copy.



Toilet facilities (including disabled access) are situated in the Archbishop's Palace, opposite the South Door of the Minster.



We are a Fairtrade cathedral, committed to continuing and increasing our use of fairly traded goods wherever possible.

The congregation is invited to join in all texts printed in **bold**.

The Cathedral Choir is directed by Paul Provost, *Rector Chori*.

The organ is played by Jonathan Allsopp, *Assistant Director of Music*.

Worshippers are asked to wear a face covering when entering and leaving the Cathedral but to feel free to remove them when in their places. We also ask all those visiting the Cathedral to check in using the NHS Covid-19 app on entry if possible, and to continue to observe some social distancing in the building. Please be mindful of the needs of other worshippers who may be vulnerable to the virus.

This service will be live-streamed to the internet, and will be available at www.southwellminster.org/worship-online and on the Minster's YouTube channel, for one day. Live-streaming allows those joining from home to participate in the same act of worship as those in the Cathedral.

No collection is taken at this service, but donations as you leave in support of the mission and ministry of the Cathedral are very welcome. Envelopes and cash may be deposited in the donation box, or preferably use the contactless donation station. Alternatively, you can give online at www.southwellminster.org.uk/donate. Please give generously.

The Service of Evensong

The experience of the service of Evensong is unique. It takes place at the end of the working day, and the choir leads worship through their singing. The service is centred around the singing of psalms, ancient texts that speak powerfully and accessibly to our very human hopes, fears and dreams. Every service of Evensong also includes two canticles, or songs, recorded in St Luke's Gospel: the *Magnificat* and *Nunc dimittis*. Both canticles focus on hope and the fulfilment of what God promised to his people, and so have acted as a foundation for prayer and reflection towards the end of the day for many hundreds of years. The beauty of daily sung services in cathedrals is that no two composers' interpretation of these texts is the same, so in the repetition of familiar texts we find fresh meaning every single day.

The gift of the service of Evensong is that it requires little active participation from the congregation; it is a service of respite from the stresses of the day. Our hope is that those of you for whom this is your first taste of Evensong will let yourselves be immersed in the experience: you need simply to be receptive, and to allow yourself to be carried by the choir in song and prayer. In letting others take on the responsibility for prayer on your behalf, you are left with greater freedom to be open to the presence and grace of God.

Standing, Sitting and Kneeling

Throughout the booklet, you will find various references to posture:

- **Standing** is used for parts of the service where the emphasis is on praising or praying to God together; so we usually stand to sing hymns, and for certain important prayers.
- **Sitting** indicates listening and receiving; so we sit for the first and second readings from the Bible, and for the sermon.
- **Kneeling** is the traditional position for personal prayer. Please speak to one of the Vergers or Sidesmen if you would like a cushion for kneeling.

Adopting the same posture is a way of showing that we are worshipping God together, as his people. However, please always feel free to adopt a different posture, especially if standing or kneeling is uncomfortable.

We are always delighted to welcome newcomers and visitors. If you would like to keep in regular contact with the Minster, please either speak to one of the clergy or churchwardens, or email office@southwellminster.org.uk

ORDER OF SERVICE

ORGAN PRELUDE

Fantasia and Fugue in C minor, BWV 537

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

INTROIT *sung by the choir from the North Transept*

Adam lay ybounden,
bounden in a bond;
four thousand winter
thought he not too long.

Ne had the apple taken been,
the apple taken been,
ne had never our lady
a been heavene queen.

And all was for an apple,
an apple that he took,
as clerkes finden
written in their book.

Blessed be the time
that apple taken was,
Therefore we moun singen
Deo gratias.

Words: Anon, 15th century

Music: Boris Ord (1897-1961)

Please stand at the entry of the choir and ministers

PRECES *sung by the Canon Precentor and choir*

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.

Music: William Byrd (c. 1539-1623)

The Canon in Residence welcomes the congregation to the service.

OFFICE HYMN



Creator of the stars of night,
Thy people's everlasting light,
O Jesu, Saviour of us all,
Regard thy servants when they call.

**Thou, grieving at the bitter cry
Of all creation doomed to die,
Didst come to save a ruined race
With healing gifts of heavenly grace.**

Thou camest, Bridegroom of the bride,
As drew the world to evening-tide,
Proceeding from a virgin shrine,
The Son of Man, yet Lord divine.

**At thy great name, exalted now,
All knees must bend, all hearts must bow,
And things in heaven and earth shall own
That thou art Lord and King alone.**

To thee, O holy One, we pray,
Our judge in that tremendous day,
Preserve us, while we dwell below,
From every onslaught of the foe.

**All praise, eternal Son, to thee,
Whose advent sets thy people free,
Whom with the Father we adore,
And Spirit blest, for evermore. Amen.**

*Words: Latin, 9th century
trans. John Mason Neale (1818-66)*

*Tune: CONDITOR ALME NEH 1
Mode iv*

Please sit

Unto thee, O God, do we give thanks:
yea, unto thee do we give thanks.
Thy Name also is so nigh:
and that do thy wondrous works declare.
When I receive the congregation:
I shall judge according unto right.
The earth is weak, and all the inhabitants thereof:
I bear up the pillars of it.
I said unto the fools, Deal not so madly:
and to the ungodly, Set not up your horn.
Set not up your horn on high:
and speak not with a stiff neck.
For promotion cometh neither from the east, nor from the west:
nor yet from the south.
And why? God is the Judge:
he putteth down one, and setteth up another.
For in the hand of the Lord there is a cup, and the wine is red:
it is full mixed, and he poureth out of the same.
As for the dregs thereof:
all the ungodly of the earth shall drink them, and suck them out.
But I will talk of the God of Jacob:
and praise him for ever.
All the horns of the ungodly also will I break:
and the horns of the righteous shall be exalted.

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.

Music: James Turle (1802-82)

Please sit

Comfort, O comfort my people,
says your God.
Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her
that she has served her term,
that her penalty is paid,
that she has received from the Lord's hand
double for all her sins.

A voice cries out:
'In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.
Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.
Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
and all people shall see it together,
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.'

A voice says, 'Cry out!'
And I said, 'What shall I cry?'
All people are grass,
their constancy is like the flower of the field.
The grass withers, the flower fades,
when the breath of the Lord blows upon it;
surely the people are grass.
The grass withers, the flower fades;
but the word of our God will stand for ever.
Get you up to a high mountain,
O Zion, herald of good tidings;
lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,
lift it up, do not fear;
say to the cities of Judah,
'Here is your God!'

See, the Lord God comes with might,
and his arm rules for him;
his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.
He will feed his flock like a shepherd;
he will gather the lambs in his arms,
and carry them in his bosom,
and gently lead the mother sheep.'

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.
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: from FIFTH SERVICE
Thomas Tomkins (1572-1656)*

Please sit

Since many have undertaken to set down an orderly account of the events that have been fulfilled among us, just as they were handed on to us by those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and servants of the word, I too decided, after investigating everything carefully from the very first, to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, so that you may know the truth concerning the things about which you have been instructed.

In the days of King Herod of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly order of Abijah. His wife was a descendant of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. Both of them were righteous before God, living blamelessly according to all the commandments and regulations of the Lord. But they had no children, because Elizabeth was barren, and both were getting on in years.

Once when he was serving as priest before God and his section was on duty, he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to enter the sanctuary of the Lord and offer incense. Now at the time of the incense-offering, the whole assembly of the people was praying outside. Then there appeared to him an angel of the Lord, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. When Zechariah saw him, he was terrified; and fear overwhelmed him. But the angel said to him, 'Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will name him John. You will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He must never drink wine or strong drink; even before his birth he will be filled with the Holy Spirit. He will turn many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God. With the spirit and power of Elijah he will go before him, to turn the hearts of parents to their children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.' Zechariah said to the angel, 'How will I know that this is so? For I am an old man, and my wife is getting on in years.' The angel replied, 'I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. But now, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time, you will become mute, unable to speak, until the day these things occur.'

Meanwhile, the people were waiting for Zechariah, and wondered at his delay in the sanctuary. When he did come out, he could not speak to them, and they realized that he had seen a vision in the sanctuary. He kept motioning to them and remained unable to speak. When his time of service was ended, he went to his home.

After those days his wife Elizabeth conceived, and for five months she remained in seclusion. She said, 'This is what the Lord has done for me when he looked favourably on me and took away the disgrace I have endured among my people.'

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.

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: from FIFTH SERVICE
Thomas Tomkins (1572-1656)*

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 let us not be led 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

Blessed 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 blessed hope of everlasting life,
which thou hast given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.

COLLECT FOR ADVENT

Almighty God,
give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness,
and put upon us the armour of light,
now in the time of this mortal life,
in which thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility;
that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious Majesty,
to judge both the quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal;
through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost,
now and ever.
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: William Byrd (c. 1539-1623) and John Harper (b. 1947)

Please sit

ANTHEM *sung by the choir*

Seek him that maketh the seven stars
and Orion and turneth the shadow of death into the morning.
Alleluia, yea, the darkness shineth as the day,
the night is light about me. Amen.

Words: Amos 5: 8; Psalm 139: 11a

Music: Jonathan Dove (b. 1959)

HOMILY *given by the Revd David McCoulough, Priest Vicar*

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.

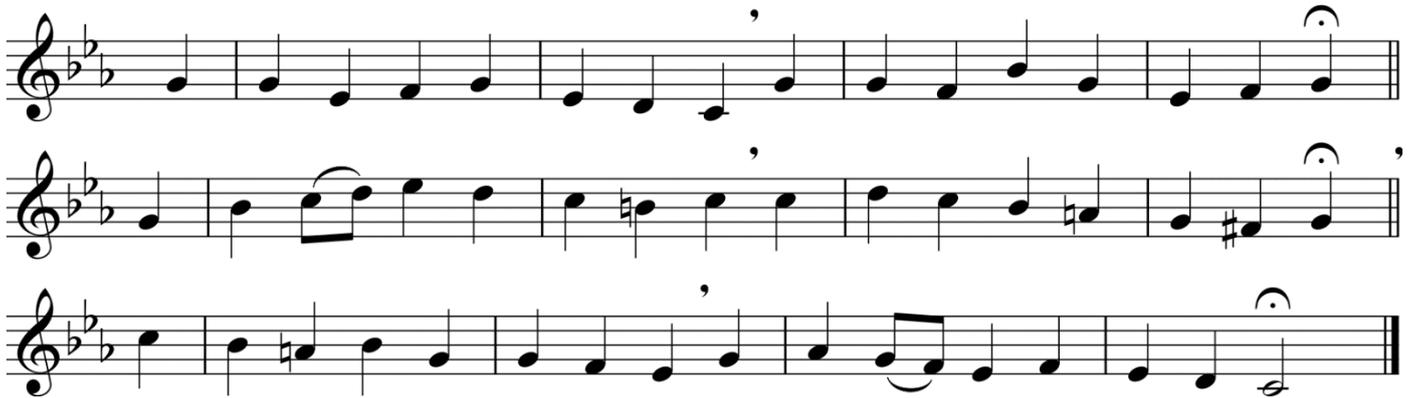
Lord, hear us.
Lord, graciously hear us.

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.**

Please stand

HYMN



1. O quickly come, dread Judge of all;
For, awful though thine advent be,
All shadows from the truth will fall,
And falsehood die, in sight of thee:
O quickly come; for doubt and fear
Like clouds dissolve when thou art near.

2. O quickly come, great King of all;
Reign all around us, and within;
Let sin no more our souls enthrall,
Let pain and sorrow die with sin:
O quickly come; for thou alone
Canst make thy scattered people one.

3. O quickly come, true Life of all,
For death is mighty all around;
On every home his shadows fall,
On every heart his mark is found:
O quickly come; for grief and pain
Can never cloud thy glorious reign.

4. O quickly come, sure Light of all,
For gloomy night broods o'er our way,
And weakly souls begin to fall
With weary watching for the day:
O quickly come; for round thy throne
No eye is blind, no night is known.

Words: Lawrence Tuttiel (1825–97)

Tune: VATER UNSER NEH 13
melody from Schumann's *Geistliche Lieder*
Leipzig (1539) and set by Luther to the Lord's Prayer

BLESSING

The peace of God, which passeth 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 Ghost,
be amongst you and remain with you always.
Amen.

DISMISSAL *sung by the Canon Precentor and choir*

The Lord be with you:
And with thy Spirit.

Let us bless the Lord:
Thanks be to God.

Music: after William Byrd (c. 1539-1623)

ORGAN VOLUNTARY *during which the ministers depart*

Évocation II

Thierry Escaich (b.1965)

Once the ministers and choir have departed, you are invited to sit to listen quietly to the organ voluntary. If you wish to leave at this point, please do so without disturbing those who may still wish to listen or pray. The clergy will stand outside the north door to greet you on your way out.

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