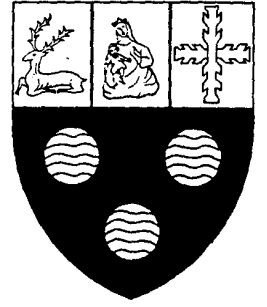


Southwell  
Minster

THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF  
THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY



FESTAL EVENSONG  
*with Procession*

**DAY OF PENTECOST  
(WHITSUNDAY)**

Sunday 24 May 2026  
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, Sidesperson 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.



This Order of Service is printed on sustainably produced paper.

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

The Minster Chorale is directed by Jonathan Allsopp, *Assistant Director of Music*.

The organ is played by Dr Colin Walsh, *Organist Emeritus of Lincoln Cathedral*.

This service will be live-streamed to the internet, and will be available at [www.southwellminster.org/worship-online](http://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.

**Support the Mission and Ministry of the Cathedral.** A collection for the Cathedral's mission and ministry will be taken during the Offertory Hymn. If you are a UK



taxpayer, please consider using the Gift Aid envelopes provided – this allows us to increase your donation by 25p for every £1 you give at no extra cost to you. Card donations can be made at the contactless stations located near the main exits. You can also donate online by scanning the QR code or visiting [www.southwellminster.org/donate](http://www.southwellminster.org/donate). Thank you for your generous support of the Cathedral and its ongoing work

## 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](mailto:office@southwellminster.org.uk)

# ORDER OF SERVICE

*INTROIT sung by the choir from the North Transept*

Come, Holy Ghost, the Maker, come;  
Take in the souls of thine thy place;  
Thou whom our hearts had being from,  
Oh, fill them with thy heavenly grace.  
Thou art that comfort from above,  
The highest doth by gift impart;  
Thou spring of life, a fire of love,  
And the anointing spirit art.

*Words: attributed to George Wither (1588-1667)  
from The Hymnes and Songs of the Church, 1623*

*Music: Orlando Gibbons (c. 1583-1625)*

*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: Mark Joyner (b. 1954)*

*The Very Revd Dr Stephen Evans, Dean of Southwell, welcomes the congregation to the service.*



Rejoice, the year upon its way  
 Has brought again that blessed day  
 When on the Church by Christ our Lord  
 The Holy Spirit was outpoured.

**From out the heavens a rushing noise  
 Came like the tempest's sudden voice,  
 And mingled with th'Apostles' prayer,  
 Proclaiming loud that God was there.**

Like quivering tongues of light and flame,  
 Upon each one the Spirit came:  
 Tongues, that the earth might hear their call,  
 And fire, that love might burn in all.

**And so to all were spread abroad  
 The wonders of the works of God;  
 They knew the prophet's word fulfilled,  
 And owned the gift which God had willed.**

**Look down, most gracious God, this day  
 Upon thy people as they pray;  
 And Christ the Lord upon us pour  
 The Spirit's gift for evermore.  
 Amen.**

Words: Latin, attributed to Hilary of Poitiers (c. 315-367) NEH 136  
 trans. Editors of the NEH  
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 (Admin. by Hymns Ancient and Modern Ltd.)

Tune: VENI CREATOR SPIRITUS  
 Mode viii

*Please sit*

God be merciful unto us, and bless us:  
and shew us the light of his countenance, and be merciful unto us;  
That thy way may be known upon earth:  
thy saving health among all nations.  
Let the people praise thee, O God:  
yea, let all the people praise thee.  
O let the nations rejoice and be glad:  
for thou shalt judge the folk righteously, and govern the nations  
upon earth.  
Let the people praise thee, O God:  
let all the people praise thee.  
Then shall the earth bring forth her increase:  
and God, even our own God, shall give us his blessing.  
God shall bless us:  
and all the ends of the world shall fear him.

Behold, how good and joyful a thing it is:  
brethren, to dwell together in unity!  
It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down unto the beard:  
even unto Aaron's beard, and went down to the skirts of his clothing.  
Like as the dew of Hermon:  
which fell upon the hill of Sion.  
For there the Lord promised his blessing:  
and life for evermore.

*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.

*Chants: Christopher Gibbons (1615-76),  
Robert Ashfield (1911-2006)  
& George Elvey (1816-93)*

*Please sit*

The first lesson is written in the book Joel, in the second chapter, beginning at the twenty-first verse.

Do not fear, O soil;  
    be glad and rejoice,  
    for the Lord has done great things!  
Do not fear, you animals of the field,  
    for the pastures of the wilderness are green;  
the tree bears its fruit,  
    the fig tree and vine give their full yield.

O children of Zion, be glad  
    and rejoice in the Lord your God;  
for he has given the early rain for your vindication,  
    he has poured down for you abundant rain,  
    the early and the later rain, as before.  
The threshing-floors shall be full of grain,  
    the vats shall overflow with wine and oil.

I will repay you for the years  
    that the swarming locust has eaten,  
the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter,  
    my great army, which I sent against you.

You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied,  
    and praise the name of the Lord your God,  
    who has dealt wondrously with you. And my people shall never again be  
put to shame.

You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel,  
    and that I, the Lord, am your God and there is no other.  
And my people shall never again  
    be put to shame.

Then afterwards  
    I will pour out my spirit on all flesh;  
your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,  
    your old men shall dream dreams,  
    and your young men shall see visions.  
Even on the male and female slaves,  
    in those days, I will pour out my spirit.

I will show portents in the heavens and on the earth, blood and fire and columns of smoke. The sun shall be turned to darkness, and the moon to blood, before the great and terrible day of the Lord comes. Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved; for in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be those who escape, as the Lord has said, and among the survivors shall be those whom the Lord calls.

Here ends the first lesson.

*Please stand*

ANTIPHON *and* MAGNIFICAT *sung by the choir*

Today completed were the days of Pentecost, Alleluia:  
Today the Holy Ghost appeared to the disciples in form of fire  
and gave them the gifts of his graces:  
He sent them throughout the whole world to preach and to testify.  
That he that shall believe, and he that be baptised, shall be saved. Alleluia

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.

Today completed were the days of Pentecost, Alleluia:  
Today the Holy Ghost appeared to the disciples in form of fire  
and gave them the gifts of his graces:  
He sent them throughout the whole world to preach and to testify.  
That he that shall believe, and he that be baptised, shall be saved. Alleluia

*Words: Luke 1: 46-55*

*Music: EVENING SERVICE IN D  
Charles Wood (1866-1926)*

*Antiphon: HODIE COMPLETI SUNT, mode i*

*Please sit*

The second lesson is written in the Acts of the Apostles, the second chapter, beginning at the fourteenth verse.

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them: 'Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

“In the last days it will be, God declares,  
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,  
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,  
and your young men shall see visions,  
and your old men shall dream dreams.

Even upon my slaves, both men and women,  
in those days I will pour out my Spirit;  
and they shall prophesy.

And I will show portents in the heaven above  
and signs on the earth below,  
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

The sun shall be turned to darkness  
and the moon to blood,

before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.

Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

Here ends the second lesson.

*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: EVENING SERVICE IN D  
Charles Wood (1866-1926)*

*Please turn east to face the High Altar*

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.**

*Please turn back*

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 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.

## COLLECT FOR THE DAY

God, who as at this time didst teach the hearts of thy faithful people,  
by the sending to them the light of thy Holy Spirit;  
Grant us by the same Spirit to have a right judgement in all things,  
and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort;  
through the merits of Christ Jesus our Saviour,  
who liveth and reigneth with thee,  
in the unity of the same Spirit, one God,  
world without end.  
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: Mark Joyner (b. 1954)*

*Please sit*

*ANTHEM sung by the choir*

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the Gospel to the poor: he hath sent me to heal the broken-hearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to preach the acceptable year of the Lord; to give unto them that mourn a garland for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness, that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he might be glorified. For as the earth bringeth forth her bud, and as the garden causeth the things that are sown in it to spring forth, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all nations as the earth bringeth forth her bud.

*Words: from Isaiah 61*

*Music: from THE APOSTLES  
Edward Elgar (1857-1934)*

*HOMILY given by the Revd Amanda Lees, Canon Missioner*

*Please remain seated or kneel when invited.*

*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION led by the Dean*

*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*

OFFERTORY HYMN *during which a collection is taken for the mission and ministry of the Cathedral*



Holy Spirit, ever dwelling  
In the holiest realms of light;  
Holy Spirit, ever brooding  
O'er a world of gloom and night;  
Holy Spirit, ever raising  
Sons of earth to thrones on high;  
Living, life-imparting Spirit,  
Thee we praise and magnify.

Holy Spirit, ever living  
As the Church's very life;  
Holy Spirit, ever striving  
Through her in a ceaseless strife;  
Holy Spirit, ever forming  
In the Church the mind of Christ:  
Thee we praise with endless worship  
For thy fruit and gifts unpriced.


Holy Spirit, ever working  
Through the Church's ministry;  
Quick'ning, strength'ning and absolving,  
Setting captive sinners free;  
Holy Spirit, ever binding  
Age to age, and soul to soul:  
In a fellowship unending  
Thee we worship and extol.

Words: Timothy Rees (1874-1939)

Tune: SALISBURY NEH 141  
Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

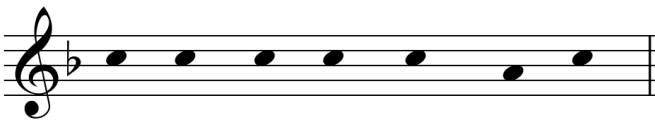
## INVITATION TO PROCESSION

*Cantor*



Let us pro-ceed in peace:

*All*



In the name of Christ. A-men.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN *during which the congregation is invited to follow the choir and clergy to the Font with the Paschal Candle*



1. Sing to him in whom creation  
Found its shape and origin;  
Spirit, moving on the waters,  
Troubled by the God within;  
Source of breath to all things breathing,  
Life in whom all lives begin.

2. Sing to God, the close companion  
Of our inmost thoughts and ways;  
Who, in showing us his wonders,  
Is himself the power to gaze:  
And his will, to those who listen,  
By a still small voice conveys.

3. Holy men, both priest and prophet,  
Caught his accents, spoke his word;  
His the truth behind the wisdoms  
Which as yet know not our Lord;  
He the love of God eternal,  
Which in Christ was seen and heard.

4. Tell of how the ascended Jesus  
Armed a people for his own;  
How a hundred men and women  
Turned the known world upside down,  
To its dark and furthest corners  
By the Wind of Whitsun blown.

5. Pray we then, O Lord the Spirit,  
On our lives descend in might;  
Let thy flame break out within us,  
Fire our hearts and clear our sight,  
Till, white-hot in thy possession,  
We, too, set the world alight.

6. Praise, O praise the Holy Spirit,  
Praise the Father, praise the Word,  
Source, and Truth, and Inspiration,  
Trinity in deep accord:  
Through thy Voice which speaks within us  
We thy creatures own thee Lord.

## BLESSING OF LIGHT

*The Paschal Candle is placed at the Font.*

*Dean* Blessed art thou, Sovereign God, overflowing in love.  
Thy Holy Spirit hovered over the unformed world,  
overshadowing Mary when the Word took flesh,  
and made ready the cleansing sacrifice of Calvary  
so that the grain of wheat died to bear much fruit.  
With the harvest of Pentecost dawns the age of the Spirit.  
Now the flame of heaven rests on all believers;  
with the new wine of the Spirit  
they proclaim thine amnesty of love.  
Amid the birth pains of the new creation  
the way of light is made known.  
Source of freedom, giver of life,  
blessed art thou, Sovereign God, light of the world.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

## BLESSING

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,  
through the power of the Holy Spirit;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among 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: Mark Joyner (b. 1954)*

*ORGAN VOLUNTARY during which the ministers depart*

*Prelude in C minor, BWV 546i*

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

*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.*

*Please note that Mini Pew News (the abridged version of the Weekly notice sheet), is available as a separate document given out at Minster services each Sunday. The full version of Pew News can be found online at <https://www.southwellminster.org/worship/pew-news/>. Alternatively, we can e-mail you a link to the latest edition of Pew News as it is published each Friday (please complete the web form at <https://www.southwellminster.org/newsletter/> to sign up to receive this regular e-mail)*



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