



Choral Evensong

Welcome to Rochester Cathedral – a place of Christian worship since AD604.

With its roots in the Benedictine tradition, the ongoing pattern of morning and evening prayer and Eucharist (or Holy Communion) continues the prayers and praises of countless generations in this Cathedral. We welcome you today to share in this continuing rhythm of worship in this service of Choral Evensong.

Please note that this service may be recorded and/or livestreamed for those unable to attend in person. If you do not wish to appear on camera, please speak to a member of staff. For online services, prayer and other devotional material, please visit our website:
www.rochestercathedral.org/worship-online

Please leave this booklet on your seat or take it home with you



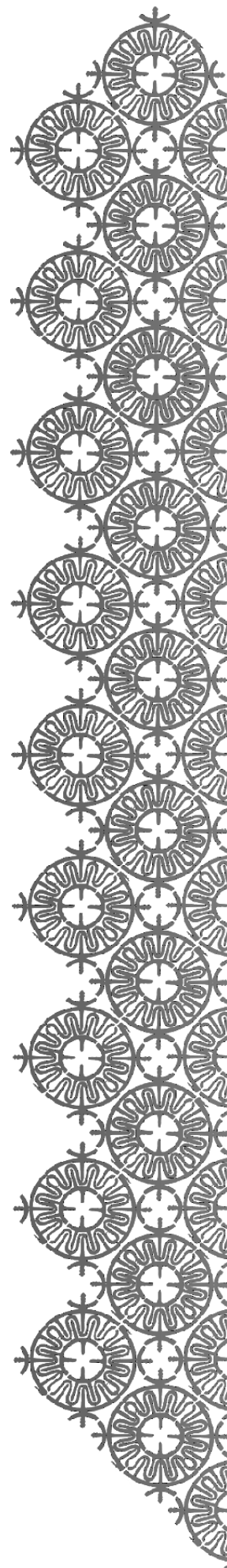
Please do not take photographs, sound or video recordings during the service. As part of our safeguarding, no photography of children is permitted in the Cathedral.



An induction loop system is installed in the Cathedral. Hearing aid users should adjust their aid to T.



Large print orders of service are available.



ORDER OF SERVICE

*An **Introit** may be sung by the choir*

Stand as the choir and clergy enter

*On Sundays the service begins with the **Introduction and Confession***

*On other days the service begins with the **Preces (Opening Responses)***

On Sundays

Introduction

Kneel or sit

Confession

All 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.

Absolution

The Lord's Prayer

All Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, For ever and ever. Amen.

Preces (Opening Responses)

Cantor O Lord, open thou our lips.

Choir And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

O God, make speed to save us.

Choir O Lord, make haste to help us.

Stand

Choir 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.

Choir The Lord's name be praised.

Office Hymn

Sit

Psalm(s) *sung by the choir*

(The psalms can be found in the Book of Common Prayer page 347 onwards)

*At the end of the psalmody, stand for the **Gloria***

Sit

Old Testament Reading

*Stand for **Magnificat (The Song of Mary)** 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.

Luke 1.46-55

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.

Sit

New Testament Reading

Stand for **Nunc Dimittis (The Song of Simeon)** *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.

Luke 2.29-32

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.

Turn East to say **The Apostles' Creed**

All **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 cantor and choir*

Cantor The Lord be with you.

Choir And with thy spirit.
Let us pray.

Kneel or sit as the **Responses** *continue*

Collects *sung by the cantor and the choir*

Anthem *sung by the choir*

Prayers *concluding with*

All **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.**

On weekdays, the cantor and choir sing the **Dismissal Responses**

(If a sermon is preached after the prayers an additional **hymn** *is sung)*

On Saturdays, Sundays, and Festivals, a **hymn** *is sung (during which a collection
may be taken) and a* **blessing** *is given*

Organ Voluntary