

# CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL

THE ORDER OF SERVICE FOR  
CHORAL EVENSONG

# ORDER OF SERVICE

*The procession enters and a **HYMN** is sung.*

*The minister invites the congregation to kneel and speak **THE GENERAL CONFESSION:***

**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 minister pronounces **THE ABSOLUTION.***

*The cantor and choir sing* **THE PRECES:**

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.

*The choir sings* **THE PSALMODY.**

*Texts for the Psalms can be found in The Book of Common Prayer, available in the quire stalls. The Psalms of the day are sung from Monday-Saturday; proper Psalms are sung on Sundays and Feast Days.*

*At the end of the final Psalm, the choir sings:*

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.

**THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON** *is read.*

*The choir sings the canticle* **MAGNIFICAT:**

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.

*Luke 1: 46-55*

**THE NEW TESTAMENT LESSON** *is read.*

*The choir sings the canticle* **NUNC DIMITTIS:**

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.

*Luke 2: 29-32*

*We say together* **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.**

*The cantor and choir sing* **THE RESPONSES:**

The Lord be with you.  
And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us.  
Christ, have mercy upon us.  
Lord, have mercy upon us.

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.  
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.

*The Collect(s) for the Day*

*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 choir sings* **THE ANTHEM.**

*The minister leads* **THE INTERCESSIONS**, *which conclude with 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.**



*A **HYMN** is sung.*

*The minister gives **THE BLESSING** and the choir and clergy process to the South Transept.*

*The cantor and choir sing **THE CLOSING RESPONSES:***

The Lord be with you.  
And with thy spirit.

The Lord give us his peace.      *or*      Let us bless the Lord.  
And life eternal. Amen.                      Thanks be to God.

*Organ music concludes our worship.*