

St. James' Church, West End

# Sung Evensong

## Book of Common Prayer

Welcome to our worship online.

Worship is at the heart of our church life. Everything we are, and everything we do together as the people of God flows from our worship.

This service is Sung Evensong according to the 1662 Book of Common Prayer. It's a quiet, reflective service in beautiful old language. It draws its origins from the sung services of monastic communities in the early centuries of the church's life and the choral style is uniquely characteristic of the Church of England.

We use the New English Hymnal for this service. The hymn numbers and Psalm number are available on a link on our website. If you are joining us regularly through the livestream, we are pleased to deliver you a hymnbook to your home so you can join in with the singing. Please contact Rev'd Vicky about this [stjameswe.vicar@gmail.com](mailto:stjameswe.vicar@gmail.com).

*The minister and choir process to their seats.*

*An opening sentence of scripture is read and a welcome to given. Then these opening words are said:*

Beloved, we are come together in the presence of Almighty God and of the whole company of heaven to offer unto him through our Lord Jesus Christ our worship and praise and thanksgiving; to make confession of our sins; to pray, as well for others as for ourselves, that we may know more truly the greatness of God's love and shew forth in our lives the fruits of his grace; and to ask on behalf of all such things as their well-being doth require.

Let us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God.

*A general Confession to be said of the whole Congregation after the Minister, all kneeling.*

**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 Absolution or Remission of sins to be pronounced by the Priest, standing: the people still kneeling.*

May the Almighty and merciful Lord grant unto you pardon and remission of your sins, time for amendment of life, and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

*Cantor (sung).* O Lord, open thou our lips.

*Answer.* **And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.**

*Cantor.* O God, make speed to save us.

*Answer.* **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

*Here, all standing up, the Cantor shall say,*

*Cantor.* Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

*Answer.* **As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

*Cantor.* Praise ye the Lord.

*Answer.* **The Lord's Name be praised.**

*Then shall be sung a Hymn.*

*Then shall be sung the Psalm.*

*Then a Lesson of the Old Testament.*

*And after that shall be sung the Magnificat (or the Song of the Blessed Virgin Mary).*

My soul doth magnify the Lord :  
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.

For he hath regarded :  
the lowliness of his hand-maiden.

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.

*Then a Lesson of the New Testament.*

*And after that shall be sung the Nunc dimittis (or the Song of Simeon).*

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.

*Then shall be said the Apostles' Creed, by the Minister and the people standing.*

**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 Catholick Church;  
The Communion of Saints;  
The Forgiveness of sins;  
The Resurrection of the body,  
And the Life everlasting.  
Amen.**

*And after that these Prayers following, all devoutly kneeling: the Minister first pronouncing with a loud voice,*

*Minister.* The Lord be with you.

*Answer.* **And with thy spirit.**

*Minister.* Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

*Answer.* **Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Lord, have mercy upon us.

*Then the Minister and people shall say the Lord's Prayer with a loud voice.*

**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.**

*Then the Cantor standing up shall sing,*

*Cantor.* O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.

*Answer.* **And grant us thy salvation.**

*Cantor.* O Lord, save the Queen.

*Answer.* **And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.**

*Cantor.* Endue thy Ministers with righteousness.

*Answer.* **And make thy chosen people joyful.**

*Cantor.* O Lord, save thy people.

*Answer.* **And bless thine inheritance.**

*Cantor.* Give peace in our time, O Lord.

*Answer.* **Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.**

*Cantor.* O God, make clean our hearts within us.

*Answer.* **And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.**

*The First Collect at Evening Prayer*

*The Second Collect at Evening Prayer*

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 Third 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.**

*Then shall be sung a Hymn.*

*Intercessions, concluding with*

**THE grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. Amen. 2 Corinthians 13.**

*Then shall be sung a Hymn.*

*Then the Minister shall give a Blessing.*

*Here endeth the Order of Evensong.*

*A voluntary is played and the Minister and choir depart.*

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