

Choral Evensong

Harvest Sunday

5 October 2025

6.00pm



*Welcome to Liverpool Parish Church. All are welcome to take part as they feel called.
Evensong, which combines the ancient monastic services
of Vespers and Compline (evening and night prayer), and has been sung
in Cathedrals and Parish Churches all over the country since the sixteenth century.*



*Organ: Tranquillo, ma con moto (from Six Short pieces) – Herbert Howells
(1892-1983)*

*Please stand, as you are able, as the clergy enter and the choir sings the Introit:
Thou visitest the earth, and blessest it and crownest the year with thy
goodness:*

Words: Psalm 65.9&12

Music: Maurice Greene (1696-1755)

Priest: 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. Wherefore let us kneel in silence, and remember God's presence with us now.

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.**

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

The preces and responses are sung to a setting by Kenneth Leighton (1929-88)

Cantor O Lord, open thou our lips.

Choir 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.

Office hymn:

God, whose farm is all creation,

Take the gratitude we bring;

Take the finest of your harvest,

Crops we grow and we may live.

Take our ploughing, seeding, reaping,

Hopes and fears of sun and rain,

All our thinking, planning, waiting,

Ripened in this fruit and grain.

All our labour, all our watching,

All our calendar of care

In these crops of your creation,

Take, O God: they are our prayer.

Words: Leslie Thomas John Arlott (1914-1991)

Music: 'Gott Will's Machen' Johann Ludwig Steiner (1688-1761)

Please sit as the choir sings Psalm 142

1. I cried unto the Lord with my voice * yea, even unto the Lord did I make
my supplication.

2. I poured out my complaints before him * and shewed him of my trouble.

3. When my spirit was in heaviness thou knewest my path * in the way
wherein I walked have they privily laid a snare for me.

4. I looked also upon my right hand * and saw there was no man that would
know me.

5. I had no place to flee unto * and no man cared for my soul.

6. I cried unto thee, O Lord, and said * Thou art my hope, and my portion in the land of the living.

7. Consider my complaint * for I am brought very low.

8. O deliver me from my persecutors * for they are too strong for me.

9. Bring my soul out of prison, that I may give thanks unto thy Name * which thing if thou wilt grant me, then shall the righteous resort unto my company.

[we stand for the Gloria Patri]

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

Old Testament Reading (Nehemiah 5.1-13)

The choir sings the Magnificat (Luke 1.46-55)

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 showed 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.

[we stand for the Gloria Patri]

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: Evening Service in B minor—Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

New Testament Reading (John 9)

The choir sings Nunc Dimittis (Luke 2.29-32)

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.

[we stand for the Gloria Patri]

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: Evening Service in B minor—Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

Please remain standing to say 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 Catholick Church;
The Communion of Saints; The Forgiveness of sins;
The Resurrection of the body, And the Life everlasting. Amen.**

Cantor The Lord be with you

Choir And with thy spirit

Cantor Let us pray.

[please kneel or sit]

Choir 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.

Cantor O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.

Choir 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 of the Day:

O Lord, we beseech thee, let thy continual pity cleanse and defend thy Church; and, because it cannot continue in safety without thy succour, preserve it evermore by thy help and goodness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Second 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 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.

The choir sings the Anthem:

Fear not, O land, be glad and rejoice: for the Lord will do great things. Be not afraid, ye beasts of the field: for the pastures of the wilderness do spring, for the tree beareth her fruit, the fig tree and the vine do yield their strength. Be glad then, ye children of Zion, and rejoice in the Lord your God. The floors shall be full of wheat. And ye shall eat in plenty, and praise the Name of the Lord your God. that hath dealt wondrously with you. Amen.

Words: Joel 2.21-24, 26

Music: Edward Elgar (1857-1934)

Sermon— Revd Michelle Montrose

Please kneel for the prayers:

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 to sing the hymn during which a collection is taken:

**For the fruits of all creation,
Thanks be to God;
For the gifts to every nation,
Thanks be to God;
For the ploughing, sowing, reaping,
Silent growth while we are sleeping,
Future needs in earth's safe-keeping
Thanks be to God.**

**In the just reward of labour,
God's will is done;
In the help we give our neighbour,
God's will is done;
In our world-wide task of caring
For the hungry and despairing,
In the harvests we are sharing,
God's will is done.**

**For the harvests of the Spirit,
Thanks be to God;
For the good we all inherit,
Thanks be to God;
For the wonders that astound us,
For the truths that still confound us,
Most of all, that love has found us,
Thanks be to God.**

Words: Fred Pratt Green (1903-2000)

Music: 'East Aklam' Francis Jackson (1917-2022)

The Blessing:

... and the ✠blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Organ: Festival Voluntary—Flor Peeters (1903-86)

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