



St Mary Magdalene

CHORAL EVENSONG

23 Nov 2025 – Christ the King Minister – The Rev'd William Allberry

Please stand as the choir and minister enter

Introit

Welcome and Introduction

Office Hymn

**Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
does his successive journeys run;
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
till moons shall wax and wane no more.**

**2 People and realms of every tongue
dwell on his love with sweetest song,
and infant voices shall proclaim
their early blessings on his name.**

**3 Blessings abound where'er he reigns;
the prisoner leaps to lose his chains;
the weary find eternal rest,
and all the sons of want are blest.**

**4 Let every creature rise and bring
peculiar honours to our King;
angels descend with songs again,
and earth repeat the long Amen.**

Isaac Watts 1674-1748 NEH 388

Prayers of Penitence

Please sit or kneel

Dearly beloved, the Scripture moveth us in sundry places to acknowledge and confess our manifold sins and wickedness; and that we should not dissemble nor cloak them before the face of almighty God our heavenly Father; but confess them with a humble, lowly, penitent and obedient heart; to the end that we may obtain forgiveness of the same by his infinite goodness and mercy. And although we ought at all times humbly to acknowledge our sins before God; yet ought we most chiefly so to do, when we assemble and meet together to render thanks for

the great benefits that we have received at his hands, to set forth his most worthy praise, to hear his most holy word, and to ask those things which are requisite and necessary, as well for the body as the soul. Wherefore I pray and beseech you, as many as are here present, to accompany me with a pure heart, and humble voice, unto the throne of the heavenly grace, saying after me:

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.

Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who desireth not the death of a sinner, but rather that he may turn from his wickedness and live; and hath given power, and commandment, to his ministers to declare and pronounce to his people, being penitent, the absolution and remission of their sins: he pardoneth and absolveth all them that truly repent and unfeignedly believe his holy gospel. Wherefore let us beseech him to grant us true repentance, and his Holy Spirit, that those things may please him which we do at this present; and that the rest of our life hereafter may be pure and holy; so that at the last we may come to his eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

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. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Responses

Rose

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.*

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.
Praise ye the Lord. *The Lord's name be praised.*

Please be seated

Psalmody

Psalm 72

GIVE the King thy judgements, O God : and thy righteousness unto the King's son.
2 Then shall he judge thy people according unto right : and defend the poor.
3 The mountains also shall bring peace : and the little hills righteousness unto the people.
4 He shall keep the simple folk by their right : defend the children of the poor, and punish the wrong-doer.
5 They shall fear thee, as long as the sun and moon endureth : from one generation to another.
6 He shall come down like the rain into a fleece of wool : even as the drops that water the earth.
7 In his time shall the righteous flourish : yea, and abundance of peace, so long as the moon endureth.
8 His dominion shall be also from the one sea to the other : and from the flood unto the world's end.
9 They that dwell in the wilderness shall kneel before him : his enemies shall lick the dust.
10 The kings of Tharsis and of the isles shall give presents : the kings of Arabia and Saba shall bring gifts.
11 All kings shall fall down before him : all nations shall do him service.
12 For he shall deliver the poor when he crieth : the needy also, and him that hath no helper.
13 He shall be favourable to the simple and needy : and shall preserve the souls of the poor.
14 He shall deliver their souls from falsehood and wrong : and dear shall their blood be in his sight.
15 He shall live, and unto him shall be given of the gold of Arabia : prayer shall be made ever unto him, and daily shall he be praised.
16 There shall be an heap of corn in the earth, high upon the hills : his fruit shall shake like Libanus, and shall be green in the city like grass upon the earth.
17 His Name shall endure for ever; his Name shall remain under the sun among the posterities: which shall be blessed through him; and all the heathen shall praise him.
18 Blessed be the Lord God, even the God of Israel : which only doeth wondrous things;
19 And blessed be the Name of his majesty for ever : and all the earth shall be filled with his majesty. Amen, Amen.

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.

Please be seated

First Reading

1 Samuel 8:4-20

Then all the elders of Israel gathered themselves together, and came to Samuel unto Ramah, And said unto him, Behold, thou art old, and thy sons walk not in thy ways: now make us a king to judge us like all the nations. But the thing displeased Samuel, when they said, Give us a king to judge us. And Samuel prayed unto the LORD. And the LORD said unto Samuel, Hearken unto the voice of the people in all that they say unto thee: for they have not rejected thee, but they have rejected me, that I should not reign over them. According to all the works which they have done since the day that I brought them up out of Egypt even unto this day, wherewith they have forsaken me, and served other gods, so do they also unto thee. Now therefore hearken unto their voice: howbeit yet protest solemnly unto them, and shew them the manner of the king that shall reign over them. And Samuel told all the words of the LORD unto the people that asked of him a king. And he said, This will be the manner of the king that shall reign over you: He will take your sons, and appoint them for himself, for his chariots, and to be his horsemen; and some shall run before his chariots. And he will appoint him captains over thousands, and captains over fifties; and will set them to ear his ground, and to reap his harvest, and to make his instruments of war, and instruments of his chariots. And he will take your daughters to be confectionaries, and to be cooks, and to be bakers. And he will take your fields, and your vineyards, and your oliveyards, even the best of them, and give them to his servants. And he will take the tenth of your seed, and of your vineyards, and give to his officers, and to his servants. And he will take your menservants, and your maidservants, and your goodliest young men, and your asses, and put them to his work. He will take the tenth of your sheep: and ye shall be his servants. And ye shall cry out in that day because of your king which ye shall have chosen you; and the LORD will not hear you in that day. Nevertheless the people refused to obey the voice of Samuel; and they said, Nay; but we will have a king over us; That we also may be like all the nations; and that our king may judge us, and go out before us, and fight our battles.

Please stand

Magnificat

Howells Collegium Regale

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.

Please be seated

Second Reading

John 18:33-37

Then Pilate entered into the judgment hall again, and called Jesus, and said unto him, Art thou the King of the Jews? Jesus answered him, Sayest thou this thing of thyself, or did others tell it thee of me? Pilate answered, Am I a Jew? Thine own nation and the chief priests have delivered thee unto me: what hast thou done? Jesus answered, My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence. Pilate therefore said unto him, Art thou a king then? Jesus answered, Thou sayest that I am a king. To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth. Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice.

Please stand

Nunc Dimittis

Howells Collegium Regale

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.

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.**

Reponses

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.*

○ Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.

And grant us thy salvation.

○ Lord, save the King.

And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Endue thy ministers with righteousness.

And make thy chosen people joyful.

○ Lord, save thy people.

And bless thine inheritance.

Give peace in our time, ○ Lord.

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

○ God, make clean our hearts within us.

And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

The Collect of the Day

Stir up, we beseech thee, O Lord, the wills of thy faithful people; that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works, may of thee be plenteously rewarded; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **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.**

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.**

Anthem

Handel Lift up your heads

*Lift up your heads, O ye gates,
and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors,
and the King of Glory shall come in!*

Who is this King of Glory?

The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle.

*Lift up your heads, O ye gates,
and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors,
and the King of Glory shall come in!*

Who is this King of Glory?

The Lord of Hosts, He is the King of Glory.

Psalms 24:7-10

Sermon

Prayers *Ending 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.

Please stand

Hymn

**Rejoice, the Lord is King,
your Lord and King adore;
mortals, give thanks and sing,
and triumph evermore:
*lift up your heart, lift up your voice;
rejoice, again I say, rejoice.***

**2 Jesus, the Saviour, reigns,
the God of truth and love;
when he had purged our stains,
he took his seat above:**

**3 His kingdom cannot fail;
he rules o'er earth and heaven;
the keys of death and hell
are to our Jesus given:**

**4 He sits at God's right hand
till all his foes submit,
and bow to his command,
and fall beneath his feet:**

CHARLES WESLEY 1707-1788 NEH 443

Benediction

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Ghost, be with you this night and always. **Amen.**

Voluntary

Guilmant March on a theme of Handel