

Euensong.

The Duere with the Prica.



FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER 18th May 2025

SAINT JOHN'S EAST MALVERN

EVENSONG

Please stand when the bells are rung. The Ministers enter as a hymn is sung.

- 1. Brother, sister, let me serve you, let me be as Christ to you; pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too.
- 3. I will hold the Christ-light for you in the night-time of your fear; I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.
- 5. When we sing to God in heaven we shall find such harmony, born of all we've known together of Christ's love and agony.
- 6. Brother, sister, let me serve you, let me be as Christ to you; pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too.

Richard Gillard 1953-TIS 650

- V. O Lord, open thou our lips. Here it is customary to trace a cross on the lips.
- R. And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.
- V. O ♣ God, make speed to save us. Here it is customary to make the Sign of the Cross
- R. O Lord, make haste to help us.

Here it is customary to make a low bow from the waist until the words '...Holy Ghost'

- V. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
- R. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

V. Praise ye the Lord.

R. The Lord's name be praised.

The Officiant welcomes the congregation.

Please sit as we sing together the PSALM.

PSALM 107:1-3, 10-16.

O GIVE thanks unto the Lord, for he is gracious : and his mercy endureth for ever.

Let them give thanks whom the Lord hath redeemed: and delivered from the hand of the enemy;

And gathered them out of the lands, from the east and from the west: from the north and from the south.

Such as sit in darkness, and in the shadow of death: being fast bound in misery and iron;

Because they rebelled against the words of the Lord: and lightly regarded the counsel of the most Highest;

He also brought down their heart through heaviness: they fell down, and there was none to help them.

So when they cried unto the Lord in their trouble: he delivered them out of their distress.

For he brought them out of darkness, and out of the shadow of death: and brake their bonds in sunder.

O that men would therefore praise the Lord for his goodness: and declare the wonders that he doeth for the children of men!

For he hath broken the gates of brass: and smitten the bars of iron in sunder.

Here it is customary to bow until the words '...Holy Ghost'

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.

Remain seated for the FIRST LESSON from the Old Testament.

'And to the angel of the church in Sardis write: These are the words of him who has the seven spirits of God and the seven stars:

I know your works; you have a name for being alive, but you are dead. Wake up, and strengthen what remains and is at the point of death, for I have not found your works perfect in the sight of my God. Remember then what you received and heard; obey it, and repent. If you do not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come to you. Yet you have still a few people in Sardis who have not soiled their clothes; they will walk with me, dressed in white, for they are worthy. If you conquer, you will be clothed like them in white robes, and I will not blot your name out of the book of life; I will confess your name before my Father and before his angels. Let anyone who has an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches.

'And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write: These are the words of the holy one, the true one, who has the key of David, who opens and no one will shut, who shuts and no one opens:

I know your works. Look, I have set before you an open door, which no one is able to shut. I know that you have but little power, and yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name. I will make those of the synagogue of Satan who say that they are Jews and are not, but are lying—I will make them come and bow down before your feet, and they will learn that I have loved you. Because you have kept my word of patient endurance, I will keep you from the hour of trial that is coming on the whole world to test the inhabitants of the earth. I am coming soon; hold fast to what you have, so that no one may seize your crown. If you conquer, I will make you a pillar in the temple of my God; you will never go out of it. I will write on you the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, the new Jerusalem that comes down from my God out of heaven, and my own new name. Let anyone who has an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches.

Here endeth the first lesson.

Please stand to sing the MAGNIFICAT, the Song of the Blessed Virgin Mary



MY ★ soul doth | magnify the | Lord: here it is customary to make the Sign of the Cross and my spirit hath re | joicèd in | God my | Saviour.

For he | hath re | garded:

The | lowliness | of his | hand-maiden.

For be | hold, from | henceforth:

all gene | rations shall | call me | blessèd.

For he that is mighty hath | magni•fièd | me:

And | holy | is his | Name.

And his mercy is on | them that | fear him:

Through | out all | gene | rations.

He hath shewed | strength • with his | arm:

he hath scatterèd the proud in the imagi | nation | of their | hearts.

He hath put down the mighty | from their | seat:

and hath ex | alted the | humble and | meek.

He hath filled the hungry with | good | things:

and the rich he | hath sent | empty a | way.

He re | membering his | mercy:

hath | holpen his | servant | Israel.

As he promisèd | to our | fore•fathers:

Abraham | and his | seed for | ever.

Here it is customary to make a low bow from the waist until the words '... Holy Ghost'

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. A | -- | men.

Please sit for the SECOND LESSON from the New Testament.

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

[12.1-17a]

About that time King Herod laid violent hands upon some who belonged to the church. He had James, the brother of John, killed with the sword. After he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter also. (This was during the festival of Unleavened Bread.) When he had seized him, he put him in prison and handed him over to four squads of soldiers to guard him, intending to bring him out to the people after the Passover. While Peter was kept in prison, the church prayed fervently to God for him.

The very night before Herod was going to bring him out, Peter, bound with two chains, was sleeping between two soldiers, while guards in front of the door were keeping watch over the prison. Suddenly an angel of the Lord appeared and a light shone in the cell. He tapped Peter on the side and woke him, saying, 'Get up quickly.' And the chains fell off his wrists. The angel said to him, 'Fasten your belt and put on your sandals.' He did so. Then he said to him, 'Wrap your cloak around you and follow me.' Peter went out and followed him; he did not realize that what was happening with the angel's help was real; he thought he was seeing a vision. After they had passed the first and the second guard, they came before the iron gate leading into the city. It opened for them of its own accord, and they went outside and walked along a lane, when suddenly the angel left him. Then Peter came to himself and said, 'Now I am sure that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from the hands of Herod and from all that the Jewish people were expecting.'

As soon as he realized this, he went to the house of Mary, the mother of John whose other name was Mark, where many had gathered and were praying. When he knocked at the outer gate, a maid named Rhoda came to answer. On recognizing Peter's voice, she was so overjoyed that, instead of opening the gate, she ran in and announced that Peter was standing at the gate. They said to her, 'You are out of your mind!' But she insisted that it was so. They said, 'It is his angel.' Meanwhile, Peter continued knocking; and when they opened the gate, they saw him and were amazed. He motioned to them with his hand to be silent, and described for them how the Lord had brought him out of the prison. And he added, 'Tell this to James and to the believers.' Then he left and went to another place.

Here endeth the second lesson.



LORD now lettest thou thy servant de | part in | peace :

ac | cording | to thy | word.

For mine eyes have | seen thy sal | vation:

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.

Here it is customary to make a low bow from the waist until the words '... Holy Ghost'

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. A | -- | men.

The APOSTLES' CREED is said as all face the window of 'Christ the Light of the World'

I BELIEVE in God the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth: and in here it is customary to make a slight bow 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 ** here it is customary to make the Sign of the Cross of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The VERSICLES AND RESPONSES are sung.

- V. The Lord be with you.
- R. And with thy spirit.

All kneel or sit

V. Let us pray.

- V. Lord, have mercy upon us.
- R. Christ, have mercy upon us.
- V. Lord, have mercy upon us.

The LORD'S PRAYER is sung

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.

- V. O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.
- R. And grant us thy salvation.
- V. O Lord, save the King.
- R. And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.
- V. Endue thy Ministers with righteousness.
- R. And make thy chosen people joyful.
- V. O Lord, save thy people.
- R. And bless thine inheritance.
- V. Give peace in our time, O Lord.
- R. Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.
- V. O God, make clean our hearts within us.
- R. And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

The Officiant sings the COLLECTS: the first of the day, the second for Peace, the third for Aid against all Perils

ALMIGHTY God, who through thine only-begotten Son Jesus Christ hast overcome death, and opened unto us the gate of everlasting life: We humbly beseech thee, that as by thy special grace preventing us thou dost put into our minds good desires, so by thy continual help we may bring the same to good

effect; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. **Amen.**

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.**

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.**

Please sit for the MUSICAL REFLECTION

Please kneel for the PRAYERS

Please stand to sing the hymn

- 1. Come down, O Love divine, seek now this soul of mine, and visit it with your own ardour glowing; O Comforter, draw near, within my heart appear and kindle it, your holy flame bestowing.
- 2. There let it freely burn, till earthly passions turn to dust and ashes, in its heat consuming; and let your glorious light shine ever on my sight and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.
- 3. Let holy charity
 my outer garment be,
 and lowliness become my inner clothing:
 true lowliness of heart,
 which takes the humbler part
 and for its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.

4. And so the yearning strong with which the soul will long shall far outpass the power of human telling; for none can guess its grace till we become the place in which the Holy Spirit makes his dwelling.

Bianco de Siena d. 1434 tr. Richard Frederick Littledale 1833-90 alt TIS 398

Remain standing for the BLESSING.

The organist plays the POSTLUDE

Please join us for cheese and wine after the service



FINCH STREET

MUSIC HIGHLIGHTS 2025

ASH WEDNESDAY Wednesday March 5, 6pm

TENEBRAE Tuesday April 15, 7:30pm

MAUNDY THURSDAY Thursday April 17, 7pm

GOOD FRIDAY DEVOTION Friday April 18, 10am

EASTER SUNDAY Sunday April 20, 9:30am

SCHOLARS' SOIREE Friday May 9, 7pm

MIDWINTER COMPLINE Sunday June 22, 8pm

CATHEDRAL EVENSONG Sunday July 13, 4pm

CHOIR SHOWCASE CONCERT Friday September 19, 7pm

ALL SOULS' REQUIEM Sunday November 2, 7pm

NINE LESSONS & CAROLS Sunday December 21, 7:30pm

MIDNIGHT MASS Wednesday December 24, 11pm

CHRISTMAS MORNING Thursday December 25, 9:30am

SAINT OHN'S EAST MALVERN

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SAINT JOHN'S St John's



FINCH STREET

CHORAL EVENSONG

A service of music, prayer and Scripture led by our outstanding Parish Choir, followed by wine and cheese

FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH, 6PM

