ST MARY REDCLIFFE

THE ORDER FOR **CHORAL EVENSONG** ON SUNDAYS

Welcome to St Mary Redcliffe

Singing the song of faith and justice

Welcome to Choral Evensong, the most celebrated and beloved service in the Church of England since 1549, especially if you are joining us for the first time. We are an inclusive church and celebrate our diversity, welcoming and affirming all who wish to share in the Love of God.

You are welcome here today.

Any instructions given in worship are only invitations. Please adopt the position you find most helpful or comfortable. Join in with the service as you feel able, speaking where words are in bold. If you prefer to let the liturgy wash over you then that's fine too! Please also be aware that this service is livestreamed. If you would prefer not to appear in the livestream please speak to a welcomer who will assist you to find an appropriate seat.

Giving is a part of Christian worship. At the offertory hymn at the end of the service a collection will take place. There is no compulsion; it is an opportunity to participate in this part of the liturgy, but you may prefer to use the card machines at the back of church or feel unable to contribute at this time. St Mary Redcliffe is a charity and receives no funding from the central church or government so we are hugely grateful to all who contribute to our ministry and work.

Safeguarding is our first priority. If you have any concerns please contact Esther Keller on 07811723427 or at: safeguarding.officer@stmaryredcliffe.co.uk

Welcome to St Mary Redcliffe. Please take some time before the service to pray and prepare to meet God. The music, hymns and readings for tonight's service are on the separate sheet.

The Introit

Sung by the choir.

Please stand as the choir and ministers enter.

The Welcome

The congregation are welcomed and notices are given.

Hymn

An opening hymn is sung.

Rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the Lord your God: for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth him of the evil.

Let us pray.

Please kneel or be seated.

Confession and Absolution

DEARLY beloved brethren,
the Scripture moveth us in sundry places
to acknowledge and confess our manifold sins
and wickedness;
and that we should not dissemble nor cloke them before
the face of Almighty God our heavenly Father;
but confess them with an 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:

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.

A priest says:

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.

All **Amen.**

Or otherwise, a minister:

Grant we beseech thee, merciful Lord, to thy faithful people pardon and peace, that they may be cleansed from all their sins, and serve thee with a quiet mind; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Preces and Responses

Sung by the minister and choir.

O Lord, open thou our lips.
R: *And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.*

O God, make speed to save us.
R: *O Lord, make haste to help us.*

Please stand, as you are able.

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.*

Praise ye the Lord.
R: The Lord's Name be praised.

Psalms appointed for the Day

Please be seated.

The psalms appointed for the day are sung.

Please stand, as you are able.
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 First Lesson

Please be seated.

A reading from the Old Testament is read, concluding:
Here endeth the lesson.

The Magnificat

Please stand, as you are able.

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.

The Second Lesson

Please be seated for a reading from the New Testament, concluding:

Here endeth the lesson.

The Nunc Dimittis

Please stand as you are able.

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

Please remain standing, all facing East.

All **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.

Preces and Responses

The Lord be with you.
R: ***And with thy spirit.***

Let us pray.

Please kneel or be seated.

Lord, have mercy upon us.
R: ***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.

O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.
R: *And grant us thy salvation.*

O Lord, save the King.
R: *And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.*
Endue thy Ministers with righteousness.
R: *And make thy chosen people joyful.*

O Lord, save thy people.
R: *And bless thine inheritance.*

Give peace in our time, O Lord.
R: *Because there is none other that fighteth for us,*
but only thou, O God.

O God, make clean our hearts within us.
R: *And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.*

The Collects

The collect for the day is sung.

In Lent the Collect for Ash Wednesday is sung,
and in Advent the Collect for the first Sunday in Advent.

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.

R: *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.

R: *Amen.*

The Grace

The grace is said by all:

All **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.

The Anthem

The choir sing the anthem. The congregation sits.

Sermon

Please be seated.

Following the sermon a voluntary may be played or silence held.

The Intercessions

The intercessions follow, ending with the Prayer of Saint Chrysostom:

ALMIGHTY God,
who hast given us grace at this time with one accord
to make our common supplications unto thee;
and dost promise that when two or three are gathered
together in thy Name thou wilt grant their requests:
Fulfil now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants,
as may be most expedient for them;
granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth,
and in the world to come life everlasting.

All **Amen.**

Offertory Hymn

Please stand as you are able. During the final hymn a collection is taken for the work of St Mary Redcliffe.

The Blessing

Please remain standing for this or another seasonal blessing:

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,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost,
be amongst you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

The Voluntary

Following the departure of the choir and ministers, please be seated for the remainder of the Organ Voluntary.
A reception may follow at the West End.

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