

# Choral Evensong

**The Fourth Sunday in Lent, 15<sup>th</sup> March 2026: 5:30pm**

*Introit: O Nata Lux – Kerry Andrew (b. 1978)*

*Responses: Peter Thomas Nardone (b. 1965)*

*Canticles: First Service – June Nixon (b. 1942)*

*Anthem: Crux Fidelis – Sarah MacDonald (b. 1968)*

*Voluntary: Christ, unser Herr, zum Jordan kam BWV 684 - J.S. Bach 1685-1750*

## Office Hymn 408

**1. Love divine, all loves excelling,  
joy of heaven, to earth come down.**

**Fix in us thy humble dwelling,  
all thy faithful mercies crown.**

**Jesu, thou art all compassion,  
pure unbounded love thou art;  
visit us with thy salvation,  
enter every trembling heart.**

**2. Come, almighty to deliver,  
let us all thy life receive;  
suddenly return and never,  
never more thy temples leave.**  
**Thee we would be always blessing,  
serve thee as thy hosts above,  
pray and praise thee without ceasing,  
glory in thy perfect love.**

**3. Finish then thy new creation,  
pure and spotless let us be;  
let us see thy great salvation  
perfectly restored in thee,  
changed from glory into glory,  
till in heaven we take our place,  
till we cast our crowns before thee,  
lost in wonder, love and praise!**

*BLAENWERN NEH 408*

*Charles Wesley 1707-88*

*William Rowlands 1860-1937*

## **Psalm: 31:1-8**

In thee, O Lord, do I put my trust; let me never be ashamed: deliver me in thy righteousness.

Bow down thine ear to me; deliver me speedily: be thou my strong rock, for an house of defence to save me.

For thou art my rock and my fortress; therefore for thy name's sake lead me, and guide me.

Pull me out of the net that they have laid privily for me: for thou art my strength.  
Into thine hand I commit my spirit: thou hast redeemed me, O Lord God of truth.  
I have hated them that regard lying vanities: but I trust in the Lord.  
I will be glad and rejoice in thy mercy: for thou hast considered my trouble;  
thou hast known my soul in adversities;  
And hast not shut me up into the hand of the enemy: thou hast set my feet in  
a large room.

## **Old Testament Reading: Micah 7**

Woe is me! For I have become like one who, after the summer fruit has been gathered, after the vintage has been gleaned, finds no cluster to eat; there is no first-ripe fig for which I hunger. The faithful have disappeared from the land, and there is no one left who is upright; they all lie in wait for blood, and they hunt each other with nets. Their hands are skilled to do evil; the official and the judge ask for a bribe, and the powerful dictate what they desire; thus they pervert justice. The best of them is like a brier, the most upright of them a thorn hedge. The day of their sentinels, of their punishment, has come; now their confusion is at hand. Put no trust in a friend, have no confidence in a loved one; guard the doors of your mouth from her who lies in your embrace; for the son treats the father with contempt, the daughter rises up against her mother, the daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; your enemies are members of your own household. But as for me, I will look to the LORD, I will wait for the God of my salvation; my God will hear me. Do not rejoice over me, O my enemy; when I fall, I shall rise; when I sit in darkness, the LORD will be a light to me. I must bear the indignation of the LORD, because I have sinned against him, until he takes my side and executes judgement for me. He will bring me out to the light; I shall see his vindication. Then my enemy will see, and shame will cover her who said to me, 'Where is the LORD your God?' My eyes will see her downfall; now she will be trodden down like the mire of the streets. A day for the building of your walls! In that day the boundary shall be far extended. In that day they will come to you from Assyria to Egypt, and from Egypt to the River, from sea to sea and from mountain to mountain. But the earth will be desolate because of its inhabitants, for the fruit of their doings. Shepherd your people with your staff, the flock that belongs to you, which lives alone in a forest in the midst of a garden land; let them feed in Bashan and Gilead as in the days of old. As in the days when you came out of the land of Egypt, show us marvellous things. The nations shall see and be ashamed of all

their might; they shall lay their hands on their mouths; their ears shall be deaf; they shall lick dust like a snake, like the crawling things of the earth; they shall come trembling out of their fortresses; they shall turn in dread to the LORD our God, and they shall stand in fear of you. Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity and passing over the transgression of the remnant of your possession? He does not retain his anger for ever, because he delights in showing clemency. He will again have compassion upon us; he will tread our iniquities under foot. You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea. You will show faithfulness to Jacob and unswerving loyalty to Abraham, as you have sworn to our ancestors from the days of old.

## **New Testament Reading: James 5**

Come now, you rich people, weep and wail for the miseries that are coming to you. <sup>2</sup>Your riches have rotted, and your clothes are moth-eaten. <sup>3</sup>Your gold and silver have rusted, and their rust will be evidence against you, and it will eat your flesh like fire. You have laid up treasure for the last days. <sup>4</sup>Listen! The wages of the labourers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, cry out, and the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. <sup>5</sup>You have lived on the earth in luxury and in pleasure; you have fattened your hearts on a day of slaughter. <sup>6</sup>You have condemned and murdered the righteous one, who does not resist you. <sup>7</sup>Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. <sup>8</sup>You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. <sup>9</sup>Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! <sup>10</sup>As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. <sup>11</sup>Indeed we call blessed those who showed endurance. You have heard of the endurance of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful. <sup>12</sup>Above all, my beloved, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or by any other oath, but let your 'Yes' be yes and your 'No' be no, so that you may not fall under condemnation. <sup>13</sup>Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. <sup>14</sup>Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. <sup>15</sup>The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord

will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. <sup>16</sup>Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. <sup>17</sup>Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. <sup>18</sup>Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest. <sup>19</sup>My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

## **Collect**

GRANT, we beseech thee, Almighty God,  
that we, who for our evil deeds do worthily deserve to be punished,  
by the comfort of thy grace may mercifully be relieved;  
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.  
Amen.

## Office Hymn

**1. At the name of Jesus  
ev'ry knee shall bow,  
ev'ry tongue confess him  
King of glory now.  
'Tis the Father's pleasure  
we should call him Lord,  
who from the beginning  
was the mighty Word.**

**2. At his voice creation  
sprang at once to sight,  
all the angel faces,  
all the hosts of light,  
thrones and dominations,  
stars upon their way,  
all the heav'nly orders  
in their great array.**

**3. Humbled for a season  
to receive a name  
from the lips of sinners  
unto whom he came,  
faithfully he bore it  
spotless to the last,  
brought it back victorious,  
when from death he passed.**

**4. Bore it up triumphant  
with its human light,  
Through all ranks of creatures,  
to the central height,  
To the throne of Godhead,  
to the Father's breast;  
Filled it with the glory  
of that perfect rest.**

**5. In your hearts enthrone him;  
there let him subdue  
all that is not holy,  
all that is not true;  
He is God the Saviour,  
He is Christ the Lord,  
Ever to be worshipped,  
trusted and adored.**

**6. Brothers, this Lord Jesus  
shall return again,  
with his Father's glory,  
with his angel train;  
for all wreaths of empire  
meet upon his brow,  
and our hearts confess him  
King of glory now.**

*EVELYNS NEH 338  
Caroline Noel 1817-77  
W.H. Monk 1823-89*

### Offertory Hymn

*(a collection will be taken during this hymn)*

**1. Round me falls the night;  
Savior, be my light.  
Through the hours in darkness  
shrouded  
let me see thy face unclouded;  
let thy glory shine  
in this heart of mine.**

**2. Earthly work is done;  
earthly sounds are none.  
Rest in sleep and silence seeking,  
Jesus, let me hear you speaking;  
"Neither fret nor fear;  
I am always near."**

**3. Blessed, heavenly light,  
shining through earth's night,  
voice that oft of love has told me,  
arms so strong to clasp and hold me –  
careful watch now keep,  
Savior, o'er my sleep.**

*ARNSTADT (SEELLENBRAUTIGAM) NEH 249  
William Romanis 1824-99  
Melody contribute to Geistliches Gesanfbuch  
Darmstadt 1698 by A. Drese 1620-1710*