

## 25<sup>th</sup> January 2026

### The Conversion of Paul

#### Hymn 154

A heavenly splendour from on high,  
a light too great for mortal eye,  
deprives the hunter of his prey  
and turns his threatening wrath away.

In darkened eyes, an inward light  
begins to shine upon his sight,  
as in his heart he hears the call  
to follow, and surrender all.

The Christ, for sinners crucified,  
whose risen power he had denied,  
now claims this servant for his own,  
and bids him make the gospel known.

The nations listen to his voice,  
and in the peace of Christ rejoice;  
the Church on earth his praises sing,  
who led the Gentiles to their King.

Blest Paul, the convert of the Lord,  
may heaven's light to us afford



5.30pm Choral Evensong  
Hymns and Readings Sheet  
St Mary Redcliffe with Temple,  
Bristol and St John the Baptist, Bedminster

a blindness to the lures of sin,  
that we with thee a crown may win

To God the Father, God the Son,  
and God the Spirit, Three in One,  
from saints on earth and saints in heaven,  
let everlasting praise be given. Amen.

*Words: G.B Timms*

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## Psalm: 119. 41-56 pg. 503

Let thy loving mercy come also unto me, O Lord :  
even thy salvation, according unto thy word.

So shall I make answer unto my blasphemers :  
for my trust is in thy word.

O take not the word of thy truth utterly out of my mouth :  
for my hope is in thy judgements.

So shall I alway keep thy law :  
yea, for ever and ever.

And I will walk at liberty :  
for I seek thy commandments.

I will speak of thy testimonies also, even before kings :  
and will not be ashamed.

And my delight shall be in thy commandments : which I have  
loved.

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My hands also will I lift up unto thy commandments, which I have loved : and my study shall be in thy statutes.

O think upon thy servant, as concerning thy word : wherein thou hast caused me to put my trust.

The same is my comfort in my trouble : for thy word hath quickened me.

The proud have had me exceedingly in derision : yet have I not shranked from thy law.

For I remembered thine everlasting judgements, O Lord : and received comfort.

I am horribly afraid : for the ungodly that forsake thy law. Thy statutes have been my songs : in the house of my pilgrimage.

I have thought upon thy Name, O Lord, in the night-season : and have kept thy law.

This I had : because I kept thy commandments.

### Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 56.1-8

Thus says the Lord:  
Maintain justice, and do what is right,  
for soon my salvation will come,  
and my deliverance be revealed.

Happy is the mortal who does this,  
the one who holds it fast,

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who keeps the sabbath, not profaning it,  
and refrains from doing any evil.

Do not let the foreigner joined to the Lord say,  
'The Lord will surely separate me from his people';

and do not let the eunuch say,  
'I am just a dry tree.'

For thus says the Lord:

To the eunuchs who keep my sabbaths,  
who choose the things that please me  
and hold fast my covenant,

I will give, in my house and within my walls,  
a monument and a name  
better than sons and daughters;

I will give them an everlasting name  
that shall not be cut off.

And the foreigners who join themselves to the Lord,  
to minister to him, to love the name of the Lord,

and to be his servants,

all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it,  
and hold fast my covenant—

these I will bring to my holy mountain,

and make them joyful in my house of prayer;

their burnt-offerings and their sacrifices

will be accepted on my altar;

for my house shall be called a house of prayer  
for all peoples.

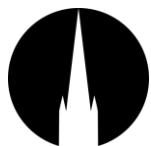
Thus says the Lord God,

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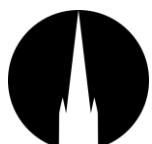
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who gathers the outcasts of Israel,  
I will gather others to them  
besides those already gathered.

### New Testament Reading: Colossians 1.24 - 2.7

I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am completing what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church. I became its servant according to God's commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, the mystery that has been hidden throughout the ages and generations but has now been revealed to his saints. To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. It is he whom we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ. For this I toil and struggle with all the energy that he powerfully inspires within me.

For I want you to know how much I am struggling for you, and for those in Laodicea, and for all who have not seen me face to face. I want their hearts to be encouraged and united in love, so that they may have all the riches of assured understanding and have the knowledge of God's mystery, that is, Christ himself, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. I am saying this so that no one may deceive you with plausible arguments. For though I am absent in body, yet I am with you in



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spirit, and I rejoice to see your morale and the firmness of your faith in Christ.

As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

## Collect

O God, who, through the preaching of the blessed Apostle Saint Paul, hast caused the light of the Gospel to shine throughout the world; Grant, we beseech thee, that we, having his wonderful conversion in remembrance, may shew forth our thankfulness unto thee for the same, by following the holy doctrine which he taught; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## Hymn 51

Hail, thou Source of every blessing,  
Sovereign Father of mankind!  
Gentiles now, thy grace possessing,  
In thy courts admission find.

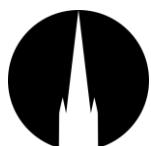
Once far off, but now invited,  
We approach thy sacred throne;  
In thy covenant united,  
Reconciled, redeemed, made one.

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Now revealed to eastern sages,  
See the star of mercy shine,  
Mystery hid in former ages,  
Mystery great of love divine.

Hail, thou universal Saviour!  
Gentiles now their offerings bring,  
In thy temple seek thy favour,  
Jesu Christ, our Lord and King.

*Author: Basil Woodd  
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## Hymn 244

Glory to thee, my God, this night  
For all the blessings of the light;  
Keep me, O keep me, King of kings,  
Beneath thy own almighty wings.

Forgive me, Lord, for thy dear Son,  
The ill that I this day have done,  
That with the world, myself and thee,  
I, ere I sleep, at peace may be.

Teach me to live, that I may dread  
The grave as little as my bed;  
Teach me to die, that so I may  
Rise glorious at the aweful day.

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O may my soul on thee repose,  
And with sweet sleep my eyelids close,  
Sleep that may me more vigorous make  
To serve my God when I awake.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,  
Praise him all creatures here below,  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host,  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

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