



St Mary Redcliffe

Choral Evensong
Sunday 3 August 2025
5.30pm

Seventh Sunday after Trinity

Officiant: Revd Simon Goodman
Sung by Chester Cathedral Nave Choir

Welcome to St Mary Redcliffe

Singing the song of faith and justice

as a thriving, inclusive Christian community

as a recognised, welcoming heritage destination

as a church that makes a difference in the parish and beyond

Welcome to this service of Evensong which brings together our congregations in church and online.

*If you are worshipping in church, please be aware that **this service is livestreamed**. Our online congregation would love to see you, as it helps us to feel together, but if this causes you difficulties, please speak to a welcomer who will assist you to find an appropriate seat.*

If you are unsure where we are in the service, please do turn and ask those around you if you wish: or let the worship carry on around you and enjoy the presence of God made known through music, colour, architecture and movement.

*May the glory of God enthrall you,
the wonder of God inspire you,
and the love of God fill you.*

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NOTICES

Praying through the vacancy process

The next round of adverts and interviews will happen in the autumn. In the meantime please continue to pray:

*Almighty God, look with grace upon this church community
as we seek a faithful shepherd to lead us in your way.
Grant us wisdom in discernment,
patience in waiting, and unity in purpose,
that we may call one who will serve with love,
preach your Word with truth,
help us sing the song of faith and justice
and guide us ever closer to your son, Jesus Christ.
Prepare the heart of the one you are calling,
and prepare us to welcome them with joy,
so that together we may grow in faith and mission,
to the glory of your holy name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*

St Mary Redcliffe Church Lands Charity

This charity is one of the major funders of our worship support and building maintenance. Without the grant income from the "CLC" we would all be spending a lot more time fund-raising! CLC is looking for new directors. Anyone wanting to know more is encouraged to talk to Laura in the first instance.

CONTACTS

Parish Office

12 Colston Parade, Bristol, BS1 6RA

0117 231 0060 (Option 1) | parish.office@stmaryredcliffe.co.uk

Church

0117 231 0060 (Option 2) | verger@stmaryredcliffe.co.uk

People

Associate Vicar: Revd Laura Verrall-Kelly

laura.verrall-kelly@stmaryredcliffe.co.uk

Curate: Revd Simon Goodman

simon.goodman@stmaryredcliffe.co.uk

Assistant Priest: Canon Dr Stephen Spencer

stephen.spencer@stmaryredcliffe.co.uk

Safeguarding Officer: Esther Keller

Safeguarding.officer@stmaryredcliffe.co.uk

Church Wardens: Richard Dyton and Liz Hewitt

church.wardens@stmaryredcliffe.co.uk

Facebook: [/stmaryredcliffe](https://www.facebook.com/stmaryredcliffe) | Twitter: [@stmaryredcliffe](https://twitter.com/stmaryredcliffe) | Instagram: [@stmaryredcliffe](https://www.instagram.com/stmaryredcliffe)

- ✓ *Children* are always welcome. Children's Church happens during the 10.30 Sung Eucharist and groups for Toddlers through to Teenagers take place regularly both on-line and in person.
- ✓ We take safeguarding seriously at SMR, if you have any concerns or questions, please contact our safeguarding officer.
- ✓ Please ring the parish office if anyone is in hospital and needs *Visiting*.
- ✓ There is a *Loop System* in the nave, but you'll need to use the T position.
- ✓ *Toilets* etc. are in the Undercroft and an accessible Portaloo by the South Porch.
- ✓ *Collections* to help fund the mission of the church are taken using the Contactless Donation Points at the rear of the church. For those joining us online, donations can be made [here](#). If you pay tax in the UK please add your details so we can claim *Gift Aid*.
- ✓ *Please switch your Mobile Phone to silent and resist the temptation to take Photos or Video of the service: the live stream is available on the website for a few days.*

Introit: With prayer and supplication *Beach* *Sung by the choir*

We stand as the choir and ministers enter

Welcome and Notices

Hymn 248

O strength and Stay upholding all creation,
Who ever dost thyself unmoved abide,
Yet day by day the light in due gradation
From hour to hour through all its changes guide;

Grant to life's day a calm unclouded ending,
An eve untouched by shadows of decay,
The brightness of a holy death-bed blending
With dawning glories of the eternal day.

Hear us, O Father, gracious and forgiving,
Through Jesus Christ thy co-eternal Word,
Who, with the Holy Ghost, by all things living
Now and to endless ages art adored. Amen

*Words: St Ambrose Tr Ellerton and Hort
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Introduction

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 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:

We kneel or sit and say together

**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.**

When no priest is present, the minister says:

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. Amen.

When a priest is present, the absolution is said:

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.

We say together

**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.**

Preces and Responses: *Sumsion*

The minister and choir sing the opening preces and responses.

O Lord, open thou our lips.

And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

O God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

We stand, as the minister and choir continue

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.

We sit for the psalm.

Psalm 107, 1-12 (p486)

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.

They went astray in the wilderness out of the way:
and found no city to dwell in;

Hungry and thirsty:
their soul fainted in them.

So they cried unto the Lord in their trouble:
and he delivered them from their distress.

He led them forth by the right way:
that they might go to the city where they dwelt.
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 satisfieth the empty soul:
and filleth the hungry soul with goodness.
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.

We stand at the end of the psalm as 'The Gloria' is sung
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.

We sit

Old Testament Lesson: Genesis 50, 4-26

When the days of weeping for him were past, Joseph addressed the household of Pharaoh, 'If now I have found favour with you, please speak to Pharaoh as follows: My father made me swear an oath; he said, "I am about to die. In the tomb that I hewed out for myself in the land of Canaan, there you shall bury me." Now therefore let me go up, so that I may bury my father; then I will return.' Pharaoh answered, 'Go up, and bury your father, as he made you swear to do.'

So Joseph went up to bury his father. With him went up all the servants of Pharaoh, the elders of his household, and all the elders of the land of Egypt, as well as all the household of Joseph, his

brothers, and his father's household. Only their children, their flocks, and their herds were left in the land of Goshen. Both chariots and charioteers went up with him. It was a very great company. When they came to the threshing-floor of Atad, which is beyond the Jordan, they held there a very great and sorrowful lamentation; and he observed a time of mourning for his father for seven days. When the Canaanite inhabitants of the land saw the mourning on the threshing-floor of Atad, they said, 'This is a grievous mourning on the part of the Egyptians.' Therefore the place was named Abel-mizraim; it is beyond the Jordan. Thus his sons did for him as he had instructed them. They carried him to the land of Canaan and buried him in the cave of the field at Machpelah, the field near Mamre, which Abraham bought as a burial site from Ephron the Hittite. After he had buried his father, Joseph returned to Egypt with his brothers and all who had gone up with him to bury his father.

Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, 'What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?' So they approached Joseph, saying, 'Your father gave this instruction before he died, "Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you." Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father.' Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, 'We are here as your slaves.' But Joseph said to them, 'Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones.' In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

So Joseph remained in Egypt, he and his father's household; and Joseph lived for one hundred and ten years. Joseph saw Ephraim's children of the third generation; the children of Machir son of Manasseh were also born on Joseph's knees.

Then Joseph said to his brothers, 'I am about to die; but God will surely come to you, and bring you up out of this land to the land that he swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.' So Joseph made the Israelites swear, saying, 'When God comes to you, you shall carry up my bones from here.' And Joseph died, being one hundred and ten years old; he was embalmed and placed in a coffin in Egypt.

We stand

Magnificat in C Kelly

The choir sings the Song of Mary.

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 showed 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.

We sit

New Testament Lesson: 1 Corinthians 14, 1-19

Pursue love and strive for the spiritual gifts, and especially that you may prophesy. For those who speak in a tongue do not speak to other people but to God; for nobody understands them, since they are speaking mysteries in the Spirit. On the other hand, those who prophesy speak to other people for their building up and encouragement and consolation. Those who speak in a tongue build up themselves, but those who prophesy build up the church. Now I would like all of you to speak in tongues, but even more to prophesy. One who prophesies is greater than one who speaks in tongues, unless someone interprets, so that the church may be built up.

Now, brothers and sisters, if I come to you speaking in tongues, how will I benefit you unless I speak to you in some revelation or knowledge or prophecy or teaching? It is the same way with lifeless instruments that produce sound, such as the flute or the harp. If they do not give distinct notes, how will anyone know what is being played? And if the bugle gives an indistinct sound, who will get ready for battle? So with yourselves; if in a tongue you utter speech that is not intelligible, how will anyone know what is being said? For you will be speaking into the air. There are doubtless many different kinds of sounds in the world, and nothing is without sound. If then I do not know the meaning of a sound, I will be a foreigner to the speaker and the speaker a foreigner to me. So with yourselves; since you are eager for spiritual gifts, strive to excel in them for building up the church.

Therefore, one who speaks in a tongue should pray for the power to interpret. For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays but my mind is unproductive. What should I do then? I will pray with the spirit, but

I will pray with the mind also; I will sing praise with the spirit, but I will sing praise with the mind also. Otherwise, if you say a blessing with the spirit, how can anyone in the position of an outsider say the 'Amen' to your thanksgiving, since the outsider does not know what you are saying? For you may give thanks well enough, but the other person is not built up. I thank God that I speak in tongues more than all of you; nevertheless, in church I would rather speak five words with my mind, in order to instruct others also, than ten thousand words in a tongue.

We stand

Nunc Dimittis in C Kelly

The choir sings the Song of Simeon.

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.

Luke 2.29-32

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.

Apostles' Creed

We all face east to say the 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.**

Preces and Responses: *Sumsion*

The minister and choir continue to sing the preces and responses after the creed.

The Lord be with you.
And with thy spirit.
Let us pray.

We kneel or sit, as the minister and choir continue

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.

O Lord, show thy mercy upon us.
And grant us thy salvation.
O Lord, save the King.
And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Endue thy Ministers with righteousness.
And make thy chosen people joyful.
O Lord, save thy people.
And bless thine inheritance.

Give peace in our time, O Lord.
Because there is none other that fighteth for us,
but only thou, O God.
O God, make clean our hearts within us.
And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

Collects

The minister chants the collects and the choir sings the 'Amen'

Collect for the Day

Lord of all power and might,
who art the author and giver of all good things;
Graft in our hearts the love of thy Name,
increase in us true religion, nourish us with all goodness,
and of thy great mercy keep us in the same;
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.

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.

We sit for the choir to sing an anthem

Anthem: As truly as God is our Father *Mathias*

Prayers

The minister says

Let us pray

We kneel

Prayers are said by the minister or another person

At the end of the prayers we say 'The Grace' together

**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.**

We stand

Hymn 397

Let us, with a gladsome mind,
Praise the Lord, for he is kind:
For his mercies ay endure,
Ever faithful, ever sure.

Let us blaze his name abroad,
For of gods he is the God:
For his mercies ay endure,
Ever faithful, ever sure.

He with all-commanding might
Filled the new-made world with light:
For his mercies ay endure,
Ever faithful, ever sure.

He the golden-tressèd sun
Caused all day his course to run:
For his mercies ay endure,
Ever faithful, ever sure.

And the horned moon by night,
Mid her spangled sisters bright:
For his mercies ay endure,
Ever faithful, ever sure.

All things living he doth feed,
His full hand supplies their need:
For his mercies ay endure,
Ever faithful, ever sure.

Let us, with a gladsome mind,
Praise the Lord, for he is kind:
For his mercies ay endure,
Ever faithful, ever sure.

Words: Milton

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We sit

Sermon

We stand

Offertory Hymn 333

As part of our commitment to the work in the parish you are invited to make a financial contribution to the life of this church using this link <https://donate.mydona.com/st-mary-redcliffe-pcc>

All my hope on God is founded;
He doth still my trust renew,
Me through change and chance he guideth,
Only good and only true.
God unknown,
He alone
Calls my heart to be his own.

Pride of man and earthly glory,
Sword and crown betray his trust;
What with care and toil he buildeth,

Tower and temple fall to dust.
But God's power,
Hour by hour,
Is my temple and my tower.

God's great goodness aye endureth,
Deep his wisdom, passing thought:
Splendour, light and life attend him,
Beauty springeth out of naught.
Evermore
From his store
New-born worlds rise and adore.

Daily doth th'Almighty giver
Bounteous gifts on us bestow;
His desire our soul delighteth,
Pleasure leads us where we go.
Love doth stand
At his hand;
Joy doth wait on his command.

Still from man to God eternal
Sacrifice of praise be done,
High above all praises praising
For the gift of Christ his Son.
Christ doth call
One and all:
Ye who follow shall not fall.

Words: Bridges

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The Blessing

The minister says this or another appropriate blessing

Go forth into the world in peace;
be of good courage;
hold fast that which is good;
render to no one evil for evil;
but strengthen the fainthearted;
support the weak;
help the afflicted;
honour all people;
love and serve the Lord,
rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit
be upon you and remain with you always. Amen.

We remain standing as the choir and ministers leave and then sit

Organ Voluntary

Retiring Collection

If you are worshipping in church, you are invited to give to the life and ministry of St Mary Redcliffe Church using our contactless donation point as you leave.

If you are worshipping online or in church, you are invited to give [here](#) via our website www.stmaryredcliffe.co.uk

If you are a regular member of our congregation, whether in church or online, you are encouraged to give regularly using the Parish Giving Scheme which you can sign up for [here](#) at www.parishgiving.org.uk or using this QR code.

