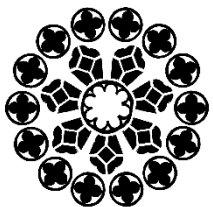


Choral Evensong On Sundays



Truro
Cathedral

Sunday 4pm

The service of Choral Evensong in its current form can trace its roots to the 1549 prayer book: Archbishop Cranmer took the services of Evening Prayer (Vespers) and Night Prayer (Compline) and simplified these services by combining them. Over time some slight edits have been made, notably to the opening responses. Throughout the years many composers have set these prayers to exquisite music, which is why the service is still sung in Tudor English.

The congregation says very little in Evensong but during Advent and Lent the congregation are invited to join in the General Confession and a spoken version of the Lord's Prayer as well as the Creed and the Grace. Throughout the service the choir sings words of scripture over the congregation, inviting those attending to pray and meditate in silence. This results in the service becoming a very inclusive service, open to those of all faiths or none. The book of psalms (which has been the inspiration for much of the liturgy) is a scripture text which the three Abrahamic faiths hold in common.

Listening to the music and following the words can be a profoundly worshipful experience, with the music itself leading us into the nearer presence of Almighty God.

We are so glad that you have come today, and we hope you find the service enriching.



Regular Giving

The Anglican Choral Tradition is a vital part of Truro Cathedral's heritage. If you believe that choir and organ music is precious, and want to help pass it on to future generations, you may wish to contribute a small amount monthly by Direct Debit via the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS). It is a free service, and Gift Aid for taxpayers. Call 0333 002 1271 (Monday to Friday, 9am - 5pm) to begin or alter your giving. Thank you for supporting the mission of the cathedral in this way.

The choir may sing an introit before the service.

*Please stand, if you are able, for the entry of the choir and clergy.
All directions on posture are written as suggestions.*

The Opening Reposes

These are sung by the Cantor and Choir.

Please stand.

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

O God, make speed to save us.
O Lord, make haste to help us.
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. [Praise ye the Lord]
The Lord's name be praised.

The Office Hymn

All are invited to join in singing the office hymn.

The number of the hymn will be posted on the hymn-board and the music list.

The Psalm

is sung by the choir.

The number of the psalm will be posted on the hymn-board and the music list

*Please sit for the psalm,
standing at the end for the following words:*

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 sit

*This is usually taken from the Old Testament,
following the Second Service Lectionary of the Church of England.*

The Magnificat

is sung by the choir. Please stand

This is the first of the two evening canticles, (songs of praise taken from the bible). The words come from St Luke's Gospel and were sung by Mary the Mother of Jesus during a visit to her cousin Elizabeth. Many composers have set these moving words to music.

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 sit

*This is usually taken from the New Testament,
following the Second Service Lectionary of the Church of England.*

Nunc Dimittis

The choir sings the Nunc Dimittis.

Please stand.

*These words also come from St Luke's Gospel. Shortly after his birth
Jesus was presented at the Temple. An aged priest called Simeon had
been promised that he would not die before seeing the Saviour.
He recognised Jesus and responded by praying the Nunc Dimittis.*

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.

Please remain standing

The Apostles' Creed

This is a summary of Christian belief dating to the fourth century.

The reference to "hell" describes the realm of the dead.

The word "catholic" refers to the world-wide church.

**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.**

The Responses

sung by the Cantor and the Choir

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

Please kneel

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name;

thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. Amen.

O Lord, shew 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.

The Collects

The Collect of the day is sung by the cantor followed by the Collect for peace, and the collect for help in danger.

The 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.

The Collect for help in danger

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.

The Anthem

The officiant announces the anthem. This is a piece of music, with words from the Bible, poetry, or another religious source, sung the choir. Many composers over the centuries have been inspired to set holy texts and inspiring words to music.

The Sermon and prayers

The prayers normally conclude with the grace.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all, evermore. Amen.

The Final Hymn.

Please stand to sing the hymn.

A collection will normally be taken during this hymn.

*There is also an opportunity to donate by card
at the donation points near the exit.*

The Anglican Choral Tradition is a vital part of Truro Cathedral's heritage.

*If you believe that choir and organ music is precious,
and want to help pass it on to future generations,
we invite you to get involved (see page 2).*

The Blessing.

*A minister will normally give the final blessing
from the High Altar.*

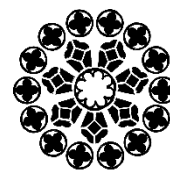
The Closing Responses

Are sung by the choir.

The Organ Voluntary

*Please remain standing whilst the choir and the clergy depart.
Very often the organist will play a piece of music at this point. If you
wish to leave before the end of the organ music, do please try not to
disturb the enjoyment of others.*

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**Truro
Cathedral**