

# The Temple Church

Sunday 1 December 2024

The First Sunday in Advent

## CHORAL MATTINS, 11.15 a.m.

**You are most welcome to this morning's service. We follow the service of the Book of Common Prayer (1662). Much of the service is sung by the Choir alone. We hope that you will be able to enjoy the opportunity this offers to let the music and words take your mind and your heart – with all the concerns you have for those you love and for our world – into the presence of God.**

**It is traditional here for the congregation to stand for the Venite and the Canticles; if it would be more comfortable for you to remain seated, please do.**

**The public-address system has a loop-facility. If you wear a hearing-aid, please turn its setting to T.**

### ORGAN PRELUDE

Nun komm, er Heiden Heiland

*Dieterich Buxtehude (1637-1707)*

*The congregation stands.*

### INTROIT

Never weather-beaten sail more willing bent to shore.  
Never tired pilgrim's limbs affected slumber more,  
Than my wearied sprite now longs to fly out of my troubled breast:  
O come quickly, sweetest Lord, and take my soul to rest.

Ever blooming are the joys of Heaven's high Paradise.  
Cold age deafs not there our ears nor vapour dims our eyes:  
Glory there the sun outshines whose beams the blessed only see:  
O come quickly, glorious Lord, and raise my sprite to thee!

*Music: Richard Shephard (1949-2021)*

*Words: Thomas Campion (1567-1620)*

### HYMN

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>1.</b>                                   | <b>2.</b>                                   |
| <b>Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding:</b> | <b>Wakened by the solemn warning,</b>       |
| <b>“Christ is nigh!” it seems to say,</b>   | <b>Let the earth-bound soul arise;</b>      |
| <b>“Cast away the dreams of darkness,</b>   | <b>Christ, her Sun, all ill dispelling,</b> |
| <b>O ye children of the day!”</b>           | <b>Shines upon the morning skies.</b>       |

3.  
Lo! the Lamb, so long-expected,  
Comes with pardon down from  
heaven;  
Let us haste, with tears of sorrow,  
One and all to be forgiven.

4.  
That when next he comes with  
glory  
And the world is wrapped in fear,  
With his mercy he may shield us,  
And with words of love draw near.

5.  
Honour, glory, might, and blessing  
To the Father and the Son,  
With the everlasting Spirit,  
While eternal ages run.

*Music:* Merton (Monk)

*Words:* trans. Edward Caswall (1814-1878)

*All sit or kneel for the confession.*

### CONFESSION

**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.**

### ABSOLUTION

*All stand at "Glory be....."*      RESPONSES (*Smith*)

*All remain standing and sing:* VENITE (PSALM 95. 1-7)



*The first two verses and the Gloria are sung in unison.*

- 1 O come let us | sing un-to the | Lord:  
let us heartily rejoice in the | strength of | our sal- | vation.
- 2 Let us come before his | presence · with | thanksgiving:  
and shew ourselves | glad in | him with | psalms.
- 3 For the Lord is a | great | God:

and a | great King · a- | bove all | gods.  
4 In his hand are all the | corners · of the | earth:  
and the | strength of · the | hills is · his | also.  
5 The sea is | his and · he | made it:  
and his | hands pre- | pared the · dry | land.  
6 O come let us worship and | fall | down:  
and | kneel be-fore the | Lord our | Maker.

*2nd Part*

7 For he is the | Lord our | God:  
and we are the people of his | pasture · and the | sheep of · his | hand.  
Glory be to the Father and | to the | Son:  
And | to the | Ho-ly | Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning is now and | ev-er | shall be:  
World without | end. A- | — | men.

*Music:* Edward John Hopkins (1818-1901),  
Organist of the Temple Church 1843-1898

*The choir sings:*

PSALM 44. 1-8

We have heard with our ears, O God, our fathers have told us:  
what thou hast done in their time of old;  
How thou hast driven out the heathen with thy hand, and planted them in:  
how thou hast destroyed the nations, and cast them out.  
For they gat not the land in possession through their own sword:  
neither was it their own arm that helped them;  
But thy right hand, and thine arm, and the light of thy countenance:  
because thou hadst a favour unto them.  
Thou art my King, O God: send help unto Jacob.  
Through thee will we overthrow our enemies:  
and in thy Name will we tread them under, that rise up against us.  
For I will not trust in my bow: it is not my sword that shall help me;  
But it is thou that savest us from our enemies:  
and putttest them to confusion that hate 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.

*All sit.*

## THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 2. 1-5

The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it.

And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. O house of Jacob, come ye, and let us walk in the light of the LORD.

*All stand.*

BENEDICITE (*Sumsion in B flat*)

*All sit.*

## THE SECOND LESSON

Luke 12. 35-48

Let your loins be girded about, and your lights burning; And ye yourselves like unto men that wait for their lord, when he will return from the wedding; that when he cometh and knocketh, they may open unto him immediately.

Blessed are those servants, whom the lord when he cometh shall find watching: verily I say unto you, that he shall gird himself, and make them to sit down to meat, and will come forth and serve them. And if he shall come in the second watch, or come in the third watch, and find them so, blessed are those servants.

And this know, that if the goodman of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched, and not have suffered his house to be broken through. Be ye therefore ready also: for the Son of man cometh at an hour when ye think not.

Then Peter said unto him, Lord, speakest thou this parable unto us, or even to all? And the Lord said, Who then is that faithful and wise steward, whom his lord shall make ruler over his household, to give them their portion of meat in due season? Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing. Of a truth I say unto you, that he will make him ruler over all that he hath. But and if that servant say in his heart, My lord delayeth his coming; and shall begin to beat the menservants and maidens, and to eat and drink, and to be drunken; The lord of that servant will come in a day when he looketh not for him, and at an hour when he is not aware, and will cut him in sunder, and will appoint him his portion with the unbelievers.

And that servant, which knew his lord's will, and prepared not himself, neither did according to his will, shall be beaten with many stripes. But he that knew not, and did commit things worthy of stripes, shall be beaten with few stripes. For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required: and to whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more.

*All stand.*

### CANTICLE OF ZECHARIAH (*MacMillan*)

*In the tradition of the Temple Church, we face east to say together:*

#### 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 Catholick Church; The Communion of Saints; The Forgiveness of sins; The Resurrection of the body, And the Life everlasting. Amen.**

*All sit or kneel at 'Let us pray...' THE RESPONSES (*Smith*)*

*All sit or kneel.*

#### THE COLLECTS

Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious Majesty, to judge both the quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, now and ever. Amen.

#### THE ANTHEM

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland,	<i>Now come, the gentiles' Saviour</i>
der Jungfrauen Kind erkannt,	<i>as the Virgin's child revealed.</i>
Dess sich wundert alle Welt:	<i>At him marvels all the world,</i>
Gott solch' Geburt ihm bestellt.	<i>that for him God ordains this birth.</i>

*Music: Michael Altenburg (1584-1640)*

*Words: Johann Hermann Schein (1586-1630)*

#### THE PRAYERS

*All stand.*

#### HYMN

**Come, thou long expected Jesus,  
Born to set thy people free;  
From our fears and sins release us,  
Let us find our rest in thee.**

**Israel's strength and consolation,  
Hope of all the earth thou art;  
Dear desire of every nation,  
Joy of every longing heart.**

**Born thy people to deliver,  
Born a child and yet a King,  
Born to reign in us forever,  
Now thy gracious kingdom bring.**

**By thine own eternal spirit  
Rule in all our hearts alone;  
By thine all sufficient merit,  
Raise us to thy glorious throne.**

*Music: Cross of Jesus, John Stainer (1840-1901)  
Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788)*

*All sit.*

**THE SERMON  
The Master**

*All stand.*

**HYMN**

**Lo, he comes with clouds descending,  
Once for favoured sinners slain;  
Thousand thousand saints attending  
Swell the triumph of his train:  
Alleluia!  
God appears on earth to reign.**

**Every eye shall now behold him  
Robed in dreadful majesty;  
Those who set at naught and sold him,  
Pierced and nailed him to the tree,  
Deeply wailing,  
Shall the true Messiah see.**

**Those dear tokens of his passion**

**Still his dazzling body bears;  
Cause of endless exultation  
To his ransomed worshippers:  
With what rapture  
Gaze we on those glorious scars.**

**Yea, Amen, let all adore thee,  
High on thine eternal throne;  
Saviour, take the power and glory,  
Claim the kingdom for thine own:  
O come quickly,  
Alleluia! Come, Lord, come!**

*Music:* 'Helmsley', 18th century English melody noted by Thomas Olivers (1725-99) and included in Charles Wesley, *Select Hymns*, 1765  
*Words:* Charles Wesley, *Hymns of Intercession for all Mankind*, 1758  
(with some words borrowed by a later editor from a hymn by John Cennick, 1752)

## THE BLESSING

*All are invited to sit after the departure of the Clergy for*

## THE ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland BWV661

*J. S. Bach (1685-1750)*

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***There will be a retiring collection. It will be of great advantage to the Church if you would kindly fill in a Gift Aid envelope and drop it into a collection-basket as you leave, stating the amount of your cash or contactless gift. If you would prefer to donate online kindly scan the QR code below.***



## SAFEGUARDING

If you have any concerns about safeguarding, the Safeguarding Officer can be contacted confidentially at [safeguarding@templechurch.com](mailto:safeguarding@templechurch.com) or via 020 7427 5650.

The full Safeguarding Policy is available on the Temple Church website at <https://www.templechurch.com/safeguarding-policy>

*We ask your prayers for those dear to us in this House, and at this time especially for the following:*

ANNIVERSARIES OF MARRIAGE

Alexander Bagwell and Alexandra Stone  
Matthew and Nicola Barnes  
Anthony and Terina Corda  
Ben Dempster and Britta Brownlee  
Nicholas and Sally Forwood  
Anthony and Nell Gamble  
Richard and Laura Hayward  
Francis and Jessica Ijeh  
Alan and Grace Karthikesalingham  
Michael and Alexandra Payne  
James and Emma Tussaud  
Anthony and Sarah Walker  
David and Victoria Ward  
Jerram and Eleanor White

THE DEPARTED

Terence Coghlan

YEAR'S MIND

Fanny Arnold-Baker  
Dorene Borrie  
Joseph Butler-Sloss  
Geoffrey Farmiloe  
Ian (Roderick) Fletcher  
Jane Green  
George Newman  
Clare Marx  
Penny Norton  
Graeme Williams