



St James's  
PICCADILLY

# Choral Evensong for Passiontide

According to the 1662 Book of  
Common Prayer

Sunday 13th April 2025  
at 3pm

With St James's Lay Singers and Singing Scholars  
Director of Music: Michael Haslam  
Organist: Ashley Chow



*The service of Evensong is an historic one from the foundational prayerbook of the Anglican Communion: the Book of Common Prayer 1662. This prayerbook was a key document in the English Reformation as it brought together traditions from the Roman Catholic church (for example, singing the Magnificat at Vespers) with the Protestant insistence that the Bible was to be read in the vernacular language of the people.*

*The architect of the Prayer Book, Thomas Cranmer, took the monastic services of Matins, Lauds, Vespers and so on and condensed them into two main services of Morning and Evening Prayer, which all clergy still undertake at their ordination to say every day. But the point of these new services was that they were not to be restricted to religious communities; they were services of the people sung or said by the people in their own language.*

*Evening Prayer according to the Book of Common Prayer was, in its time, a radical service, but one that acknowledged its debt to the past as well as creating something new for the future. It has been said or sung in churches ever since as a way of thanking God for the day that is past; and in cathedrals is sung often every day of the week. For the congregation it has evolved into a service that is a mixture of participation by speaking or singing and participation by meditation while the choir sings.*

*The congregation sing the hymns, and say the Creed, the Lord's Prayer and some of the responses. The choir sing the canticles: Magnificat (the Song of Mary from Luke's gospel) and Nunc Dimittis (the Song of Simeon from Luke's gospel) and "in quires and places where they sing" an anthem too.*

## ORDER OF SERVICE

### INTROIT

*The choir sings **The Royal Banners Forward Go.** Tune: Vexilla Regis; Words: Bishop Venantius Fortunatus (530-609)*

The royal banners forward go;  
The cross shines forth in mystic glow;  
Where he in flesh, our flesh who made,  
Our sentence bore, our ransom paid:

There whilst he hung, his sacred side  
By soldier's spear was opened wide,  
To cleanse us in the precious flood  
Of water mingled with his blood.

Fulfilled is now what David told  
In true prophetic song of old;  
Amidst the nations, God, saith he;  
Hath reigned and triumphed from the tree.

O tree of glory, tree most fair,  
Ordained those holy limbs to bear,  
How bright in purple robe it stood,  
The purple of a Saviour's blood!

On whose dear arms, so widely flung,  
The weight of this world's ransom hung:  
The price of humankind to pay,  
And spoil the spoiler of his prey.

To thee, eternal Three in One,  
Let homage meet by all be done:

Whom by the cross thou dost restore,  
Preserve and govern evermore.

Amen.

**RESPONSES:**

*music: Joanna Forbes L'Estrange*

*The minister sings*

O Lord, open thou our lips.

*The choir sings*

And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

*Minister*

O God, make speed to save us.

*Choir*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Here, all standing up, the minister shall sing*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

*Choir*

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be:  
world without end.

Amen.

*Minister*

Praise ye the Lord.

*Choir*

The Lord's name be praised.

*Please sit.*

## **PSALM 22**

*The choir sings*

My God, my God, look upon me; why hast thou forsaken me :  
and art so far from my health, and from the words of my  
complaint?

O my God, I cry in the day-time, but thou hearest not :  
and in the night-season also I take no rest.

And thou continues holy :  
O thou worship of Israel.

Our fathers hoped in thee :  
they trusted in thee, and thou didst deliver them.

They called upon thee, and were holpen :  
they put their trust in thee, and were not confounded.

But as for me, I am a worm, and no man :  
a very scorn of men, and the out-cast of the people.

All they that see me laugh me to scorn :  
they shoot out their lips, and shake their heads, saying,

He trusted in God, that he would deliver him :  
let him deliver him, if he will have him.

But thou art he that took me out of my mother's womb :  
thou wast my hope, when I hanged yet upon my mother's  
breasts.

I have been left unto thee ever since I was born :  
thou art my God even from my mother's womb.

O go not from me, for trouble is hard at hand :  
and there is none to help me.

Many oxen are come about me :  
fat bulls of Basan close me in on every side.

They gape upon me with their mouths :  
as it were a ramping and a roaring lion.

I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint :  
my heart also in the midst of my body is even like melting wax.

My strength is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue  
cleaveth to my gums :  
and thou shalt bring me into the dust of death.

For many dogs are come about me :  
and the council of the wicked layeth siege against me.

They pierced my hands and my feet; I may tell all my bones :  
they stand staring and looking upon me.

They part my garments among them :  
and cast lots upon my vesture.

But be not thou far from me, O Lord :  
thou art my succour, haste thee to help me.

Deliver my soul from the sword :  
my darling from the power of the dog.

Save me from the lion's mouth :  
thou hast heard me also from among the horns of the  
unicorns.

I will declare thy Name unto my brethren :  
in the midst of the congregation will I praise thee.

O praise the Lord, ye that fear him :  
magnify him, all ye of the seed of Jacob, and fear him, all ye  
seed of Israel;

For he hath not despised, nor abhorred, the low estate of the poor :  
he hath not hid his face from him, but when he called unto him  
he heard him.

My praise is of thee in the great congregation :  
my vows will I perform in the sight of them that fear him.

The poor shall eat, and be satisfied :  
they that seek after the Lord shall praise him; your heart shall  
live for ever.

All the ends of the world shall remember themselves, and be  
turned unto the Lord :  
and all the kindreds of the nations shall worship before him.

For the kingdom is the Lord's :  
and he is the Governor among the people.

All such as be fat upon earth :  
have eaten, and worshipped.

All they that go down into the dust shall kneel before him :  
and no man hath quickened his own soul.

My seed shall serve him :  
they shall be counted unto the Lord for a generation.

They shall come, and the heavens shall declare his  
righteousness :  
unto a people that shall be born, whom the Lord hath made.

## **PSALM 23**

The Lord is my shepherd :  
therefore can I lack nothing.

He shall feed me in a green pasture :  
and lead me forth beside the waters of comfort.

He shall convert my soul :  
and bring me forth in the paths of righteousness, for his  
Name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death ,  
I will fear no evil :  
for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff comfort me.

Thou shalt prepare a table before me against them that  
trouble me :  
thou hast anointed my head with oil, and my cup shall be full.  
But thy loving-kindness and mercy shall follow me all the days  
of my life :  
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

*Please stand.*

**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 sit.*

## **THE FIRST LESSON**

### **Isaiah 5.1-7**

Let me sing for my beloved  
my love-song concerning his vineyard:  
My beloved had a vineyard  
on a very fertile hill.  
He dug it and cleared it of stones,  
and planted it with choice vines;



he built a watch-tower in the midst of it,  
and hewed out a wine vat in it;  
he expected it to yield grapes,  
but it yielded wild grapes.

And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem  
and people of Judah,  
judge between me  
and my vineyard.  
What more was there to do for my vineyard  
that I have not done in it?  
When I expected it to yield grapes,  
why did it yield wild grapes?

And now I will tell you  
what I will do to my vineyard.  
I will remove its hedge,  
and it shall be devoured;  
I will break down its wall,  
and it shall be trampled down.  
I will make it a waste;  
it shall not be pruned or hoed,  
and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns;  
I will also command the clouds  
that they rain no rain upon it.

For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts  
is the house of Israel,  
and the people of Judah  
are his pleasant planting;  
he expected justice,  
but saw bloodshed;

righteousness,  
but heard a cry!

Here ends the first lesson.

*Please stand.*

## **MAGNIFICAT**

*William Byrd (The Second Service)*

*The choir sings*

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 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.

*Please sit.*

## **THE SECOND LESSON**

### **Luke 20.9-19**

He began to tell the people this parable: 'A man planted a vineyard, and leased it to tenants, and went to another country for a long time. When the season came, he sent a slave to the tenants in order that they might give him his share of the produce of the vineyard; but the tenants beat him and sent him away empty-handed. Next he sent another slave; that one also they beat and insulted and sent away empty-handed. And he sent yet a third; this one also they wounded and threw out. Then the owner of the vineyard said, "What shall I do? I will send my beloved son; perhaps they will respect him." But when the tenants saw him, they discussed it among themselves and said, "This is the heir; let us kill him so that the inheritance may be ours." So they threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. What then will the owner of the vineyard do to them? He will come and destroy those tenants and give the vineyard to others.' When they heard this, they said, 'Heaven forbid!' But he looked at them and said, 'What then does this text mean: "The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone"'? Everyone who falls on that stone will be broken to pieces;

and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.' When the scribes and chief priests realized that he had told this parable against them, they wanted to lay hands on him at that very hour, but they feared the people.

Here ends the second lesson.

*Please stand.*

## **NUNC DIMITTIS**

*William Byrd (The Second Service)*

*The choir sings*

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.

*Then shall be said the Apostles' Creed, by the minister and the people standing.*

## THE APOSTLES' 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.**

## THE LESSER LITANY

*The minister says*

The Lord be with you.

*All say*

**And with thy spirit.**

*Please sit or kneel.*

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

**Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Lord, have mercy upon us.

*Then the minister, clerks, and people shall say the Lord's Prayer  
with a loud voice.*

**Our Father, which 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 them that trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
Amen.**

*Then the minister standing up shall sing*

O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.

*Choir*

And grant us thy salvation.

*Minister*

O Lord, save the King.

*Choir*

And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

*Minister*

Endue thy Ministers with righteousness.

*Choir*

And make thy chosen people joyful.

*Minister*

O Lord, save thy people.

*Choir*

And bless thine inheritance.

*Minister*

Give peace in our time, O Lord.

*Choir*

Because there is none other that fighteth for us,  
but only thou, O God.

*Minister*

O God, make clean our hearts within us.

*Choir*

And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

*Then shall follow three Collects; the first of the day; the second  
for Peace; the third for Aid against all Perils.*

## **THE COLLECT FOR PALM SUNDAY**

Almighty and everlasting God,  
who of thy tender love towards the world  
hast sent thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ  
to take upon him our flesh  
and to suffer death upon the cross:  
grant that we may follow the example of his patience  
and humility,  
and also be made partakers of his resurrection;  
through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord,  
who liveth and reigneth with thee,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

## **THE SECOND 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 THIRD 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.**



*In quires and places where they sing, here followeth the anthem:*

### **Salvator Mundi**

*In the old liturgies this was the antiphon at Holy Unction and for the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. The English translation is from the service for The Visitation of the Sick in the Book of Common Prayer 1549 and 1662, music by John Blow (1649-1708).*

Salvator mundi, salva nos, qui per crucem et sanguinem redemisti nos, auxiliare nobis, te deprecamur, Deus noster.

*O Saviour of the world, who by thy cross and blood hast redeemed us: Save us, and help us, we humbly beseech thee, O Lord.*

## **THE PRAYERS**

### **HYMN**

[Tune: Song 46 (Orlando Gibbons 1583-1625); Words: Phineas Fletcher (1582-1650)]

**Drop, drop, slow tears, and bathe those beauteous feet,  
which brought from heaven the news and Prince of Peace.**

**Cease not, wet eyes, his mercies to entreat;  
to cry for vengeance sin doth never cease.**

**In your deep floods drown all my faults and fears;  
nor let his eye see sin, but through my tears.**

## THE SERMON

The Reverend Dr Mariama Ifode-Blease

*During the final hymn, a collection will be taken.*

*If you don't have cash, please use the QR code on page 19.*

## HYMN

*[Tune: Passion Chorale (adapted and harmonised by J.S. Bach 1685-1750); Words: P. Gerhardt (1607-76) based on Salve Caput Cruentatum (attrib. to St Bernard) translated by the Yattendon Hymnal]*

O Sacred head, sore wounded,  
defiled and put to scorn;  
O kingly head, surrounded  
with mocking crown of thorn:  
what sorrow mars thy grandeur?  
Can death thy bloom deflow'r?  
O countenance whose splendour  
the hosts of heav'n adore.

Thy beauty, long-desired,  
hath vanish'd from our sight;  
thy pow'r is all expired,  
and quench'd the light of light.  
Ah me! for whom thou diest,  
hide not so far thy grace;  
show me, O Love most highest,  
the brightness of thy face.

My days are few, O fail not,  
with thine immortal pow'r,  
to hold me that I quail not  
in death's most fearful hour:

that I may fight befriended,  
and see in my last strife  
to me thine arms extended  
upon the Cross of life.

## THE BLESSING

*The minister says*

Go forth into the world in peace;  
be of good courage, hold fast that which is good,  
render to no one evil for evil.

Strengthen the fainthearted, support the weak,  
help the afflicted, honour all people.

Love and serve God,  
rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit,  
and the blessing of God;  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit  
be among you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**



*In addition to the physical collection,  
if you do not have cash with you, please  
scan this QR code with your smartphone  
to make a one-off or regular donation.*

*Alternatively, please visit  
[sjp.org.uk/donate](http://sjp.org.uk/donate), or use one of the  
tap donation points in the church.*



## **Maundy Thursday Eucharist with foot washing and the Watch**

Thursday 17th April at 6.30pm

This service includes the opportunity to have your feet washed, following the example of Jesus and the disciples at the Last Supper.



During the service, a procession moves out of the church into the garden to echo the gospel accounts of Jesus's journey from the Last Supper to the Garden of Gethsemane.

Back in the church, silent meditation until 10pm will be held around a symbolic Garden of Gethsemane. Please come and go quietly as you wish during this time.

## **Good Friday - The Three Hours service**

Friday 18th April 12noon till 3pm



The three hours service from 12 noon until 3pm will include addresses from the clergy, hymns, chants, readings, and silence.

Instrumental music will aid our meditation. Please feel free to come and go quietly during the service.

## Vespers and All Night Vigil

Holy Saturday 19th April from 7.30pm

Join us at 7.30pm for a meditative service (based on the ancient liturgy of Vespers) which will include a chance to offer a poem, some thoughts, a reading, to share with others. Please bring something to read or share if you would like to.



A bring-and-share meal follows. We will also prepare bread together which will be baked overnight to use for the Dawn Eucharist.

At 10pm the ancient night prayer of Compline is said together. The doors are locked at 10.30pm for the all-night vigil. If you would like to take part, please bring a sleeping bag and sign up in advance by emailing David in the Parish office at [administrator@sjp.org.uk](mailto:administrator@sjp.org.uk)

## Hospitality on Holy Saturday after Vespers and on Easter Day after the Dawn Eucharist

Following the 7.30pm Vespers service on Saturday we have a wonderful bring and share meal, down in the Church Hall and in church, for anyone who would like to join.

Please bring yourself and any food you like - to be shared at a long table for everyone to eat and chat together. If you are new to this, please just come along - everyone is welcome whether you can bring food or not. Each year there's always enough and what matters is at this time of year we come together to share in hospitality, especially when so much in our lives might be feeling overwhelming.

**Please bring food downstairs to the Church Hall at 7pm,** before the Vespers service begins at 7.30pm. If you're staying overnight and need a sleeping bag, we may be able to help. Please ask Debbie at: [springlering@hotmail.com](mailto:springlering@hotmail.com)

**The Easter Breakfast will be served at 7.30am,** with a vegan option included. Everyone is welcome whether you've been at the over-night Vigil or come for the Dawn Eucharist at 6.15am.

If stairs are not possible for you, we will bring breakfast to you! It's a moving and special time and we hope you'll come if you can. If you have any questions or worries about Saturday and Sunday hospitality, don't hesitate to ask Ayla [associaterector@sjp.org.uk](mailto:associaterector@sjp.org.uk) or Debbie.

### **Easter Dawn Eucharist**

**Sunday 20th April 6.15am**

A special service that begins in the early morning light. The church gates open at 6am for the Dawn Eucharist at 6.15am. We will gather outside around the Easter fire and light the paschal candle before processing into the church. Once there, the most ancient song of the church, the Exultet, is sung, and all of us renew our baptism vows around the font.



We then return outside for the Eucharist using the bread that will have risen overnight. Breakfast together at 7.30am.

## Parish Eucharist for Easter

Sunday 20th April at 11am in church and on YouTube

We celebrate the joy of Easter with flowers, trumpets, choir, and the Alleluia Chorus from Handel's Messiah!



## SAVE THE DATE: Pilgrimage for the Feast of St Pancras

Sunday 11th May 12.45pm

After the service on Sunday 11th May, join the St James's pilgrimage to St Pancras Euston Road. We will travel by foot, or tube or bus and St Pancras are welcoming us for lunch.

This is a good chance to get to know St Pancras if you haven't been before, as this will be our home for a year during the Wren Project construction.



Meet in the courtyard at St James's at 12.45pm on the day.

Evensong is at 3pm at St Pancras for those who would like to stay ...

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