

St Nicolas Church
Forest Hill with Shotover

Choral Evensong

Evening Prayer Service from the
Book of Common Prayer

NOTES FOR LEADERS

1. The Choristers Prayer may be said with the choir before the start of the service (before the organist starts playing the voluntary):

**Bless, O Lord, us thy servants who minister in thy temple;
Grant that what we sing with our lips we may believe in
our hearts, and what we believe in our hearts we may
shew forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen**

2. Two Opening Sentences from the Book of Common Prayer are reproduced at the beginning of the service sheet, but others may be used as well as or instead of these.
3. Items to be sung during the service appear in blue. Members of the congregation, who wish to do so, are welcome to join in singing the Hymns, the Psalm, and the 'Magnificat' or Nunc Dimittis', depending on the setting(s) chosen. The Introit, the Preces & Responses, and the Anthem are to be sung by the choir alone. If there is no choir, the anthem is to be replaced by a hymn.
4. The Cantor for the Preces & Responses will normally be someone from the choir. The Cantor will also sing the Collects.
5. Readings should ideally be from the King James Bible.
6. The words of the Introit and the Anthem ,and the words and music for the Psalm will be provided on a separate sheet to enable the congregation to follow what the choir is singing.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

INTROIT [sung by the choir. Words are on a separate sheet.]

WELCOME AND OPENING SENTENCE(S)

(the following Opening Sentences are from the Book of Common Prayer; others may be used as well or instead)

To the Lord our God belong mercies and forgivenesses, though we have rebelled against him: neither have we obeyed the voice of the Lord our God, to walk in his laws which he set before us.

Daniel 9.9-10

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us: but if we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1 St. John 1.8,9

HYMN [for all to sing]

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 cloke 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:

All sit or kneel

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.

The leader says:

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

The choir sings:

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.

All 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.**
Praise ye the Lord.
The Lord's Name be praised.

***PSALM [sung by the choir. The words and chant are on a
separate sheet and the congregation are welcome to join in.]***

All sit for: THE FIRST LESSON

Magnificat

- 1 My soul doth ' magnify the ' Lord : and my spirit hath re'joiced in
' God my ' saviour.
- 2 For he ' hath re'garded : the ' lowliness ' of his ' handmaiden.
- 3 For be'hold from ' henceforth : all gene'rations shall ' call me ' blessed.
- 4 For he that is mighty hath ' magnified ' me : and ' holy ' is his ' Name.
- 5 And his mercy is on ' them that ' fear him : through'out all ' gene'rations.
- 6 He hath shew-ed ' strength with his ' arm : he hath scattered the proud,
in the imagi'nation ' of their ' hearts.
- 7 He hath put down the mighty ' from their ' seat : and hath ex'alted the
' humble and ' meek.
- 8 He hath fill-ed the hungry with ' good ' things : and the rich he ' hath sent
' empty a'way.
- 9 He re'membering his ' mercy : hath ' holpen his ' servant ' Israel.
- 10 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. ' A'men.

MAGNIFICAT

[sung by the choir, either alone or with the congregation, depending on the setting chosen]

St Luke 1.

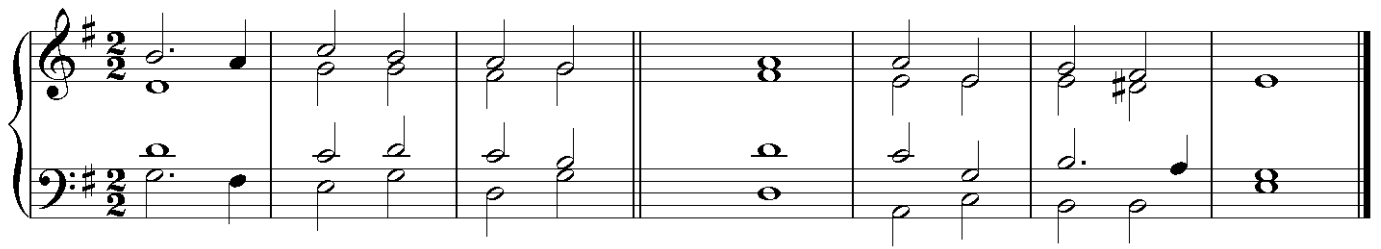
1. My soul doth magnify the Lord: and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my saviour.
2. For he hath regarded: the lowliness of his handmaiden.
3. For behold from henceforth: all generations shall call me blessed.
4. For he that is mighty hath magnified me: and holy is his Name.
5. And his mercy is on them that fear him: throughout all generations.
6. He hath shewed strength with his arm: he hath scattered the proud, in the imagination of their hearts.
7. He hath put down the mighty from their seat: and hath exalted the humble and meek.
8. He hath filled the hungry with good things: and the rich he hath sent empty away.
9. He remembering his mercy: hath holpen his servant Israel.
10. 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.

All sit for: THE SECOND LESSON

Nunc Dimittis



- 1 Lord now lettest thou thy servant de'part in ' peace : ac'cording '
to thy ' word.
- 2 For mine eyes have ' seen they sal'vation : which thou hast prepared before
the ' face of ' all ' people.
- 3 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. ' A'men.

NUNC DIMITTIS

[sung by the choir, either alone or with the congregation]

St Luke 2. 29.

1. Lord now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace:
according to thy word;
2. For mine eyes have seen thy salvation:
which thou hast prepared before the face of all people.
3. 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.

All say together:

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

All sit or kneel. The leader says:

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

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.

The choir sings:

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.

Then shall follow three Collects [all sung by the choir]: The first of the day: The second for Peace: The third for Aid against all Perils.

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 Grace.

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.**

ANTHEM [sung by the choir. Words are on a separate sheet.]

PRAYERS (which may include the following):

A Prayer for the King's Majesty.

O Lord, our heavenly Father, high and mighty, King of kings, Lord of lords, the only Ruler of princes, who dost from thy throne behold all the dwellers upon earth: Most heartily we beseech thee with thy favour to behold our most gracious Sovereign Lord, King *CHARLES*; and so replenish him with the grace of thy Holy Spirit, that he may always incline to thy will, and walk in thy way. Endue him plenteously with heavenly gifts; grant him in health and wealth long to live; strengthen him that he may vanquish and overcome all his enemies; and finally after this life he may attain everlasting joy and felicity; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Prayer for the Clergy and People.

Almighty and everlasting God, who alone workest great marvels: Send down upon our Bishops, and Curates, and all Congregations committed to their charge, the healthful Spirit of thy grace; and that they may truly please thee, pour upon them the continual dew of thy blessing. Grant this, O Lord, for the honour of our Advocate and Mediator, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Prayers for the sick may be added here and other prayers may be substituted for the prayers above.

A Prayer of Saint Chrysostom.

Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplications unto thee; and dost promise that when two or three are gathered together in thy Name thou wilt grant their requests: Fulfil now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants, as may be most expedient for them; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

HYMN [for all to sing]

THE GRACE

2 Corinthians 13.

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.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY