



Services and Music List

September 2025

WELCOME TO WELLS CATHEDRAL

As September comes, it feels in our Cathedral like a new beginning. Our Cathedral Choir has returned, our Cathedral School has returned, hopefully most of us have had some sort of a break, and now we begin again in earnest in our journey through another term. As we travel through September, we are reminded of God's creation, and much of our liturgy will reflect this, as well as maintaining the round of Feast Days, which take up half of our Sundays this month. With this variety, and the promise of the glorious music which will accompany us through this month, may I encourage you to take a look at all that is offered in our worship, and to come and share in all that we are through this September and this Season of Creation.

Communicant members of other churches in good standing are welcome to receive the Sacrament in this church, and if you are simply coming to enjoy the music and being here, you are equally welcome. This Cathedral is open to everyone.

The Reverend Canon Tim Stevens, *Canon Precentor*

JOINING WELLS CATHEDRAL CHOIR

The Cathedral's Director of Music, Timothy Parsons, is always pleased to hear from parents of prospective Choristers. Scholarships and additional bursaries for Wells Cathedral School, which all Choristers attend, are available. For more information, or about Choral Scholarships at the Cathedral, please telephone 01749 832204 or email musicoffice@wellscathedral.org.uk.

OTHER INFORMATION

Where indicated, 'Great Choir' denotes all Boy Choristers, Girl Choristers, and Vicars Choral.

At certain services throughout the year, incense is used to enhance the festal nature of the day. These services are marked with a dagger (†).

Selected translations of anthems which are not sung in English may be found towards the back of this booklet, following the final listed week.

No photography or recording of any kind may take place during services, concerts, or rehearsals without the express permission of the Chapter.

31 THE ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

- 8.30 a.m. HOLY COMMUNION
Book of Common Prayer
- 10.30 a.m. CATHEDRAL EUCHARIST (St Christopher's Chamber Choir)
W. Lloyd Webber *Benedictus*
Hymns CP 418, 64, StF 681, 378
Paul Edwards *Missa brevis*
Sermon The Reverend Edward Day, *Cathedral Curate*
Whitlock *Be still my soul*
W. Lloyd Webber *Epilogue*
- 3.00 p.m. CHORAL EVENSONG (St Christopher's Chamber Choir)
Paul Edwards *Preces and Responses* Proper Psalm 119.81–96
Dyson *Evening Service in F* Hymns 460, 251
Paul Halley *Jesu, the very thought of thee*
Address The Venerable Anne Gell, *Archdeacon of Wells*
Paul Edwards *Turvey Tuba Tune*
-

1 MONDAY

- 8.00 a.m. MORNING LITURGY
5.15 p.m. EVENING PRAYER
-

2 TUESDAY

- 8.00 a.m. MORNING LITURGY
5.15 p.m. EVENING PRAYER

SEPTEMBER

3 WEDNESDAY: Gregory the Great, bishop, teacher of the faith, 604

8.00 a.m. MORNING LITURGY

10.00 a.m. MIDWEEK EUCHARIST
Common Worship Order I, Traditional

5.15 p.m. EVENING PRAYER

4 THURSDAY

8.00 a.m. MORNING LITURGY

5.15 p.m. EVENING PRAYER
attended by the Bishop of Bath and Wells, and Parish Safeguarding Officers

5 FRIDAY

8.00 a.m. MORNING LITURGY

10.30 a.m. WELLS CATHEDRAL SCHOOL SERVICE

5.15 p.m. EVENING PRAYER

6 SATURDAY

8.00 a.m. MORNING PRAYER

5.15 p.m. CHORAL EVENSONG marking the beginning of the Cathedral Choir Year
(Great Choir)

Reger *Benedictus*

Psalm 34

Smith *Preces and Responses*

Hymns CP 618, 339

Stanford *Evening Service in B flat*

Howells *A Hymn for St Cecilia*

Address The Very Reverend Toby Wright, *Dean of Wells*

Howells *Paeon*

7 THE TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

8.30 a.m. HOLY COMMUNION
Book of Common Prayer

10.30 a.m. CATHEDRAL EUCHARIST (Great Choir)
Dan Locklair *Serenity, from Inventions*
Hymns 285.i, 328, MP 813, 420
Timothy Parsons *Missa brevis 'The Shekhinah'* [premiere performance]
Sermon The Very Reverend Toby Wright, *Dean of Wells*
Communion Proper *Vovete et reddite*
Price *Andantino, from Organ Sonata in D minor*
Timothy Parsons *The Shekhinah* [premiere performance]
Price *Finale, from Organ Sonata in D minor*

3.05 p.m. FESTAL EVENSONG † (Boy Choristers and Vicars Choral)
Smith *Preces and Responses* Proper Psalm 131
H. Purcell *Evening Service in G minor* Hymns 183, 185
H. Purcell *Rejoice in the Lord alway*
Address The Reverend Catherine Llewelyn-Evans
J.S. Bach *Prelude in E minor, BWV 548*

N.B. This service begins later to the usual pattern due to the nationwide testing of the UK Emergency Alerts system on mobile phones at 3.00 p.m.

6.30 p.m. WELLS CATHEDRAL SCHOOL SERVICE

8 MONDAY: Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary; Accession of King Charles III, 2022

8.00 a.m. MORNING LITURGY *Cantoris verses*

3.00 p.m. ROMAN CATHOLIC MASS celebrated by Fr Tony Pazhayakalam
Rosary begins at 2.25 p.m.

5.15 p.m. FESTAL EVENSONG † (Girl Choristers and Vicars Choral)
attended by the new members of the Friends of Wells Cathedral
Radcliffe *Preces and Responses* Proper Psalm 121
Wise *Evening Service in F* Hymns 493, 492, 489
Byrd *O Lord, make thy servant Charles*
Elgar, arr. Hesford *Imperial March*

6.00 p.m. TASTE AND SEE: Cathedral Meditation Group in the Lady Chapel

9 TUESDAY

8.00 a.m. MORNING LITURGY

5.15 p.m. CHORAL EVENSONG (Boy Choristers and Vicars Choral)
attended by the new teachers and staff from Wells Cathedral School
Smith *Preces and Responses* Psalms 47–49
Noble *Evening Service in B minor*
Lucy Walker *Oculi omnium*

SEPTEMBER

10 WEDNESDAY

- 8.00 a.m. MORNING LITURGY
10.00 a.m. MIDWEEK EUCHARIST
Common Worship Order I, Traditional
5.15 p.m. EVENING PRAYER
-

11 THURSDAY

- 8.00 a.m. MORNING LITURGY
1.05 p.m. LUNCHTIME ORGAN RECITAL: David Hill MBE, *Organist and Conductor*
5.15 p.m. CHORAL EVENSONG (Girl Choristers and Vicars Choral,
conducted by David Hill MBE)
Radcliffe *Preces and Responses* Psalms 59–61
Howells *Evening Service 'Collegium Regale'*
Gibbons *Almighty and everlasting God*
-

12 FRIDAY

- 8.00 a.m. MORNING LITURGY
5.15 p.m. CHORAL EVENSONG (Vicars Choral)
Plainsong *Preces and Responses* Psalms 65–67
David Bevan Jr *Fauxbourdon Service*
Andrew Parnell *Oculi omnium*
7.30 p.m. CONCERT: The Sixteen
-

13 SATURDAY: John Chrysostom, bishop, teacher of the faith, 407

- 8.00 a.m. MORNING PRAYER
1.05 p.m. LUNCHTIME CONCERT: Horizons Choir, Bath
5.15 p.m. FESTAL EVENSONG † (Vicars Choral)
Harris *Preces and Responses* Proper Psalm 66
Timothy Parsons *Fauxbourdon Service* Hymns 80.i, 91
John IV of Portugal *Crux fidelis*
J.S. Bach *Prelude and Fugue in C minor, BWV 549*

14 SUNDAY: HOLY CROSS DAY

8.30 a.m. HOLY COMMUNION
Book of Common Prayer

10.30 a.m. CATHEDRAL EUCHARIST (Girl Choristers and Vicars Choral, with Wells Cathedral School Chapel Choir)
J.S. Bach *Prelude in B minor, BWV 544*
Hymns 263, MP 465, CP 499, MP 673
Mozart *Missa brevis in C, K. 220, 'Spatzenmesse'*
Sermon The Reverend Canon Tim Stevens, *Canon Precentor*
Communion Proper *Per signum Crucis*
C.P.E. Bach *Andante con tenerezza, from Keyboard Sonata in A, H. 133*
de Séverac *Tantum ergo*
Mendelssohn *Con moto maestoso, from Sonata in A, Op. 65, No 3*

3.00 p.m. FESTAL EVENSONG † celebrating Pilgrimage
(Girl Choristers and Vicars Choral)
Stanford *O for a closer walk with God* Proper Psalm 150
Radcliffe *Preces and Responses* Hymns 94, 84, CP 605
Gabriel Jackson *Truro Service*
Sarah MacDonald *Crux fidelis*
Address The Very Reverend Toby Wright, *Dean of Wells*
Stanford *Postlude in D minor, Op. 105, No 6*

15 MONDAY: Cyprian, bishop, martyr, 258 *Decani verses*

8.00 a.m. MORNING LITURGY

5.15 p.m. CHORAL EVENSONG (Senior Choristers and Vicars Choral)
Sarah MacDonald *Preces and Responses* Psalm 78
Leighton *Collegium Magdalenæ Oxoniense* Hymn 432
Bruckner *Locus iste*

16 TUESDAY: Ninian, bishop, apostle of the Picts, c. 432

8.00 a.m. MORNING LITURGY

5.15 p.m. CHORAL EVENSONG (Junior Choristers)
attended by new school leaders in the Diocese
Peter Nardone *Preces and Responses* Psalm 84
Timothy Noon *Second Service* Hymn 392
Hurford *Litany to the Holy Spirit*

SEPTEMBER

17 WEDNESDAY: Hildegard, abbess, visionary, 1179

8.00 a.m. MORNING LITURGY

10.00 a.m. MIDWEEK EUCHARIST
Common Worship Order I, Traditional

5.15 p.m. EVENING PRAYER

18 THURSDAY

8.00 a.m. MORNING LITURGY

11.30 a.m. MOTHERS' UNION PRAYERS in the Lady Chapel

5.15 p.m. EVENING PRAYER in Vicars' Close Chapel

19 FRIDAY

8.00 a.m. MORNING LITURGY

5.15 p.m. CHORAL EVENSONG (Girl Choristers and Vicars Choral)
Plainsong *Preces and Responses* Psalms 98–101
Bevan *Magnificat and Nunc dimittis secundi toni*
Byrd *Iustorum animæ*

7.00 p.m. SOUND HEALING EVENT

20 SATURDAY: John Coleridge Patteson, bishop, and companions, martyrs, 1871

8.00 a.m. MORNING PRAYER

3.30 p.m. CHORAL EVENSONG (Choristers,
with children attending Be a Chorister for a Day)
Peter Nardone *Preces and Responses* Psalm 104
Owen Alstott *My soul rejoices* Hymns CP 383, 375
Finlay *Faithful vigil ended*
Howard Goodall *The Lord is my Shepherd (Psalm 23)*
Guilmant *Processional March in A, Op. 41, No 5*

N.B. This service begins earlier to the usual pattern.

21 SUNDAY: MATTHEW, APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST

- 8.30 a.m. HOLY COMMUNION
Book of Common Prayer
- 10.30 a.m. CATHEDRAL EUCHARIST (Boy Choristers and Vicars Choral)
J.S. Bach *Largo, from Trio Sonata No 2, BWV 526*
Hymns CP 254, CP 198, CP 622, CP 437
Haydn *Missa brevis Sancti Ioannis de Deo, 'Kleine orgel-messe'*
Sermon The Reverend Canon Dr Megan Daffern, *Canon Chancellor*
Communion Proper *Amen, dico vobis: quod uni*
C.P.E. Bach *Adagio e mesto, from Sonata for Organ in D, H. 86*
Mozart *Ave verum corpus*
J.S. Bach *Prelude in D, BWV 532*
- 3.00 p.m. FESTAL EVENSONG † (Boy Choristers and Vicars Choral)
Matthew Martin *Preces and Responses* Proper Psalm 119.33–40
Philip Moore *Third Service* Hymns 189, 215
Francis Grier *God be merciful unto us*
Address The Right Reverend Trevor Willmott,
Assistant Bishop in the Diocese of Bath and Wells
Sanders *Toccata*

22 MONDAY *Cantoris verses*

- 8.00 a.m. MORNING LITURGY
- 8.50 a.m. WELLS CATHEDRAL SCHOOL SERVICE
- 5.15 p.m. CHORAL EVENSONG (Vicars Choral)
Michael Walsh *Preces and Responses* Psalms 108, 109
Humphrey Clucas *Westminster Service*
Grayston Ives *In pace*

23 TUESDAY

- 8.00 a.m. MORNING LITURGY
- 5.15 p.m. CHORAL EVENSONG (Boy Choristers and Vicars Choral)
Andrew Millington *Preces and Responses* Psalms 114, 115
Watson *Evening Service in E*
John Rutter *God be in my head*

SEPTEMBER

24 WEDNESDAY: Ember Day

8.00 a.m. MORNING LITURGY

10.00 a.m. MIDWEEK EUCHARIST
Common Worship Order I, Traditional

5.15 p.m. EVENING PRAYER

25 THURSDAY: Lancelot Andrewes, bishop, spiritual writer, 1626

8.00 a.m. MORNING LITURGY

5.15 p.m. CHORAL EVENSONG (Girl Choristers and Vicars Choral)
Radcliffe *Preces and Responses* Psalm 119.73–104
Wood *Evening Service in E flat, No 2* Hymn *My God, My Saviour,*
Rheinberger *Abendlied* here this day

26 FRIDAY: Ember Day

8.00 a.m. MORNING LITURGY

2.30 p.m. WELLS CATHEDRAL SCHOOL SERVICE

5.15 p.m. CHORAL EVENSONG (Vicars Choral)
Plainsong *Preces and Responses* Psalm 119.145–176
Weelkes *Short Service* Hymn 348
Palestrina *Sicut cervus*

27 SATURDAY: Vincent de Paul, founder of the Lazarists, 1660; Ember Day

8.00 a.m. MORNING PRAYER

12.00 noon CIDER AND CHEESE FESTIVAL
to 9.00 p.m. *Tickets are available via Eventbrite.*

5.15 p.m. EVENING PRAYER in Vicars' Close Chapel

28 THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

- 8.30 a.m. HOLY COMMUNION
Book of Common Prayer
- 10.30 a.m. CATHEDRAL EUCHARIST (Vicars Choral)
Ad Wammes *Miroir*
Hymns CH4 141, CH4 641, CH4 362, 440
William Drakett *Wells Service*
Sermon The Right Reverend Trevor Willmott,
Honorary Assistant Bishop in the Diocese of Bath and Wells
Communion Proper *Memento verbi tui*
Gerald Near *Sarabande on 'Land of Rest', from Organ Suite II*
Victoria *Estote fortes in bello*
J.S. Bach *Fugue in G minor, BWV 542*
- 3.00 p.m. CHORAL EVENSONG (Schola Cantorum and Vicars Choral)
Sumsion *Preces and Responses* Proper Psalm 91
Amner *Caesar's Service* Hymns 191, 336
Dering *Factum est silentium*
Address The Reverend Mary Lewis, *Priest Vicar*
Buxtehude *Praeludium in D, BuxWV 139*

29 MONDAY: Michael and All Angels *Decani verses*

- 8.00 a.m. MORNING LITURGY
- 11.00 a.m. HOLY COMMUNION attended by the Society of Catholic Priests
- 1.05 p.m. LUNCHTIME CONCERT: Wells Cathedral School
- 5.15 p.m. FESTAL EVENSONG † (Senior Choristers and Vicars Choral)
Sarah MacDonald *Preces and Responses* Proper Psalm 138
Byrd *Short Service* Hymns 193.ii, 190.ii
Matthew Martin *Sing we merrily* [premiere performance]
Cecilia McDowall *Church bells beyond the stars*

30 TUESDAY

- 8.00 a.m. MORNING LITURGY
- 5.15 p.m. CHORAL EVENSONG with the Collation and Installation of Prebendaries
(Junior Choristers and Vicars Choral)
Rose *Preces and Responses* Psalms 147, 148
Tomkins *Fauxbourdon Service*
R. Lloyd *View me, Lord*

OCTOBER

1 WEDNESDAY

- 8.00 a.m. MORNING LITURGY
10.00 a.m. MIDWEEK EUCHARIST
Common Worship Order I, Traditional
5.15 p.m. EVENING PRAYER
-

2 THURSDAY

- 8.00 a.m. MORNING LITURGY
5.15 p.m. CHORAL EVENSONG (Girl Choristers and Vicars Choral)
Gabriel Jackson *Preces and Responses* Psalms 12–14
Ēriks Ešenvalds *Merton College Service*
Eleanor Daley *Upon your heart*
-

3 FRIDAY

- 8.00 a.m. MORNING LITURGY
5.15 p.m. CHORAL EVENSONG (Chamber Choir of King's College, Taunton)
Stainer *Preces and Responses* Psalm 18.1–19
Wood *Evening Service in D*
Bruckner *Locus iste*
-

4 SATURDAY: Francis of Assisi, friar, deacon, 1226

- 8.00 a.m. MORNING PRAYER
2.00 p.m. READERS' SERVICE
5.15 p.m. EVENING PRAYER

TRANSLATIONS OF ANTHEMS AND MOTETS

TUESDAY 9 SEPTEMBER AND FRIDAY 12 SEPTEMBER

Oculi omnium in te sperant, Domine :
et tu das escam illorum
in tempore opportuno.
Gloria tibi, Domine. Amen.

*The eyes of all wait upon thee, O Lord :
and thou givest them their meat
in due season.
Glory be to thee, O Lord. Amen.*

Text: Psalm 145.15

Music: Lucy Walker (b. 1998) [9 September]

Music: Andrew Parnell (b. 1954) [12 September]

SATURDAY 13 SEPTEMBER

Crux fidelis, inter omnes,
arbor una nobilis!
Nulla silva talem profert,
fronde, flore, germine;
dulce lignum, dulces clavos,
dulce pondus sustinet.

*Faithful Cross, above all other,
one and only noble tree!
None in foliage, none in blossom,
none in fruit thy peers may be;
sweetest wood and sweetest iron,
sweetest weight is hung on thee.*

Text: Venantius Fortunatus (c. 530–609),

translated by Percy Dearmer (1867–1936) and J.M. Neale (1818–1866)

Music: John IV of Portugal (1604–1656)

MONDAY 15 SEPTEMBER AND FRIDAY 3 OCTOBER

Locus iste a Deo factus est,
inæstimabile sacramentum;
irreprehensibilis est.

*This place was made by God,
a priceless sacrament;
it is without reproach.*

Text: Gradual at Mass for the Dedication of a Church

Music: Anton Bruckner (1824–1896)

FRIDAY 19 SEPTEMBER

Iustorum animæ in manu Dei sunt,
et non tanget illos tormentum mortis.
Visi sunt oculis insipientium mori,
illi autem sunt in pace.

*The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God,
and the torment of death shall not touch them.
In the sight of the unwise they seemed to die,
but they are at peace.*

Text: Wisdom 3.1–3

Music: William Byrd (c. 1540–1623)

MONDAY 22 SEPTEMBER

In pace in idipsum,
dormiam et requiescam.
Si dedero somnum oculis meis
et palpebris meis dormitationem,
dormiam et requiescam.
Gloria Patri, et Filio,
et Spiritui Sancto.

*In peace itself,
I shall sleep and rest.
If I offer slumber to my eyes
and my eyelids drowsiness,
I shall sleep and rest.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost.*

Text: Psalms 4.9, 132.4

Music: Grayston Ives (b. 1948)

THURSDAY 25 SEPTEMBER

Bleib' bei uns,
denn es will Abend werden;
und der Tag hat sich geneiget.

*Stay with us,
for it is nearly evening;
the day is almost over.*

*Text: Luke 24.29
Music: Josef Rheinberger (1839–1901)*

FRIDAY 26 SEPTEMBER

Sicut cervus
desiderat ad fontes aquarum :
ita desiderat anima mea ad te, Deus.

*Like as the hart
desireth the waterbrooks :
so longeth my soul after thee, O God.*

*Text: Psalm 42.1
Music: Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (1525–1594)*

SUNDAY 28 SEPTEMBER

Factum est silentium in cælo
dum committeret bellum draco
cum Michaelē Archangelo.

*There was silence in heaven
when the dragon fought
with the Archangel Michael.*

Audita est vox
millia millium dicentium:
Salus, honor, et virtus
omnipotenti Deo.
Alleluia.

*The voice of thousands of thousands
was heard saying:
Salvation, honour, and power
be to almighty God.
Alleluia.*

*Text: Motet for the Feast of Michael the Archangel
Music: Richard Dering (c. 1580–1630)*

Lunchtime Organ Recitals 2025

Hear masterpieces for the organ from across the ages on Thursdays throughout the year at 1.05 p.m., in aid of the **Grand Organ Appeal**

JAN 9	Timothy Parsons Wells Cathedral	JUL 10	Angela Kraft Cross Congregational Church of San Mateo, California, USA
FEB 13	Peter Stevens Westminster Cathedral	AUG 14	Carolyn Craig Wells Cathedral
MAR 13	Edward Marshall Wells Cathedral	SEP 11	David Hill, MBE Organist and Conductor
APR 10	Dewi Rees Bath Abbey	OCT 9	Joseph Wicks Formerly Truro Cathedral, Tenor, The Gesualdo Six
MAY 8	Simon Lloyd The Carmelite Priory, London Wells Cathedral School	NOV 13	Alexander Hamilton Hampton Court, Westminster Cathedral Choir School
JUN 12	Michael Lukin Chigwell School		

Admission: included with entry to the Cathedral Retiring collections in aid of the Friends of Wells Cathedral Grand Organ Appeal. Find out more about the appeal online at www.wellsgrandorganappeal.org.uk



The Friends of Wells Cathedral
Grand Organ Appeal

BE A CHORISTER FOR A DAY

at Wells Cathedral



SATURDAY 20 SEPTEMBER 2025

Wells Cathedral invites boys and girls between the ages of six and nine to come and meet the Choristers, find out about Chorister life, and sing at Cathedral Evensong

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G4 Christmas

EXPERIENCE SUMPTUOUS HARMONIES IN AN IDYLIC FESTIVE SETTING



NOVEMBER 2025

6	NEWPORT (IOW)	MINSTER	19	HEREFORD	CATHEDRAL
7	NEWPORT (IOW)	MINSTER	20	WORCESTER	CATHEDRAL
8	CHRISTCHURCH	PRIORY	21	STOCKPORT	TOWN HALL
11	TRURO	CATHEDRAL	22	DURHAM	CATHEDRAL
12	EXETER	CATHEDRAL	25	ROCHESTER	CATHEDRAL
13	LICHFIELD	CATHEDRAL	26	SOUTHAMPTON	CENTRAL HALL
14	LINCOLN	CATHEDRAL	27	WELLS	CATHEDRAL
15	BEVERLEY	MINSTER	28	CHICHESTER	CATHEDRAL
18	SWANSEA	BRANGWYN HALL	29	WESTMINSTER	CENTRAL HALL

DECEMBER 2025

2	CHESTER	CATHEDRAL	16	COVENTRY	CATHEDRAL
3	DERBY	CATHEDRAL	17	NORWICH	CATHEDRAL
4	SHREWSBURY	ABBEY	18	BOSTON	STUMP
5	BRADFORD	CATHEDRAL	19	ELY	CATHEDRAL
6	RIPON	CATHEDRAL	20	ST EDMUNDSBURY	CATHEDRAL
9	LIVERPOOL	CATHEDRAL	22	LANCING COLLEGE	CHAPEL
10	SELBY	ABBEY	23	OXFORD	TOWN HALL
11	BLACKBURN	CATHEDRAL	27	HEXHAM	ABBEY
12	DONCASTER	MINSTER	28	EDINBURGH	USHER HALL
13	STOKE	MINSTER	29	PAISLEY	TOWN HALL
			30	CARLISLE	CATHEDRAL

FOR TICKETS AND MORE INFORMATION

G4OFFICIAL.COM



WELLS CATHEDRAL CHOIR

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READINGS IN THE MAGICAL CANDLELIT
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19, 20 & 21 DECEMBER 2025, 7.00 P.M.

In the Nave of Wells Cathedral

Tickets: available in advance online via

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...for, both the greater...
...of leaves p... than right...
...like un... of a...
...wood is reddish...
...eth a...

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CATHEDRAL COMMISSIONS

Enriching the choral tradition and inspiring a new generation of composers, performers, and listeners.

Started in 2006, Cathedral Commissions exists to raise funds for the commissioning of new works from today's most exciting composers for performance in Wells Cathedral by its internationally acclaimed music foundation. In former periods of music, Cathedral Choirs and the choirs of collegiate foundations were at the forefront of compositional development; their repertoire mostly consisted of newly composed music. In more recent times, music for worship in the Anglican Church had a reputation for clinging to outdated and backward-looking compositional techniques. A letter to the Independent in May 1999, expressed the view that 'the Anglican organ loft is a backwater.'

Cathedral Commissions aims to redress the balance. Since its start, works by highly distinguished composers have entered the repertoire of Wells Cathedral Choir. These include Lord Michael Berkeley, Judith Bingham, Jonathan Dove, Grayston Ives, Gabriel Jackson, John Joubert, Sir James MacMillan, Sir Peter Maxwell-Davies, Cecilia McDowall, Howard Skempton, Joby Talbot, and Judith Weir. It has been particularly successful in championing music by younger composers, including Anna Semples and Kerensa Briggs, among others.

It then seeks to share this as widely as possible, through live performances, broadcasts, and recordings. In turn these new pieces have an ongoing life beyond their premiere performance, in other musical centres around the world in liturgical or concert settings.

If you would like to join us and become a commissioner, please visit www.wellscathedral.org.uk/commissions

John Williams
Chair of Cathedral Commissions

cathedral  commissions
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