



Singing the Journey

Harris Manchester College

Wednesday evening services

Hilary Term 2026

5.45pm in the college chapel

This term our Wednesday evening services mark the journey from New Year to Spring, with song, poetry, prayer and reflections both silent and spoken. We begin (21 Jan) with a service of reflection on the life and legacy of Rev Dr Martin Luther King Jr., mark Holocaust Memorial Day (28 Jan) with a programme of music and readings and on 4 Feb welcome HMC Fellow Rev Dr Colin Bossen to give the address. We will hold our annual LGBTQ+ History Month service on 11 Feb. The Ash Wednesday service will be led on 18 Feb by Dr Bethany Sollereder and our chaplain, Rev Dr Claire MacDonald, who will lead our service on 25 Feb, and on 4 March with Professor Claire Hind of York St John University, with a service on walking under dark skies. Our chapel services will close on 11 March with a service of reflection and song with music by our former Director of Music, James Whitbourn, who died two years ago, on March 12 2024.

Our theme this term, *Singing the Journey*, reflects the part that music – and especially song – plays in the life of chapel, through its choir and musicians. Our organ and piano music will be chosen by our organ scholar Alfred Kelsey and this term we will feature a new composition by choir member Riina Luha, as well as songs, hymns and psalm settings by Mark Miller, Amanda Ballard, Aaron Copland, Bob Chilcott, Orlando Gibbons, Herbert Howells, John Rutter, Peter Warlock, Ralph Vaughan Williams, Gerald Finzi, and James Whitbourn.



21 January (Wk 1) *The Arc of the Universe: a service for Martin Luther King Jr. Day* Led by the Chaplain Rev Dr Claire MacDonald

28 January (Wk2) *Holocaust Memorial Day Programme* Led by Dr Wendy Fidler MBE and the Chaplain

4 February (Wk 3) *To be a Pilgrim* Led by Rev Dr Colin Bossen

11 February (Wk 4) *LGBTQIA+ : The Difference We Make* Led by the Chaplain and students

18 February (Wk 5) *A Service for Ash Wednesday* Led by Dr Bethany Sollereder and the Chaplain

25 February (Wk 6) *Singing the Journey* Led by the Chaplain

4 March (Wk 7) *Walking Under Dark Skies* Led by Professor Claire Hind and the Chaplain

11 March (Wk 8) *Ending the Journey* Led by the Chaplain

People

Chaplain: The Rev Dr **Claire MacDonald**,
Sanders Director of Music: **Stephen Taylor**
Organ Scholar: **Alfred Kelsey**