



CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL

DUBLIN

*Wednesday 6 December 2017
18.00 Choral Evensong
sung by the Cathedral Girls' Choir*

Cathedral Choral Evensong is essentially a service of reflection—of leaving ourselves open that God may speak to us through the psalms, readings and canticles, which are the core of the service.

We welcome you to share with us in worship that has been offered here for nearly a thousand years. Cathedrals with a great choral tradition draw upon a rich inheritance of music, much of it sung by the choir alone. In the Anglican tradition this music finds its natural setting in the office of Evensong, a combination of the medieval offices of Vespers and Compline. Here beauty in language and music can speak to us of God in a rich and diverse way. Within this hallowed space you may forget the ceaseless activity of daily life and be still.

The choice of scripture readings is from the ecumenical lectionary now in use in the Church of Ireland, reading though the different books of the Bible, little by little, day by day. Today's readings will be continued tomorrow.

There are no announcements during services. Please join strongly in all spoken parts and in the singing of hymns (where these are appointed). To aid reflection you are invited to *sit* during the singing of the psalm(s) and the canticles.

Please stand when the choir and clergy enter.

PRECES Plainsong

Cantor O Lord, open thou our lips;
Choir and our mouth shall shew forth thy praise,
Cantor O God, make speed to save us;
Choir O Lord, make haste to help us.
Cantor Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Spirit;
Choir as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be:
world without end. Amen.
Cantor Praise ye the Lord.
Choir The Lord's Name be praised

Please sit for PSALM 46 sung by the choir

God is our hope and strength: a very present help in trouble. Therefore will we not fear though the earth be moved: and though the hills be carried into the midst of the sea. Though the waters thereof rage and swell: and though the mountains shake at the tempest of the same. There is a river, the streams whereof make glad the city of God: the holy place of the tabernacle of the Most Highest. God is in the midst of her, therefore shall she not be removed: God shall help her and that right early. The nations make much ado and the kingdoms are moved: but God hath shewed his voice and the earth shall melt away. The Lord of hosts is with us: the God of Jacob is our refuge. O come hither and behold the works of the Lord: what destruction he hath brought upon the earth. He maketh wars to cease in all the world: he breaketh the bow and knappeth the spear in sunder, and burneth the chariots in the fire. Be still then and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the nations, and I will be exalted in the earth. The Lord of hosts is with us: the God of Jacob is our refuge.

Please stand

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Spirit; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

Please sit

THE FIRST LESSON – Micah 5:1-5a

MAGNIFICAT

GEORGE DYSON (1883–1964), Evening Service in C minor

The song of the Blessed Virgin Mary

My soul doth magnify the Lord: and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour. For he hath regarded: the lowliness of his hand-maiden. 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.

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 SECOND LESSON – Luke 21:34-38

NUNC DIMITTIS

GEORGE DYSON, EVENING SERVICE IN C MINOR

The song of Simeon

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.

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

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 Spirit, 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 Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the Communion of Saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

RESPONSES PLAINSONG

Cantor The Lord be with you

Choir and with thy spirit.

Cantor Let us pray

Please kneel or sit

Choir 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.

Cantor O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us;

Choir and grant us thy salvation.

Cantor O Lord, guide and defend our rulers;

Choir and mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Cantor Endue thy Ministers with righteousness;

Choir and make thy chosen people joyful.

Cantor O Lord, save thy people;

Choir and bless thine inheritance.

Cantor Give peace in our time, O Lord;

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

Cantor O God, make clean our hearts within us;

Choir and take not thy holy Spirit from us.

The Collect, of the Day

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 Spirit, now and 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.

ANTHEM

Jesus, good above all other,
Gentle child of gentle mother,
In a stable born our brother,
Give us grace to persevere.

Jesus, cradled in a manger,
For us facing every danger;
Living as a homeless stranger,
Make we thee our king most dear.

Jesus for thy people dying,
Risen Master, death defying,
Lord in heav'n, thy grace supplying,
Keep us to thy presence near.

Jesus, who our sorrows bearest,
All our thoughts and hopes thou sharest,
Thou to man the truth declarest
Help us all thy truth to hear.

Lord, in all our doings guide us,
Pride and hate shall ne'er divide us,
We'll go on with thee beside us,
And with joy we'll persevere.

Trad. arr. Simon Lole (b. 1957)

14th Century German Carol

THE PRAYERS

Please stand for the procession of choir and clergy and sit for the

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

which concludes the service