



CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL

DUBLIN

*Sunday 15 September 2019
15.30 Choral Evensong
sung by the Cathedral 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.

The Cantor reads THE SENTENCE and leads THE CONFESSION

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 ABSOLUTION

PRECES John Reading (d. 1692)

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 124 sung by the choir

If the Lord himself had not been on our side now may Israel say: if the Lord himself had not been on our side when men rose up against us; They had swallowed us up quick: when they were so wrathfully displeased at us. Yea the waters had drowned us: and the stream had gone over our soul. The deep waters of the proud: had gone even over our soul. But praised be the Lord: who had not given us over for a prey unto their teeth. Our soul is escaped even as a bird out of the snare of the fowler: the snare is broken and we are delivered. Our help standeth in the name of the Lord: who hath made heaven and earth. *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 – Isaiah 60

MAGNIFICAT HENRY PURCELL (1659–1695), EVENING SERVICE IN G 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 – John 6:51-69

NUNC DIMITTIS HENRY PURCELL, EVENING SERVICE IN G 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 JOHN READING

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 and merciful God, of whose only gift it cometh that thy faithful people do unto thee true and laudable service; Grant, we beseech thee, that we may so faithfully serve thee in this life, that we fail not finally to attain thy heavenly promises; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Lord. 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.

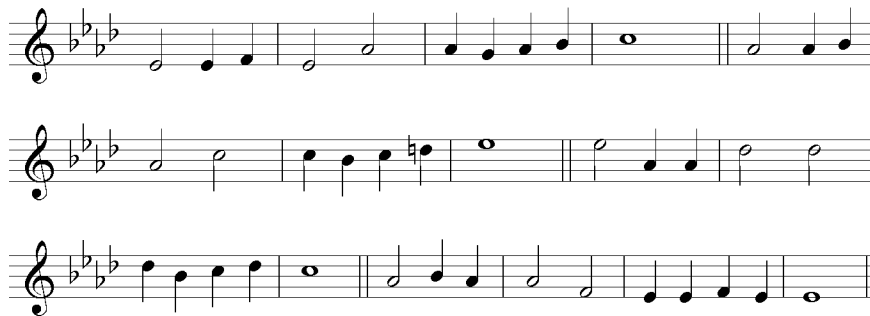
ANTHEM

Thou knowest, Lord, the secrets of our hearts. Shut not thy merciful ears to our prayers, but spare us, Lord most holy. O God most mighty, O holy and most merciful Saviour, thou most worthy Judge eternal, suffer us not, at our last hour, for any pains of death, to fall from thee.

Henry Purcell (1659–1695)

from the Burial of the Dead, the Book of Common Prayer

THE PRAYERS



**Saviour, again to thy dear Name we raise
With one accord our parting hymn of praise.
Guard thou the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,
That in this house have called upon thy name.**

**Grant us thy peace, Lord, through the coming night,
Turn thou for us its darkness into light;
From harm and danger keep thy children free,
For dark and light are both alike to thee.**

**Grant us thy peace throughout our earthly life,
Peace to thy Church from error and from strife:
Peace to our land, the fruit of truth and love;
Peace in each heart, thy Spirit from above:**

**Thy peace in life, the balm of every pain;
Thy peace in death, the hope to rise again;
Then, when thy voice shall bid our conflict cease,
Call us, O Lord, to thine eternal peace.**

Tune: Ellers

E.J. Hopkins (1818–1901)

John Ellerton (1826–93)

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

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

which concludes the service