



CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL

DUBLIN

Sunday 9 May 2021
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 through 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 Jack Oades (b. 1994)

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 45 sung by the choir

My heart is inditing of a good matter: I speak of the things which I have made unto the King. My tongue is the pen : of a ready writer. Thou art fairer than the children of men: full of grace are thy lips, because God hath blessed thee for ever. Gird thee with thy sword upon thy thigh, O thou most Mighty: according to thy worship and renown. Good luck have thou with thine honour: ride on, because of the word of truth , of meekness, and righteousness; and thy right hand shall teach thee terrible things. Thy arrows are very sharp, and the people shall be subdued unto thee: even in the midst among the King's enemies. Thy seat, O God, endureth for ever: the sceptre of thy kingdom is a right sceptre. Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity: wherefore God, even thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows. All thy garments smell of myrrh, aloes, and cassia: out of the ivory palaces, whereby they have made thee glad. Kings' daughters were among thy honourable women: upon thy right hand did stand the queen in a vesture of gold, wrought about with divers colours. Hearken, O daughter, and consider, incline thine ear; forget also thine own people, and thy father's house. So shall the King have pleasure in thy beauty: for he is thy Lord God, and worship thou him. And the daughter of Tyre shall be there with a gift: like as the rich also among the people shall make their supplication before thee. The King's daughter is all glorious within: her clothing is of wrought gold. She shall be brought unto the King in raiment of needle-work: the virgins that be her fellows shall bear her company, and shall be brought unto thee. With joy and gladness shall they be brought: and shall enter into the King's palace. Instead of thy fathers thou shalt have children: whom thou mayest make princes in all lands. I will remember thy Name from one generation to another: therefore shall the people give thanks unto thee, world without end.

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 FIRST LESSON – Song of Solomon 4:16-5:2; 8:6-7

MAGNIFICAT

HERBERT HOWELLS (1892-1983), Collegium Regale

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 – Revelation 3:14-22

NUNC DIMITTIS

HERBERT HOWELLS (1892-1983), Collegium Regale

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 Jack Oades (b. 1994)

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

O Lord, from whom all good things do come; Grant to us thy humble servants, that by thy holy inspiration we may think those things that be good, and by thy merciful guiding may perform the same; through our Lord Jesus Christ. 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, O God, art praised in Sion, and unto Thee shall the vow be performed in Jerusalem. Thou that hearest the prayer, unto Thee shall all flesh come. Blessed is the man whom Thou choosest and receivest unto Thee. He shall dwell in Thy courts and shall be satisfied with the pleasures of Thy house, e'en of Thy holy temple.

Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stay'd on Thee:
Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace because he trusteth in Thee.
Trust ye in the Lord for ever,
for in the Lord Jehovah is everlasting strength.

Let the people praise Thee, O God, yea,
let all the people praise Thee.
Then shall the earth bring forth her increase:
and God shall give us His blessing.

Malcolm Boyle (1902-1976)

Psalm 65 vv. 1-2, 4, Isaiah 26 vv. 3-4

THE PRAYERS

THE BLESSING

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

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Psalm Prelude No 3 (Set 1) *Herbert Howells* (1892-1983)

which concludes the service