



CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL

DUBLIN

Sunday 27 February 2022
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 John Reading (1645-1692)

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 31 sung by the choir

In thee, O Lord, have I put my trust: let me never be put to confusion, deliver me in thy righteousness. Bow down thine ear to me: make haste to deliver me. And be thou my strong rock, and house of defence: that thou mayest save me. For thou art my strong rock, and my castle: be thou also my guide, and lead me for thy Name's sake. Draw me out of the net that they have laid privily for me: for thou art my strength. Into thy hands I commend my spirit: for thou hast redeemed me, O Lord, thou God of truth. I have hated them that hold of superstitious vanities: and my trust hath been in the Lord. I will be glad and rejoice in thy mercy: for thou hast considered my trouble, and hast known my soul in adversities. Thou hast not shut me up into the hand of the enemy: but hast set my feet in a large room. Have mercy upon me, O Lord, for I am in trouble: and mine eye is consumed for very heaviness; yea, my soul and my body. For my life is waxen old with heaviness: and my years with mourning. My strength faileth me, because of mine iniquity: and my bones are consumed. I became a reproof among all mine enemies, but especially among my neighbours: and they of mine acquaintance were afraid of me; and they that did see me without conveyed themselves from me. I am clean forgotten, as a dead man out of mind: I am become like a broken vessel. For I have heard the blasphemy of the multitude: and fear is on every side, while they conspire together against me, and take their counsel to take away my life. But my hope hath been in thee, O Lord: I have said, Thou art my God. My time is in thy hand; deliver me from the hand of mine enemies: and from them that persecute me. Shew thy servant the light of thy countenance: and save me for thy mercy's sake. Let me not be confounded, O Lord, for I have called upon thee: let the ungodly be put to confusion, and be put to silence in the grave. Let the lying lips be put to silence: which cruelly, disdainfully, and despitefully, speak against the righteous. O how plentiful is thy goodness, which thou hast laid up for them that fear thee: and that thou hast prepared for them that put their trust in thee, even before the sons of men! Thou shalt hide them privily by thine own presence from the provoking of all men: thou shalt keep them secretly in thy tabernacle from the strife of tongues. Thanks be to the Lord: for he hath shewed me marvellous great kindness in a strong city. And when I made haste, I said: I am cast out of the sight of thine eyes. Nevertheless, thou heardest the voice of my prayer: when I cried unto thee. O love the Lord, all ye his saints: for the Lord preserveth them that are faithful, and plenteously rewardeth the proud doer. Be strong, and he shall establish your heart: all ye that put your trust in the Lord. *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 — Exodus 3:1-6

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 – John 12:27-36a

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 John Reading (1645-1692)

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, who hast taught us that all our doings without charity are nothing worth; Send thy Holy Spirit, and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of charity, the very bond of peace and of all virtues, without which whosoever liveth is counted dead before thee; Grant this for thine only Son Jesus Christ's sake. 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

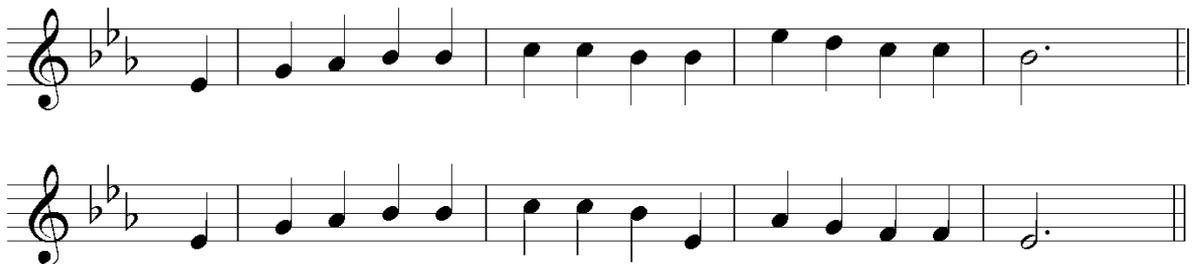
Thy word is a lantern unto my feet: and a light unto my paths.
I have sworn, and am stedfastly purposed:
to keep thy righteous judgements.
I am troubled above measure: quicken me, O Lord, according to thy word.
Let the free-will offerings of my mouth please thee, O Lord:
and teach me thy judgements.
The ungodly have laid a snare for me:
but yet I swerved not from thy commandments.
Thy testimonies have I claimed as mine heritage for ever:
and why? they are the very joy of my heart.

Henry Purcell (1659-1695)

Psalm 99, vv.105-8, 110, 111

THE PRAYERS

HYMN



O Holy Spirit, Lord of grace, Eternal fount of love, Inflame, we pray, our inmost hearts, With fire from heaven above.	As thou in bond of love dost join The Father and the Son So fill us all with mutual love, And knit our hearts in one.
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**All glory to the Father be,
All glory to the Son,
All glory, Holy Ghost, to thee,
While endless ages run. Amen.**

Tune: Tallis's Ordinal
Thomas Tallis (c. 1505-85)

Latin, Charles Coffin (1676-1749)
trans. John Chandler (1808-76)

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

ORGAN VOLUNTARY
which concludes the service