

3The Cathedral Church of the Holy Trinity  
commonly called

**CHRIST CHURCH  
DUBLIN**



**CHORAL EVENSONG**

**SUNDAY 13 NOVEMBER 2022**

**EVE OF ST LAURENCE O'TOOLE  
PATRON SAINT OF DUBLIN**

*SUNG BY*

**THE CHOIR OF CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL DUBLIN**

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.

Laurence was born at Castledermot, Co. Kildare in 1132, the youngest of four sons of Maurice O'Toole, a Leinster chieftain who was engaged in rivalry with the powerful Mac Murchada family. When Laurence was 10 years old, he was handed over to Diarmait Mac Murchada as a hostage for his father's loyalty. At first, he was treated well, but when Maurice O'Toole was again suspected of treachery, Laurence was taken far away and imprisoned in a herdsman's hut "in a desert, stony place," where he was given barely enough food to keep him alive.

Laurence became very ill but was finally rescued and cared for by the Bishop of Glendalough, under whose influence he decided to join the Church. Laurence remained in Glendalough and was ordained as a priest at an early age. He became abbot of the monastery at Glendalough at the age of just 25. In 1161 he became Archbishop of Dublin by a unanimous vote. He was consecrated the following year in Christ Church Cathedral. As Archbishop of Dublin, Laurence was a reformer and wanted to bring the Irish church in line with Continental Europe. During his time in office, as many as 150 priests and religious leaders were withdrawn from their offices for various abuses. Laurence also imposed the rule of St Augustine on the cathedral clergy to further improve standards and became a member of the Augustinian order himself. You can see the ruins of their Chapter House outside.

In the years immediately following the arrival of the Anglo-Normans in Ireland, great wealth co-existed alongside great poverty in Dublin and Laurence was known for his care for the destitute. He is said to have established some of the first orphanages in the city and to have entertained thirty impoverished people at his dinner table every day.

In 1180, Laurence left Ireland for the last time, taking one of Ó Conchobhair's sons with him as a hostage to Henry II, in an echo of his own childhood. He followed Henry to Normandy but became ill almost immediately upon arrival and was brought to the Abbey of St Victor at Eu. When it was suggested that he should make his will, he replied "I thank God I have not a penny left in the world to dispose of." His last thoughts were said to have been of his people in Dublin: "Alas, you poor, foolish people, what will you do now? Who will take care of you in your trouble? Who will help you?" He died on 14 November 1180.

## **Introit**

Holy is the true light, and passing wonderful, lending radiance to them that endured in the heat of the conflict: from Christ they inherit a home of unfading splendour, wherein they rejoice with gladness evermore. Alleluia, alleluia.

William Harris (1883-1973)

from the Salisbury Diurnal by GH Palmer

*Please stand when the choir and clergy enter.*

## Processional Hymn



Christ triumphant, ever reigning,  
Saviour, Master, King!  
Lord of heaven, our lives sustaining,  
hear us as we sing:  
*Yours the glory and the crown,  
the high renown, th'eternal name!*

Word incarnate, truth revealing,  
Son of Man on earth!  
Power and majesty concealing  
by your humble birth:

Suffering servant, scorned, ill-treated,  
victim crucified!  
Death is through the cross defeated,  
sinners justified:

Priestly King, enthroned for ever,  
high in heaven above!  
Sin and death and hell shall never  
stifle hymns of love:

So, our hearts and voices raising  
through the ages long,  
ceaselessly upon you gazing,  
this shall be our song:

Tune: Guiting Power  
John Barnard (b.1948)

Michael John Saward (b. 1932)

## Preces

Bernard Rose (1916-1996)

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

## The Choir sings the psalm(s) appointed for the day, Psalm 97

*Please sit*

The Lord is King, the earth may be glad thereof: yea, the multitude of the isles may be glad thereof. Clouds and darkness are round about him: righteousness and judgement are the habitation of his seat. There shall go a fire before him: and burn up his enemies on every side. His lightnings gave shine unto the world: the earth saw it, and was afraid. The hills melted like wax at the presence of the Lord: at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth. The heavens have declared his righteousness: and all the people have seen his glory. Confounded be all they that worship carved images, and that delight in vain gods: worship him, all ye gods. Sion heard of it, and rejoiced: and the daughters of Judah were glad, because of thy judgements, O Lord. For thou, Lord, art higher than all that are in the earth: thou art exalted far above all gods. O ye that love the Lord, see that ye hate the thing which is evil: the Lord preserveth the souls of his saints; he shall deliver them from the hand of the ungodly. There is sprung up a light for the righteous: and joyful gladness for such as are true-hearted. Rejoice in the Lord, ye righteous: and give thanks for a remembrance of his holiness.

*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 - Daniel 6

### **The Magnificat** *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*

George Dyson (1883-1964) Evening Service in D

## The Second Lesson - Matthew 13: 1-9, 18-23

### **The Nunc Dimittis** *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

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, who hast knit together thine elect in one communion and fellowship, in the mystical body of thy Son Christ our Lord; Grant us grace so to follow after the example of thy blessed servant Laurence, that thy holy church may be continually renewed in the power of thy Spirit, to give itself continually to godly service of the poor, and to the reconciliation of all who are at enmity, through 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**

Lord, thou hast been our refuge: from one generation to another.  
Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever the earth and the world were made:  
thou art God from everlasting, and world without end.  
Thou turnest man to destruction: again thou sayest, Come again, ye children of men.  
For a thousand years in thy sight are but as yesterday:  
seeing that is past as a watch in the night.

O God, our help in ages past,  
Our hope for years to come,  
Our shelter from the stormy blast,  
And our eternal home.

As soon as thou scatterest them they are even as a sleep:  
and fade away suddenly like the grass.  
In the morning it is green, and groweth up: but in the evening it is cut down,  
dried up, and withered.  
For we consume away in thy displeasure: and are afraid at thy wrathful indignation.  
For when thou art angry all our days are gone: we bring our years to an end,  
as it were a tale that is told.  
The days of our age are threescore years and ten;  
and though men be so strong that they come to fourscore years:  
yet is their strength then but labour and sorrow; so soon passeth it away, and we are gone.

Turn thee again, O Lord, at the last: and be gracious unto thy servants.  
O satisfy us with thy mercy, and that soon:  
so shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life.

And the glorious majesty of the Lord our God be upon us: prosper thou the work of our hands, O prosper thou our handywork.

## The Prayers

*Following the Prayers, we say together*

**The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the Love of God,  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,  
be with us all for evermore. Amen**

*Please stand*

**The Hymn** *during which a collection will be taken in support of the Cathedral's mission*



Give us the wings of faith to rise  
Within the veil, and see  
The saints above, how great their joys,  
How bright their glories be.

Once they were mourning here below,  
Their couch was wet with tears;  
They wrestled hard, as we do now,  
With sins and doubts and fears.

We ask them whence their victory came:  
They, with united breath,  
Ascribe their conquest to the Lamb,  
Their triumph to his death.

They marked the footsteps that he trod,  
His zeal inspired their breast,  
And, following their incarnate God,  
Possess the promised rest.

Our glorious Leader claims our praise  
For his own pattern given;  
While the long cloud of witnesses  
Show the same path to heaven.

Derek Williams (1945-2006)

Isaac Watts (1674-1748)

## The Blessing

*The service concludes with the procession of the clergy and choir.*

*Please sit for the Organ voluntary*



*To learn more about the cathedral, and its services and events,  
please see the website at [www.christchurchcathedral.ie](http://www.christchurchcathedral.ie)  
or pick up a leaflet at the welcome desk*

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