

The Cathedral Church of the Holy Trinity  
commonly called

**CHRIST CHURCH  
DUBLIN**



**Sunday 5 March 2023**

15.30 Choral Evensong

Sung by the Cathedral Choir

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.

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 psalmody and canticles.

**Please refrain from taking pictures or videos during the service.**

## **Introit**

God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoso believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

John Stainer (1840-1901)

John 3:16

***Please stand when the choir and clergy enter.***

*Following the reading of the sentence, the Priest introduces the Confession.*

Dearly beloved, the Scripture moveth us in sundry places to acknowledge and confess our manifold sins and wickedness; and that we should not dissemble nor cloke them before the face of almighty God; but confess them with an humble, lowly, penitent and obedient heart; to the end that we may obtain forgiveness of the same, by their infinite goodness and mercy. And although we ought at all times humbly to acknowledge our sins before God; yet ought we most chiefly so to do, when we assemble and meet together to render thanks for the great benefits that we have received at their hands, to set forth their most worthy praise, to hear their most holy Word, and to ask those things which are requisite and necessary, as well for the body as the soul. Wherefore I pray and beseech you, as many as are here present, to accompany me with a pure heart, and humble voice, unto the throne of the heavenly grace, as we sit or kneel and humbly confess our sins unto almighty God.

### **The Confession**

Almighty and most merciful God; **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 humankind in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful God, for their sake; That we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, To the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.**

### **The Absolution**

Almighty God, who desireth not the death of a sinner, but rather that they may turn from their wickedness, and live; and hath given power, and commandment, to their Ministers, to declare and pronounce to their people, being penitent, the Absolution and Remission of their sins: They pardoneth and absolveth all them that truly repent, and unfeignedly believe their holy Gospel. Wherefore let us beseech them to grant us true repentance, and their Holy Spirit, that those things may please them which we do at this present; and that the rest of our life hereafter may be pure and holy; so that at the last we may come to their eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **Preces**

Thomas Tomkins (1572-1656)

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 119: 17-32**

*Please sit*

O do well unto thy servant: that I may live, and keep thy word. Open thou mine eyes: that I may see the wondrous things of thy law. I am a stranger upon earth: O hide not thy commandments from me. My soul breaketh out for the very fervent desire: that it hath alway unto thy judgements. Thou hast rebuked the proud: and cursed are they that do err from thy commandments. O turn from me shame and rebuke: for I have kept thy testimonies. Princes also did sit and speak against me: but thy servant is occupied in thy statutes. For thy testimonies are my delight: and my counsellors. My soul cleaveth to the dust: O quicken thou me, according to thy word. I have acknowledged my ways, and thou heardest me: O teach me thy statutes. Make me to understand the way of thy commandments: and so shall I talk of thy wondrous works. My soul melteth away for very heaviness: comfort thou me according unto thy word. Take from me the way of lying: and cause thou me to make much of thy law. I have chosen the way of truth: and thy judgements have I laid before me. I have stuck unto thy testimonies: O Lord, confound me not. I will run the way of thy commandments: when thou hast set my heart at liberty.

*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 - Numbers 21: 4-9**

### **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*

Herbert Howells (1892-1983) Evening Service in B minor

## **The Second Lesson - Luke 14: 27-33**

### **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, you show to those who are in error the light of your truth that they may return to the way of righteousness: Grant to all those that are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's religion, that they may reject those things that are contrary to their profession, and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same; through our Lord Jesus Christ.

### *The Collect for Lent*

Almighty and everlasting God, who hatest nothing that thou hast made, and dost forgive the sins of all them that are penitent; Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we worthily lamenting our sins, and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of thee, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

### *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**

Peccantem me quotidie

*I who sin every day*

et non paenitentem,

*and am not penitent*

Timor mortis conturbat me.

*the fear of death troubles me:*

Quia in inferno nulla est redemptio.

*For in hell there is no redemption.*

Miserere mei, Deus, et salva me.

*Have mercy upon me, O God, and save me.*

William Byrd (1543-1623)

Respond at Matins for the Dead

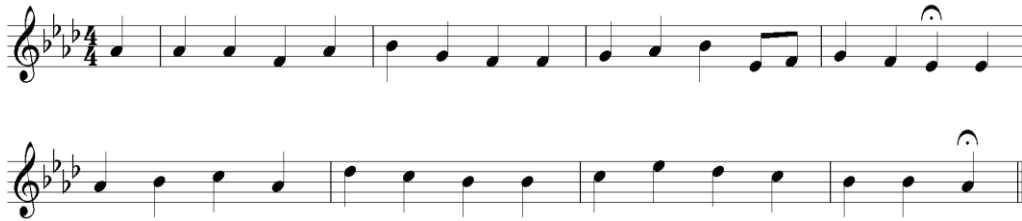
## **The Prayers**

*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*



Take up thy cross, the Saviour said,  
If thou wouldst my disciple be;  
Deny thyself, the world forsake,  
And humbly follow after me.

Take up thy cross; let not its weight  
Fill thy weak spirit with alarm:  
His strength shall bear thy spirit up,  
And brace thy heart, and nerve thine arm.

Take up thy cross, nor heed the shame,  
Nor let thy foolish pride rebel;  
The Lord for thee the Cross endured,  
To save thy soul from death and hell.

Take up thy cross then in his strength,  
And calmly every danger brave;  
'Twill guide thee to a better home,  
And lead to victory o'er the grave.

Take up thy cross, and follow Christ,  
Nor think till death to lay it down;  
For only he who bears the cross  
May hope to wear the glorious crown.

To thee, great Lord, the One in Three,  
All praise for evermore ascend;  
O grant us in our home to see  
The heavenly life that knows no end.

Tune: Breslau

from Christian Gall's *As Hymnodus Sacer*, Leipzig, 1625

Charles W. Everest (1814-77)

## The Blessing

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

*Please sit for the Organ voluntary*

Herzliebster Jesu, was hast du verbrochen, BWV 1093 JS Bach (1685-1750)



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