

The Cathedral Church of the Holy Trinity
commonly called

**CHRIST CHURCH
DUBLIN**



Sunday 14 May 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.

RECORDING DURING THE SERVICE IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED

Introit

I sat down under His shadow with great delight,
and His fruit was sweet to my taste.
He brought me to the banqueting house,
and His banner over me was love.

Edward C. Bairstow (1874-1946)

Song of Songs 2: 3, 4

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

Kenneth Leighton (1929-1988)

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 72

Please sit

Give the King thy judgements, O God: and thy righteousness unto the King's son. Then shall he judge thy people according unto right: and defend the poor. The mountains also shall bring peace: and the little hills righteousness unto the people. He shall keep the simple folk by their right: defend the children of the poor, and punish the wrong-doer. They shall fear thee, as long as the sun and moon endureth: from one generation to another. He shall come down like the rain into a fleece of wool: even as the drops that water the earth. In his time shall the righteous flourish: yea, and abundance of peace, so long as the moon endureth. His dominion shall be also from the one sea to the other: and from the flood unto the world's end. They that dwell in the wilderness shall kneel before him: his enemies shall lick the dust. The kings of Tharsis and of the isles shall give presents: the kings of Arabia and Saba shall bring gifts. All kings shall fall down before him: all nations shall do him service. For he shall deliver the poor when he crieth: the needy also, and him that hath no helper. He shall be favourable to the simple and needy: and shall preserve the souls of the poor. He shall deliver their souls from falsehood and wrong: and dear shall their blood be in his sight. He shall live, and unto him shall be given of the gold of Arabia: prayer shall be made ever unto him, and daily shall he be praised. There shall be an heap of corn in the earth, high upon the hills: his fruit shall shake like Libanus, and shall be green in the city like grass upon the earth. His Name shall endure for ever; his Name shall remain under the sun among the posterities: which shall be blessed through him; and all the heathen shall praise him. Blessed be the Lord God, even the God of Israel: which only doeth wondrous things; And blessed be the Name of his majesty for ever: and all the earth shall be filled with his majesty. Amen, Amen.

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 - Zechariah 8: 1-13

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

Kenneth Leighton (1929-1988) The Magdalen Service

The Second Lesson - Revelation 21: 22 - 22: 5

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.

The Lesser Litany and 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

O Lord, from whom all good things 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.

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

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
which according to his abundant mercy
hath begotten us again unto a lively hope
by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,
to an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled,
and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you,
who are kept by the power of God through faith
unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.
But as he which hath called you is holy,
so be ye holy in all manner of conversation.
Pass the time of your sojourning here in fear.
Love one another with a pure heart fervently.
Being born again, not of corruptible seed,
but of incorruptible, by the word of God.
For all flesh is as grass,
and all the glory of man as the flower of grass.
The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away:
but the word of the Lord endureth for evermore. Amen.

S. S. Wesley (1810-76)

1 Peter 1: 3-5, 15-17, 22-25

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*



Sun of my soul, thou Saviour dear,
It is not night if thou be near:
O may no earth-born cloud arise
To hide thee from thy servant's eyes.

When the soft dews of kindly sleep
My wearied eyelids gently steep,
Be my last thought, how sweet to rest
For ever on my Saviour's breast.

Abide with me from morn till eve,
For without thee I cannot live;
Abide with me when night is nigh,
For without thee I dare not die.

If some poor wand'ring child of thine
Have spurned to-day the voice divine,
Now, Lord, the gracious work begin;
Let him no more lie down in sin.

Watch by the sick; enrich the poor
With blessings from thy boundless store;
Be every mourner's sleep to-night,
Like infant's slumbers, pure and light.

Come near and bless us when we wake,
Ere through the world our way we take;
Till in the ocean of thy love
We lose ourselves in heaven above.

Tune: Abends
H.S. Oakley (1830-1903)

John Keble (1792-1866)

The Blessing

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

Please sit for the Organ voluntary

Allegro from Sonata V Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)



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