

The Cathedral Church of the Holy Trinity  
commonly called

**CHRIST CHURCH  
DUBLIN**



**Sunday 22 January 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.

## **Introit**

O taste and see how gracious the Lord is.  
Blessed is the man that trusteth in thee

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

Psalm 34: 8

*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 33**

*Please sit*

Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous: for it becometh well the just to be thankful. Praise the Lord with harp: sing praises unto him with the lute, and instrument of ten strings. Sing unto the Lord a new song: sing praises lustily unto him with a good courage. For the word of the Lord is true: and all his works are faithful. He loveth righteousness and judgement: the earth is full of the goodness of the Lord. By the word of the Lord were the heavens made: and all the hosts of them by the breath of his mouth. He gathereth the waters of the sea together, as it were upon an heap: and layeth up the deep, as in a treasure-house. Let all the earth fear the Lord: stand in awe of him, all ye that dwell in the world. For he spake, and it was done: he commanded, and it stood fast. The Lord bringeth the counsel of the heathen to nought: and maketh the devices of the people to be of none effect, and casteth out the counsels of princes. The counsel of the Lord shall endure for ever: and the thoughts of his heart from generation to generation. Blessed are the people, whose God is the Lord Jehovah: and blessed are the folk, that he hath chosen to him to be his inheritance. The Lord looked down from heaven, and beheld all the children of men: from the habitation of his dwelling he considereth all them that dwell on the earth. He fashioneth all the hearts of them: and understandeth all their works. There is no king that can be saved by the multitude of an host: neither is any mighty man delivered by much strength. A horse is counted but a vain thing to save a man: neither shall he deliver any man by his great strength. Behold, the eye of the Lord is upon them that fear him: and upon them that put their trust in his mercy; To deliver their soul from death: and to feed them in the time of dearth. Our soul hath patiently tarried for the Lord: for he is our help and our shield. For our heart shall rejoice in him: because we have hoped in his holy Name. Let thy merciful kindness, O Lord, be upon us: like as we do put our trust in thee.

*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 - Ecclesiastes 3: 1-11**

**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*

William Mathias (1934-1992) The Jesus Service

## **The Second Lesson - 1 Peter 1: 3-12**

## **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, whose Son revealed in signs and miracles the wonder of your saving presence: Renew your people with your heavenly grace, and in all our weakness sustain us by your mighty power; 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**

When Jesus our Lord was born in Bethlehem, in the land of Judaea, behold, from the East to the city of Jerusalem there came wise men, and said: Say, where is he born, the king of Judaea? for we have seen his star, and are come to adore him.

There shall a star from Jacob come forth, and a sceptre from Israel rise up, and dash in pieces princes and nations.

How brightly beams the morning star!  
With sudden radiance from afar.  
With light and comfort glowing.  
Thy word, Jesus,  
Inly feeds us, rightly leads us, life bestowing.  
Praise, O praise such love o'erflowing!

Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy (1809-1847)

Matthew 2: 1-2, Numbers 24: 17  
Chorale by Philipp Nicolai (1556 – 1608)

## **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*



Songs of praise the angels sang,  
Heaven with alleluias rang,  
When creation was begun,  
When God spake and it was done.

Songs of praise awoke the morn  
When the Prince of Peace was born;  
Songs of praise arose when he  
Captive led captivity.

Heaven and earth must pass away;  
Songs of praise shall crown that day;  
God will make new heavens and earth;  
Songs of praise shall hail their birth.

And will man alone be dumb  
Till that glorious kingdom come?  
No, the Church delights to raise  
Psalms and hymns and songs of praise.

Saints below, with heart and voice,  
Still in songs of praise rejoice;  
Learning here, by faith and love,  
Songs of praise to sing above.

Hymns of glory, songs of praise,  
Father, unto thee we raise;  
Jesu, glory unto thee,  
Ever with the Spirit be.

Tune: Northampton  
C.J. King (1859-1934)

James Montgomery (1771-1854)

## **The Blessing**

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

*Please sit for the Organ voluntary*

Rhapsody No 3 in E Herbert Howells (1892-1983)



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