

The Cathedral Church of the Holy Trinity
commonly called

**CHRIST CHURCH
DUBLIN**



Sunday 5 February 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

Rejoice in the Lord alway; and again I say, Rejoice. Let your softness be known unto all men: the Lord is at hand. Be careful for nothing; but in all prayer and supplication let your petitions be manifest unto God with giving of thanks. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds; through Christ Jesus. Amen.

Anon (attr. John Redford, c. 1485–1547)

Philippians 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

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

The Choir sings the psalm(s) appointed for the day, Psalm 1 and 2

Please sit

Blessed is the man that hath not walked in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stood in the way of sinners: and hath not sat in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the Lord: and in his law will he exercise himself day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the water-side: that will bring forth his fruit in due season. His leaf also shall not wither: and look, whatsoever he doeth, it shall prosper. As for the ungodly, it is not so with them: but they are like the chaff, which the wind scattereth away from the face of the earth. Therefore the ungodly shall not be able to stand in the judgement: neither the sinners in the congregation of the righteous. But the Lord knoweth the way of the righteous: and the way of the ungodly shall perish.

Why do the heathen so furiously rage together: and why do the people imagine a vain thing? The kings of the earth stand up, and the rulers take counsel together: against the Lord, and against his Anointed. Let us break their bonds asunder: and cast away their cords from us. He that dwelleth in heaven shall laugh them to scorn: the Lord shall have them in derision. Then shall he speak unto them in his wrath: and vex them in his sore displeasure. Yet have I set my King: upon my holy hill of Sion. I will preach the law, whereof the Lord hath said unto me: Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee. Desire of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance: and the utmost parts of the earth for thy possession. Thou shalt bruise them with a rod of iron: and break them in pieces like a potter's vessel. Be wise now therefore, O ye kings: be learned, ye that are judges of the earth. Serve the Lord in fear: and rejoice unto him with reverence. Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and so ye perish from the right way: if his wrath be kindled, yea, but a little, blessed are all they that put their trust in him.

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 - Judges 5

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

Basil Harwood (1859-1949) Evening Service in Ab

The Second Lesson - James 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.

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

Lord, we beseech thee to keep thy household the Church in continual godliness; that through thy protection it may be free from all adversities, and devoutly given to serve thee in good works, to the glory of thy name; 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

Rise up, my love, my fair one, and come away;
for lo, the winter is past,
the rain is over and gone;
The flowers appear upon the earth;
the time of the singing of birds is come,
Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away,
come away, away.

Healey Willan (1880-1968)

from the Song of Solomon

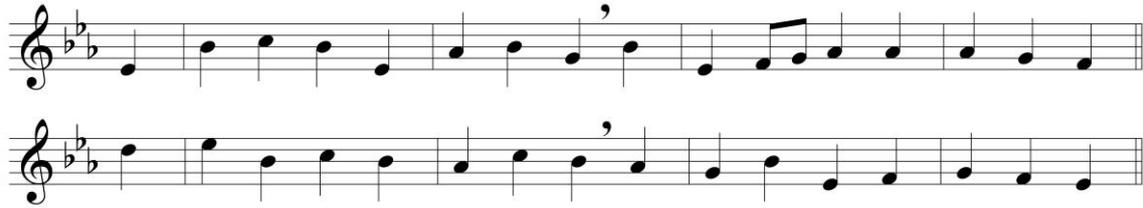
The Prayers

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*



Jesus, where'er thy people meet,
There they behold thy mercy-seat;
Where'er they seek thee, thou art found,
And every place is hallowed ground.

For thou, within no walls confined,
Inhabitest the humble mind;
Such ever bring thee where they come,
And going, take thee to their home.

Dear Shepherd of thy chosen few,
Thy former mercies here renew;
Here to our waiting hearts proclaim
The sweetness of thy saving name.

Here may we prove the power of prayer
To strengthen faith and sweeten care,
To teach our faint desires to rise,
And bring all heav'n before our eyes.

Lord, we are few, but thou art near;
Nor short thine arm, nor deaf thine ear;
O rend the heav'ns, come quickly down,
And make a thousand hearts thine own!

Tune: St Sepulchre
George Cooper (1820-76)

William Cowper (1731-1800)

The Blessing

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

Please sit for the Organ voluntary

Prelude and fugue on a theme of Vittoria *Benjamin Britten* (1913-1976)



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or pick up a leaflet at the welcome desk*

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