

The Cathedral Church of the Holy Trinity  
commonly called

# CHRIST CHURCH DUBLIN



**Sunday 21 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 OF ANY PART OF THIS SERVICE IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED**

## **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**

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 134**

*Please sit*

Praise ye the LORD. Praise ye the name of the LORD; praise him, O ye servants of the LORD. Ye that stand in the house of the LORD, in the courts of the house of our God, Praise the LORD; for the LORD is good: sing praises unto his name; for it is pleasant. For the LORD hath chosen Jacob unto himself, and Israel for his peculiar treasure. For I know that the LORD is great, and that our Lord is above all gods. Whatsoever the LORD pleased, that did he in heaven, and in earth, in the seas, and all deep places. He causeth the vapours to ascend from the ends of the earth; he maketh lightnings for the rain; he bringeth the wind out of his treasures. Who smote the firstborn of Egypt, both of man and beast. Who sent tokens and wonders into the midst of thee, O Egypt, upon Pharaoh, and upon all his servants. Who smote great nations, and slew mighty kings; Sihon king of the Amorites, and Og king of Bashan, and all the kingdoms of Canaan: And gave their land for an heritage, an heritage unto Israel his people. Thy name, O LORD, endureth for ever; and thy memorial, O LORD, throughout all generations. For the LORD will judge his people, and he will repent himself concerning his servants. The idols of the heathen are silver and gold, the work of men's hands. They have mouths, but they speak not; eyes have they, but they see not; They have ears, but they hear not; neither is there any breath in their mouths. They that make them are like unto them: so is every one that trusteth in them. Bless the LORD, O house of Israel: bless the LORD, O house of Aaron: Bless the LORD, O house of Levi: ye that fear the LORD, bless the LORD. Blessed be the LORD out of Zion, which dwelleth at Jerusalem. Praise ye the LORD.

*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 – 2 Samul 23: 1-5**

### **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*

Charles V Stanford (1852-1924) Evening Service in A

## **The Second Lesson – Ephesians 1: 15-23**

### **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*

O God the King of glory, who hast exalted thine only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph unto thy kingdom in heaven; We beseech thee, leave us not comfortless; but send to us thine Holy Spirit to comfort us, and exalt us unto the same place whither our Saviour Christ is gone before, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. 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**

Coelos ascendit hodie, Jesus Christus Rex gloria, Alleluia!

*Today Jesus Christ, the King of glory, has ascended into the heavens, Alleluia!*

Sedet ad Patris dexteram, Gubernat coelum et terram, Alleluia!

*He sits at the Father's right hand, ruling heaven and earth, Alleluia!*

Jam finem habent omnia, Patris Davidis carmina,

*Now are David's songs fulfilled, now is the Lord with his Lord, Alleluia!*

Jam Dominus cum Domino, Alleluia!

*Now as Lord with the Lord, Alleluia!*

Sedet in Dei solio, in hoc triumpho maximo, Alleluia!

*He sits upon the royal throne of God, in this his greatest triumph, Alleluia!*

Benedicamus Domino, Laudatur Sancta Trinitas, Deo dicamus, gratias., Alleluia!

*Let us bless the Lord, let the Holy Trinity be praised, let us give thanks to the Lord, Alleluia!*

Charles Villiers Stanford (1852–1924)

Latin hymn, 15th century

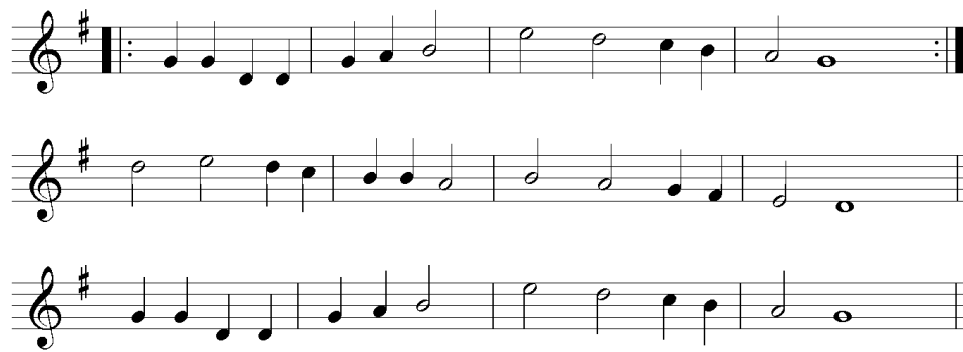
## **The Prayers**

*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*



Come, ye faithful, raise the strain  
Of triumphant gladness:  
God hath brought his Israel  
Into joy from sadness;  
Loosed from Pharaoh's bitter yoke  
Jacob's sons and daughters;  
Led them with unmoistened foot  
Through the Red Sea waters.

'Tis the spring of souls today;  
Christ hath burst his prison,  
And from three days' sleep in death  
As a sun hath risen:  
All the winter of our sins,  
Long and dark is flying  
From his light, to whom we give  
Laud and praise undying.

Tune: Ave virgo virginum  
Traditional melody as set in Leisentritt's  
Catholicum Hynologium Germanicum, Cologne, 1584

Now the queen of seasons, bright  
With the day of splendour,  
With the royal feast of feasts,  
Comes its joy to render;  
Comes to glad Jerusalem,  
Who with true affection  
Welcomes in unwearied strains  
Jesu's Resurrection.

Neither might the gates of death  
Nor the tomb's dark portal,  
Nor the watchers, nor the seal,  
Hold thee as a mortal;  
But today amidst thien own  
Thou didst stand, bestowing;  
That thy peace which evermore  
Passeth human knowing.

Greek, St John of Damascus  
trans. J.M. Neale (1816-1866)

## The Blessing

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

*Please sit for the Organ voluntary*

Rheims from Sonata Eroica Charles V Stanford (1852-1924)



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