

The Cathedral Church of the Holy Trinity  
commonly called

## CHRIST CHURCH DUBLIN



**Thursday 15 June 2023**

18.00 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 stand when the choir and clergy enter.*

## Preces

William Smith (1603-1645)

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 77

*Please sit*

I will cry unto God with my voice: even unto God will I cry with my voice, and he shall hearken unto me. In the time of my trouble I sought the Lord: my sore ran and ceased not in the night-season ; my soul refused comfort. When I am in heaviness, I will think upon God: when my heart is vexed, I will complain. Thou holdest mine eyes waking: I am so feeble, that I cannot speak. I have considered the days of old: and the years that are past. I call to remembrance my song: and in the night I commune with mine own heart, and search out my spirits. Will the Lord absent himself for ever: and will he be no more intreated? Is his mercy clean gone for ever: and is his promise come utterly to an end for evermore? Hath God forgotten to be gracious: and will he shut up his loving-kindness in displeasure? And I said, It is mine own infirmity: but I will remember the years of the right hand of the most Highest. I will remember the works of the Lord: and call to mind thy wonders of old time. I will think also of all thy works: and my talking shall be of thy doings. Thy way, O God, is holy: who is so great a God as our God? Thou art the God that doeth wonders: and hast declared thy power among the people. Thou hast mightily delivered thy people: even the sons of Jacob and Joseph. The waters saw thee, O God, the waters saw thee, and were afraid: the depths also were troubled. The clouds poured out water, the air thundered: and thine arrows went abroad. The voice of thy thunder was heard round about: the lightnings shone upon the ground: the earth was moved, and shook withal. Thy way is in the sea, and thy paths in the great waters: and thy footsteps are not known. Thou leddest thy people like sheep: by the hand of Moses and Aaron.

*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 - Exodus 4: 18-23

### 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*

## The Second Lesson - Hebrews 3: 1-6

### **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 strength of all them that put their trust in thee; Mercifully accept our prayers; and because through the weakness of our mortal nature we can do no good thing without thee, grant us the help of thy grace, that in keeping of thy commandments we may please thee both in will and deed; through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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**

Precamur Sancte Domine, Defende nos in hac nocte,

*We beseech you, Holy Lord, Protect us this night.*

Sit nobis in te requies, Quietam noctem tribue.

*Let us take our rest in you; Grant us a tranquil night.*

Oculi somnum capiant, Cor ad te semper vigilet,

*Though our eyes be filled with sleep, Keep our hearts forever awake to you.*

Dextera tua protegat Famulos qui te diligunt.

*May your right hand protect Your willing servants.*

Memento nostri Domine In gravi isto corpore,

*Remember us, O Lord, Who bear the burden of this mortal form;*

Qui es defensor animae, Adesto nobis Domine.

*You who are the defender of the soul, Be near us, O Lord.*

Robert White (1535-1574)

Office Hymn for Compline

## **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.

*Please stand*

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