

The Cathedral Church of the Holy Trinity
commonly called

CHRIST CHURCH DUBLIN



THE CATHEDRAL EUCHARIST

SUNDAY 17 DECEMBER 2023

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

11.00

PREACHER: DR ETHNA REGAN

SETTING MISSA AVE REGINA COELI, TOMÁS LUIS DE VICTORIA (1548-1611)

SUNG BY THE CATHEDRAL CHOIR

*To learn more about the cathedral, and its services and events,
please see the website at www.christchurchcathedral.ie
or pick up a leaflet at the welcome desk*

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*To use the induction loop system provided
please turn your Hearing Aid to the T position.*

Please stand as the choir and clergy process to the West End.

The Advent Prose

*Drop down, ye heavens, from above, and let the skies pour down righteousness.
Ye are my witnesses, saith the Lord, and my servant whom I have chosen; That
ye may know me and believe me: I, even I, am the Lord, And beside me there
is no Saviour: and there is none that can deliver out of my hand.
Drop down, ye heavens, from above, and let the skies pour down righteousness.*

The Gathering of God's People

The Greeting

In the name of the † Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ
be with you all
and also with you.

The Summary of the Law

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ says:

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart
and with all your soul and with all your mind.

This is the first and great commandment.

And the second is like it.

You shall love your neighbour as yourself

On these two commandments depend all the law
and the prophets.

Matthew 22: 37-39

Lord, have mercy on us, and write these your laws in our hearts.

The Call to Penitence

A voice cries out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord.'

So let us listen, and turn to the Lord in penitence and faith.

cf John 1.23

Kyrie *(sung by the choir)*

Kyrie eleison; Christe eleison; Kyrie eleison.

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

The priest pronounces the Absolution:

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy on you,
† pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in
all goodness, and keep you in eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

The Collect of the Day

O Lord Jesus Christ,

who at your first coming sent your messenger

to prepare your way before you:

Grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries

may likewise so prepare and make ready your way

by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just,

that at your second coming to judge the world

we may be found an acceptable people in your sight;

for you are alive and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit,

one God, world without end. **Amen**

The Collect for Advent

Almighty God,
Give us grace to cast away the works of darkness
and to put on the armour of light
now in the time of this mortal life
in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility;
that on the last day
when he shall come again in his glorious majesty
to judge the living and the dead,
we may rise to the life immortal;
through him who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen

Please sit

Proclaiming and Receiving the Word

The First Reading

Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-11

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me,
because the Lord has anointed me;
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,
to bind up the broken-hearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives,
and release to the prisoners;
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour,
and the day of vengeance of our God;
to comfort all who mourn;
to provide for those who mourn in Zion —
to give them a garland instead of ashes,
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.
They will be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the Lord, to display his glory.
They shall build up the ancient ruins,
they shall raise up the former devastations;
they shall repair the ruined cities,
the devastations of many generations.

For I the Lord love justice,
I hate robbery and wrongdoing;
I will faithfully give them their recompense,
and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.
Their descendants shall be known among the nations,
and their offspring among the peoples;
all who see them shall acknowledge
that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed.
I will greatly rejoice in the Lord,
my whole being shall exult in my God;
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.
For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,
so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.
This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The Psalm (*sung by the choir*)

Psalm 85: 1,2, 8-13

When the Lord turned again the captivity of Sion :
then were we like unto them that dream.
Then was our mouth filled with laughter :
and our tongue with joy.
Then said they among the heathen :
The Lord hath done great things for them.
Yea, the Lord hath done great things for us already :
whereof we rejoice.
Turn our captivity, O Lord :
as the rivers in the south.
They that sow in tears :
shall reap in joy.
He that now goeth on his way weeping, and beareth forth good seed :
shall doubtless come again with joy, and bring his sheaves with him.

The Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 5: 16-24

A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Thessalonians.

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil.

May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

On each of the four Sundays in this season we will light a candle on the Advent Wreath to remind us of those who prepared the way for the coming of Christ. Today we remember the prophets.

The choir sings:

Blessed are you, Sovereign Lord, just and true: to you be praise and glory for ever! Your prophet John the Baptist was witness to the truth as a burning and shining light. May we your servants rejoice in his light, and so be led to witness to him who is the Lord of our coming Kingdom, Jesus our Saviour and King of the ages.

and the people join in singing the response:



The deacon then lights the candle

The Gospel Reading

John 1: 6-8, 19-28

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St John.

Response



All turn to face the reader

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, 'I am not the Messiah.' And they asked him, 'What then? Are you Elijah?' He said, 'I am not.' 'Are you the prophet?' He answered, 'No.' Then they said to him, 'Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?' He said, 'I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, "Make straight the way of the Lord" ', as the prophet Isaiah said.

Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, 'Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?' John answered them, 'I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal.' This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

This is the gospel of the Lord.

Response



The Sermon

We believe in one God,
the Father, the almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son;
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified;
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

All sit or kneel

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Merciful Father, accept these our prayers
for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

please stand

The Peace

The priest introduces the peace with these words

In the tender mercy of our God,
the dayspring from on high shall break upon us,
to give light to those who dwell in darkness
and in the shadow of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

cf Luke 1.78,79

The priest says

The peace of the Lord be always with you;
And also with you.

Those present may offer one another a sign of peace.

Celebrating at the Lord's Table

*A collection is taken at this point. Card donations are accepted at the
Welcome Desk following the service.*

*If you prefer to donate by your Mobile/Cell phone,
please scan the following QR code:*



Offertory Hymn



On this high feast day honour we the Baptist,
Greatest and last of Israel's line of prophets,
Kinsman of Jesus, herald of salvation,
Chosen forerunner.

Lo, from heaven Gabriel descending,
Brings to thy father tidings of thy coming,
Telling thy name and all thy life's high calling
Duly announcing.

When Zechariah doubted what was told him,
Dumbness assailed him, sealing firm the promise,
Till, at thy naming, lo, his voice resounded
Loud in God's praises.

Greater art thou than all the sons of Adam,
Lowly in spirit, faithfully proclaiming
Israel's Messiah, Jesus our Redeemer,
Thus we exalt thee.

Father eternal, Son and Holy Spirit,
God everlasting, hear thy people's praises;
Let saints on earth with all the saints in glory,
Ever adore thee. Amen.

Tune: Diva servatrix
Bayeux Antiphoner

based on the Latin of Paul the Deacon (730–799)

The Preparation of the Altar

Wise and gracious God, you spread a table before us;
nourish your people with the word of life, and the bread of heaven. **Amen.**

The Taking of the Bread and Wine

the priest says

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us:
therefore let us celebrate the feast.

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

and also with you

Lift up your hearts.

we lift them to the Lord

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

it is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and good to give you thanks and praise,
almighty God and everlasting Father,
through Jesus Christ your Son.

For when he humbled himself to come among us in human flesh,
he fulfilled the plan you formed before the foundation of the world
to open for us the way of salvation.

Confident that your promise will be fulfilled,
we now watch for the day
when Christ our Lord will come again in glory.

And so we join our voices with angels and archangels
and with all the company of heaven
to proclaim your glory
for ever praising you and singing:

The choir sings

Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus, Dominus Deus Sabaoth.

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua. Hosanna in excelsis.

heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest!

Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini. Hosanna in excelsis.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed are you, Father,
the creator and sustainer of all things;
you made us in your own image,
male and female you created us;
even when we turned away from you,
you never ceased to care for us,
but in your love and mercy you freed us from the slavery of sin,
giving your only begotten Son to become man
and suffer death on the cross to redeem us:
he made there the one complete and all-sufficient sacrifice
for the sins of the whole world:

All remain standing

he instituted,
and in his holy Gospel commanded us to continue,
a perpetual memory of his precious death
until he comes again.

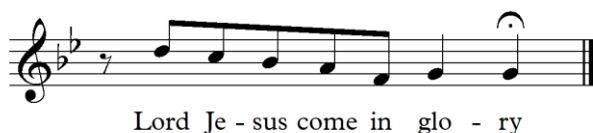
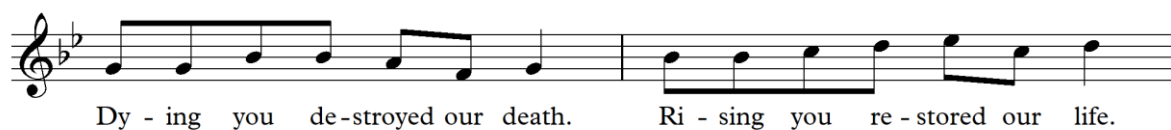
On the night that he was betrayed he took bread;
and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it,
and gave it to his disciples, saying, Take, eat,
this is my body which is given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup;
and when he had given thanks to you,
he gave it to them, saying, Drink this, all of you,
for this is my blood of the new covenant
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.

All sing



Accept through him, our great high priest,
this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving;
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts,
grant by the power of the life-giving Spirit
that we may be made one in your holy Church
and partakers of the body and blood of your Son,
that he may dwell in us and we in him:

Through the same Jesus Christ our Lord,
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

all honour and glory are yours,

Almighty Father,

for ever and ever.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us we are bold to say
Our Father, **who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come; thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**
**Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive
those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us
from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever.**
Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

The priest breaks the consecrated bread for communion and says

The bread which we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.
We being many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

The Communion

Jesus Christ is the Lamb of God, who has taken away the sins of the world.
Happy are those who are called to his supper.
**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word and I shall be healed.**

Please sit while the choir sings

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona nobis pacem.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.

*Guided by the vergers, the people come forward to receive communion. Wherever you are from and
whatever you believe you are welcome to receive at the table of the Lord. If you require a gluten free
wafer please indicate this to the priest.*

Communion Motet

Ave verum corpus, natum de Mariae Virgine,
Hail, true body, born of the virgin Mary,
vere passum immolatum in cruce pro homine,
who truly suffered on the cross for mankind;
cuius latus perforatum,
from whose side when pierced
unda fluxit sanguine;
there came forth water and blood:
esto nobis praegustatum in mortis examine.
Be to us a foretaste of the hour of death.
O dulcis, O pie, O Jesu,
O sweet, holy Jesus,
Fili Mariae, miserere mei. Amen.
Son of Mary, have mercy on me. Amen.

William Byrd (1540-1623)

Sequence for Corpus Christi

The Great Silence

The silence is broken by the post-communion prayer.

Going Out as God's People

Prayer after Communion

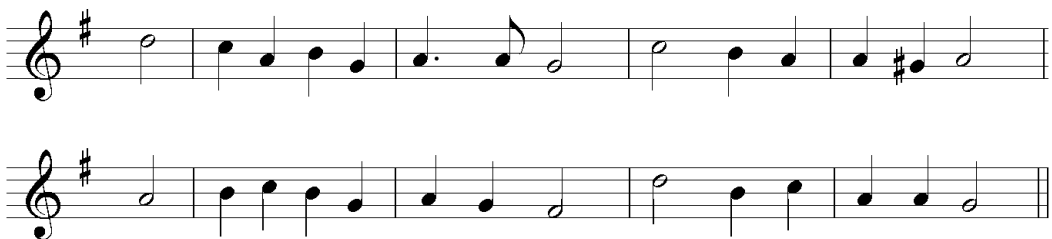
Father,
we give you thanks for these heavenly gifts.
Kindle us with the fire of your Spirit
that when Christ comes again
we may shine as lights before his face;
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Father of all, we give you thanks and praise,
that when we were still far off
you met us in your Son and brought us home.
Dying and living, he declared your love,
gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.

All say:

**May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;
we who drink his cup bring life to others;
we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,
so we and all your children shall be free,
and the whole earth live to praise your name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Postcommunion Hymn



Hark the glad sound! the Saviour comes,
The Saviour promised long!
Let every heart prepare a throne,
And every voice a song.

He comes the prisoners to release
In Satan's bondage held;
The gates of brass before him burst,
The iron fetters yield.

He comes the broken heart to bind,
The bleeding soul to cure,
And with the treasures of his grace
Enrich the humble poor.

Our glad hosannas, Prince of peace,
Thy welcome shall proclaim,
And heaven's eternal arches ring
With thy beloved name.

Tune: Bristol
Thomas Ravenscroft's *Psalmes*, 1621

Philip Doddridge (1702–1751)

The Blessing & Dismissal

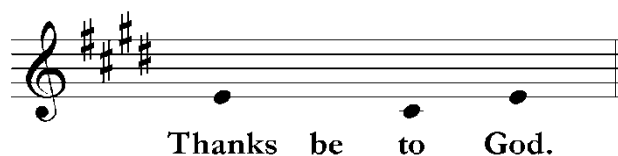
The priest blesses the people with these words

Christ the sun of righteousness shine upon you,
scatter the darkness from your path,
and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be with you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

The priest or the deacon says or sings

Go in the peace of Christ

The choir and the people sing



Please stand for the procession of choir and clergy and sit for the

Organ Voluntary

which concludes the service

*Please join us in the South Transept for a cup of tea or coffee
directly following the service!*

**The Music Department invites you all to our celebration of 9
Lessons and Carols this Thursday at 6pm. This is a beautiful
candlelit service that will get even the meanest Scrooge feeling
Christmassy!**

This year one of our Christmas Trees in the Nave will be a 'Giving Tree' in which congregation, staff and locals can donate toys etc for those who are less fortunate.

Edwin has chosen the charity Aoibhneas to be the recipient of the donations, which is a charity that offers support to women and children affected by domestic abuse.

Donations to be dropped to the Welcome Desk / Chapter House by Tuesday December 19th to pass them onto Aoibhneas in time for Christmas

Advent and Christmas at the Cathedral

December 2023

17 Community Chorus concert, 20.00 free admission

18 Focus Ireland concert 20.00

19 Shoppers Carols 13:30 Mount Carmel

19 Focus Ireland concert 20.00

21 Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols 18.00

24 Festal Eucharist for Christmas Eve 23:00

25 Festal Eucharist for Christmas Day 11:00

For more events, please visit christchurchcathedral.ie