

The Cathedral Church of the Holy Trinity
commonly called

CHRIST CHURCH DUBLIN



THE CATHEDRAL EUCHARIST

SUNDAY 24 DECEMBER 2023

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

11.00

PREACHER: CANON PAUL ARBUTHNOT

SETTING: MISSA BREVIS, GIOVANNI PIERLUIGI DA PALESTRINA (1525-1594)

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.
Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, my salvation shall not tarry: I have blotted
out as a thick cloud thy transgressions: Fear not, for I will save thee: For I am
the Lord thy God, the Holy One of Israel, thy Redeemer.
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

God our redeemer,

who prepared the blessed Virgin Mary

to be the mother of your Son:

Grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour,

so we may be ready to greet him

when he comes again as our judge;

who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever. **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

2 Samuel 7: 1-11, 16

A reading from the second book of the prophet Samuel.

Now when the king was settled in his house, and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, 'See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent.' Nathan said to the king, 'Go, do all that you have in mind; for the Lord is with you.'

But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the Lord: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, 'Why have you not built me a house of cedar?' Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the Lord of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure for ever before me; your throne shall be established for ever.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Psalm *(sung by the choir)*

Psalm 89: 1-4, 19-26

My song shall be alway of the loving-kindness of the Lord :
with my mouth will I ever be shewing thy truth from one generation to another.

For I have said, Mercy shall be set up for ever :
thy truth shalt thou stablish in the heavens.

I have made a covenant with my chosen :

I have sworn unto David my servant;

Thy seed will I stablish for ever :

and set up thy throne from one generation to another.

Thou spakest sometime in visions unto thy saints, and saidst :

I have laid help upon one that is mighty;

I have exalted one chosen out of the people.

I have found David my servant :

with my holy oil have I anointed him.

My hand shall hold him fast :

and my arm shall strengthen him.

The enemy shall not be able to do him violence :

the son of wickedness shall not hurt him.

I will smite down his foes before his face :

and plague them that hate him.

My truth also and my mercy shall be with him :

and in my Name shall his horn be exalted.

I will set his dominion also in the sea :

and his right hand in the floods.

He shall call me, Thou art my Father :

my God, and my strong salvation.

The Second Reading

Romans 16: 25-27

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith – to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory for ever! Amen.

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, merciful and gentle; to you be praise and glory for ever! Your light has shone in our darkened world through the child-bearing of blessed Mary; grant that we who have seen your glory may daily be renewed in your image and prepared like her for the coming of your Son, who is the Lord and Saviour of all.

and the people join in singing the response:



The deacon then lights the candle

The Gospel Reading

Luke 1: 26-38

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

Response

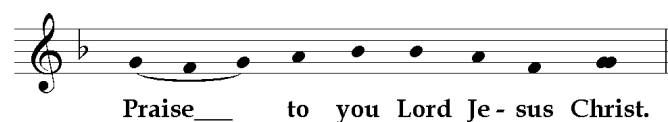


All turn to face the reader

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.' But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I am a virgin?' The angel said to her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.' Then Mary said, 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.' Then the angel departed from her.

This is the gospel of the Lord.

Response



The Sermon

The Nicene Creed

please stand

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



Sing we of the blessèd Mother
Who received the angel's word,
And obedient to his summons
Bore in love the infant Lord;
Sing we of the joys of Mary
At whose breast that child was fed
Who is Son of God eternal
And the everlasting Bread.

Sing we, too, of Mary's sorrows,
Of the sword that pierced her through,
When beneath the cross of Jesus
She his weight of suffering knew,
Looked upon her Son and Saviour
Reigning high on Calvary's tree,
Saw the price of man's redemption
Paid to set the sinner free.

Sing again the joys of Mary
When she saw the risen Lord,
And in prayer with Christ's apostles,
Waited on his promised word:
From on high the blazing glory
Of the Spirit's presence came,
Heavenly breath of God's own being,
Manifest through wind and flame.

Sing the chiefest joy of Mary
When on earth her work was done,
And the Lord of all creation
Brought her to his heavenly home:
Virgin Mother, Mary blessèd,
Raised on high and crowned with grace,
May your Son, the world's redeemer,
Grant us all to see his face.

Tune: Abbot's Leigh
Cyril Taylor (1907-1991)

G.B. Timms (1910-1997)

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,

All remain standing

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:

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

Dy - ing you de - stroyed our death. Ri - sing you re - stored our life.

Lord Je - sus come in glo - ry

The image shows two staves of musical notation in a treble clef with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The first staff contains the melody for the first two lines of the hymn: 'Dy - ing you de - stroyed our death. Ri - sing you re - stored our life.' The second staff contains the melody for the final line: 'Lord Je - sus come in glo - ry'. The music is written in a simple, hymn-like style with quarter and eighth notes.

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 Maria gratia plena, Dominus tecum:
Hail, Mary, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee:
benedicta tu in mulieribus et benedictus fructus ventris tui, Jesus.
blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

Robert Parsons (d. 1570)

The Angelic Salutation

The Great Silence

The silence is broken by the post-communion prayer.

Going Out as God's People

Prayer after Communion

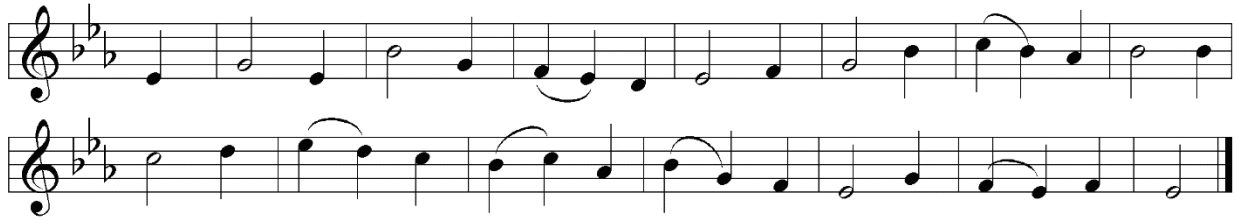
Heavenly Father,
you have given us a pledge of eternal redemption.
Grant that we may always eagerly celebrate
the saving mystery of the incarnation of your Son.
We ask this through him whose coming is certain,
whose day draws near,
your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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



For Mary, Mother of the Lord
God's holy name be praised,
Who first the Son of God adored
As on her child she gazed.

The angel Gabriel brought the word
She should Christ's mother be;
Our Lady, handmaid of the Lord,
Made answer willingly.

The heavenly call she thus obeyed,
And so God's will was done.
The second Eve love's answer made
Which our redemption won.

She gave her body for God's shrine,
Her heart to piercing pain,
And knew the cost of love divine
When Jesus Christ was slain.

Dear Mary, from your lowliness
And home in Galilee,
There comes a joy and holiness
To every family.

Hail, Mary, you are full of grace,
Above all women blest;
Blest in your Son, whom your embrace
In birth and death confessed.

Tune: St Botolph
Gordon Slater (1896-1979)

J.R. Peacey (1896-1971)

The Blessing & Dismissal

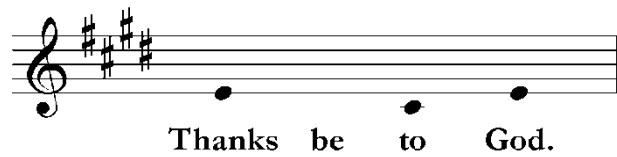
The priest blesses the people with these words

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!*

Do join us for our Christmas Services

Sunday 24 December 23.00 Midnight Mass

Monday 25 December 11.00 Christmas Day Eucharist

Thank you
to those who supported the Cathedral's Giving Tree for Aoibhneas.

Our Donation in Numbers

108 - Items of Clothing
9 - Tins of Baby Formula
26 - Individual Nappies
26 - Packs of Baby Wipes
162 Items of Non-Perishable food
66 - Toys for Children
28 - Newborn Baby Items
19 - Personal Care Supplies
7 - Prepaid Vouchers
€100 - Cash Donations

The donations have just left the Cathedral and are on the way to the recipients.

Many thanks and a very Merry Christmas to you all !