

The Cathedral Church of the Holy Trinity
commonly called

CHRIST CHURCH DUBLIN



CHORAL EVENSONG

Sunday 14 April 2024

15.30 Choral Evensong

Sung by the Choir of the Christ Church group of parishes

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.

The recording of any part of the service is strictly prohibited

Introit

O sing joyfully unto God our strength: make a cheerful noise unto the God of Jacob.
Take the song, bring hither the tabret, the merry harp with the lute.
Blow up the trumpet in the new moon, ev'n in the time appointed
and upon our solemn feast-day.
For this was made a statute for Israel and a law of the God of Jacob.

Adrian Batten (1591–1637)

Psalm 81: 1-4

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

Herbert Sumsion (1899-1995)

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 142

Please sit

I cried unto the Lord with my voice :

yea, even unto the Lord did I make my supplication.

I poured out my complaints before him :

and shewed him of my trouble.

When my spirit was in heaviness thou knewest my path :

in the way wherein I walked have they privily laid a snare for me.

I looked also upon my right hand :

and saw there was no man that would know me.

I had no place to flee unto :

and no man cared for my soul.

I cried unto thee, O Lord, and said :

Thou art my hope, and my portion in the land of the living.

Consider my complaint :

for I am brought very low.

O deliver me from my persecutors :

for they are too strong for me.

Bring my soul out of prison, that I may give thanks unto thy Name :

which thing if thou wilt grant me, then shall the righteous resort unto my company.

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 – Deuteronomy 7: 7-13

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*

Herbert Howells (1892-1983) The New College Service

The Second Lesson – Revelation 2: 1-11

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.

The Lesser Litany and 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

Living God, your Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in all his redeeming work; who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. 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

Exultate Deo, adjutori nostro: jubilate Deo Jacob.

Sing we merrily unto God our strength: make a cheerful noise unto the God of Jacob.

Sumite psalmum et date tympanum: psalterium in jucundum cum cithara.

Take the psalm, bring hither the tabret: the merry harp with the lute.

Buccinate in Neomenia tuba: insigni die solemnitatis vestrae.

Blow up the trumpet in the new moon : even in the time appointed, and upon our solemn feast-day.

Giovanni per Luigi da Palestrina (1525-94)

Psalm 81: 1-3

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*



O praise our great and glorious Lord
And call upon his Name;
To strains of joy tune every chord,
His mighty acts proclaim;
Tell how he freed his chosen race
From Pharaoh's heavy hand;
And led them by his sovereign grace
To seek the promised land.
He gave the shadowing cloud by day,
The moving fire by night;
To guide his people on their way,
And make their darkness light;
To us, the light of Christ our Lord
Illumines all our ways,
He leads us by his gospel word,
And turns our sighs to praise.

Tune: St Matthew
William Croft (1678-1727)

We too have Manna from on high,
The Bread that came from heav'n;
And he who brought salvation nigh
Has living water given.
A Rock is ours, from whence the spring
In rich abundance flows;
And Christ that rock, our Priest and
King,
Both life and health bestows.
Come, let us prize this heavenly food,
And trust our heavenly Guide;
So shall we find death's fearful flood
Serene as Jordan's tide,
So safely reach th'eternal shore,
No more by ills oppressed,
Where saints their Lord and God adore,
And in his glory, rest.

Editors of the new English Hymnal
Based on verses by Harriet Auber (1773-1862)

The Blessing

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

Please sit for the Organ voluntary

Paeon Herbert Howells (1892-1983)



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