

The Cathedral Church of the Holy Trinity  
commonly called

# CHRIST CHURCH DUBLIN



## CHORAL EVENSONG

**Sunday 5 May 2024**

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.

**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**

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 45**

*Please sit*

My heart is inditing of a good matter :

I speak of the things which I have made unto the King.

My tongue is the pen :

of a ready writer.

Thou art fairer than the children of men:

full of grace are thy lips, because God hath blessed thee for ever.

Gird thee with thy sword upon thy thigh, O thou most Mighty :

according to thy worship and renown.

Good luck have thou with thine honour :

ride on, because of the word of truth , of meekness, and righteousness;  
and thy right hand shall teach thee terrible things.

Thy arrows are very sharp, and the people shall be subdued unto thee :

even in the midst among the King's enemies.

Thy seat, O God, endureth for ever :

the sceptre of thy kingdom is a right sceptre.

Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity :

wherefore God, even thy God,

hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.

All thy garments smell of myrrh, aloes, and cassia :

out of the ivory palaces, whereby they have made thee glad.

Kings' daughters were among thy honourable women :

upon thy right hand did stand the queen in a vesture of gold,  
wrought about with divers colours.

Hearken, O daughter, and consider, incline thine ear ;

forget also thine own people, and thy father's house.

So shall the King have pleasure in thy beauty :

for he is thy Lord God, and worship thou him.

And the daughter of Tyre shall be there with a gift :

like as the rich also among the people shall make their supplication before thee.

The King's daughter is all glorious within :

her clothing is of wrought gold.

She shall be brought unto the King in raiment of needle-work :

the virgins that be her fellows shall bear her company, and shall be brought unto thee.

With joy and gladness shall they be brought :

and shall enter into the King's palace.

Instead of thy fathers thou shalt have children :

whom thou mayest make princes in all lands.

I will remember thy Name from one generation to another :

therefore shall the people give thanks unto thee, world without end.

*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 – Song of Solomon 4: 16 – 5: 2; 8: 6-7**

## **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 Sumsion (1899-1995) Evening Service in G

## **The Second Lesson – Revelation 3: 14-22**

### **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*

O Lord, from whom all good things do come; Grant to us thy humble servants, that by thy holy inspiration we may think those things that be good, and by thy merciful guiding may perform the same; through our Lord Jesus Christ. 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**

Christ rising again from the dead now dieth not.  
Death from henceforth hath no pow'r upon him.  
For in that he died he died but once to put away sin;  
but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God.  
And so likewise, count yourselves dead unto sin,  
but living unto God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Christ is risen again, the first fruits of them that sleep.  
For seeing that by man came death,  
by man also cometh the resurrection of the dead.  
For as by Adam all men do die,  
so by Christ all men shall be restored to life.

Alleluia.

Thomas Tallis (1505-1585)

Romans 6:9-11; I Corinthians 15:20-22

## **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*



At the Lamb's high feast we sing  
 Praise to our victorious King;  
 Who hath washed us in the tide  
 Flowing from his piercèd side.  
 Praise we him, whose love divine  
 Gives the guests his blood for wine,  
 Gives his body for the feast,  
 Christ the Victim, Christ the Priest.

Where the Paschal Blood is poured  
 Death's dark angel sheathes his sword;  
 Israel's hosts triumphant go  
 Through the wave that drowns the foe.  
 Praise we Christ, whose Blood was shed,  
 Paschal Victim, Paschal Bread!  
 With sincerity and love  
 Eat we manna from above.

Tune: Alle Menschen müssen sterben  
 melody from Jakob Hintze (1622-1702)  
 harmony by J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

Mighty Victim from on high,  
 Powers of hell beneath thee lie;  
 Death is broken in the fight,  
 Thou hast brought us life and light.  
 Now thy banner thou dost wave,  
 Conquering Satan and the grave.  
 See the prince of darkness quelled;  
 Heaven's bright gates are open held.

Paschal triumph, Paschal joy,  
 Only sin can this destroy;  
 From sin's death do thou set free  
 Souls re-born, O Lord, in thee.  
 Hymns of glory, songs of praise,  
 Father, unto thee we raise.  
 Risen Lord, all praise to thee,  
 Ever with the Spirit be.

From a Latin Breviary hymn  
 trans. Robert Campbell (1814-68)

## The Blessing

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

*Please sit for the Organ voluntary*

*Allegro from Sonata V in D Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)*