

The Cathedral Church of the Holy Trinity
commonly called

CHRIST CHURCH DUBLIN



CHORAL EVENSONG

Sunday 2 June 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

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.

Sancta Maria, Mater Dei, ora pro nobis peccatoribus,

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners,

nunc et in hora mortis nostrae. Amen.

now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Igor Stravinsky (1882-1971)

The Angelic Salutation

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

Paul Spicer (b.1952)

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 35

Please sit

Please thou my cause, O Lord, with them that strive with me :

and fight thou against them that fight against me.

Lay hand upon the shield and buckler :

and stand up to help me.

Bring forth the spear, and stop the way against them that persecute me :

say unto my soul, I am thy salvation.

Let them be confounded and put to shame, that seek after my soul :

let them be turned back and brought to confusion, that imagine mischief for me.

Let them be as the dust before the wind :

and the angel of the Lord scattering them.

Let their way be dark and slippery :

and let the angel of the Lord persecute them.

For they have privily laid their net to destroy me without a cause :

yea, even without a cause have they made a pit for my soul.

Let a sudden destruction come upon him unawares,

and his net, that he hath laid privily, catch himself :

that he may fall into his own mischief.

And, my soul, be joyful in the Lord :

it shall rejoice in his salvation.

All my bones shall say, Lord, who is like unto thee,

who deliverest the poor from him that is too strong for him :

yea, the poor, and him that is in misery, from him that spoileth him?

False witnesses did rise up :

they laid to my charge things that I knew not.

They rewarded me evil for good :

to the great discomfort of my soul.

Nevertheless, when they were sick, I put on sackcloth, and humbled my soul with fasting :

and my prayer shall turn into mine own bosom.

I behaved myself as though it had been my friend or my brother :

I went heavily, as one that mourneth for his mother.

But in mine adversity they rejoiced, and gathered themselves together :

yea, the very abjects came together against me unawares,

making mouths at me, and ceased not.

With the flatterers were busy mockers :

who gnashed upon me with their teeth.

Lord, how long wilt thou look upon this :

O deliver my soul from the calamities which they bring on me,

and my darling from the lions.

So will I give thee thanks in the great congregation :

I will praise thee among much people.

O let not them that are mine enemies triumph over me ungodly :

neither let them wink with their eyes that hate me without a cause.

And why? their communing is not for peace;

but they imagine deceitful words against them that are quiet in the land.

They gaped upon me with their mouths, and said :

Fie on thee, fie on thee, we saw it with our eyes.

This thou hast seen, O Lord :

hold not thy tongue then, go not far from me, O Lord.

Awake, and stand up to judge my quarrel :

avenge thou my cause, my God, and my Lord.

Judge me, O Lord my God, according to thy righteousness :

and let them not triumph over me.

Let them not say in their hearts, There, there, so would we have it :

neither let them say, We have devoured him.

Let them be put to confusion and shame together, that rejoice at my trouble :

let them be clothed with rebuke and dishonour, that boast themselves against me.

Let them be glad and rejoice, that favour my righteous dealing :

yea, let them say alway, Blessed be the Lord,

who hath pleasure in the prosperity of his servant.

And as for my tongue, it shall be talking of thy righteousness :

and of thy praise all the day long.

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 – Jeremiah 5: 1-19

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

Hugh Blair (1864-1932) Evening Service in B minor

The Second Lesson – Romans 7: 7-25

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 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

Lass dich nur nichts nicht dauren mit Trauren, sei stille; wie Gott es fügt, so sei vergnügt mein Wille; was willst du heute sorgen auf morgen? Der Eine steht allem für, der gibt auch dir das Deine. Sei nur in allem Handel ohn' Wandel, steh' feste; was Gott beschleusst, das ist und heisst das Beste. Amen.

Let nothing grieve thee long, be still; as God disposes, so be content, my will. What need you care for the morrow? The Holy One makes everything his care; he will supply your want also. Be true in all your dealings, stand firm; what God decrees is best.

Johannes Brahms (1833-97)

Paul Flemming (1609-1640)

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*



God is our strength and refuge,
Our present help in trouble;
And we therefore will not fear,
Though the earth should change!
Though mountains shake and tremble,
Though swirling floods are raging,
God the Lord of hosts is with us evermore!

There is a flowing river,
Within God's holy city;
God is in the midst of her-
She shall not be moved!
God's help is swiftly given,
Thrones vanish at his presence-
God the Lord of hosts is with us evermore!

Come, see the works of our maker,
Learn of his deed all-powerful;
Wars will cease across the world
When he shatters the spear!
Be still and know your creator,
Uplift him in the nations-
God the Lord of hosts is with us evermore!

Eric Coates (1886-1958)

Richard Bewes (b.1934)

The Blessing

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

Please sit for the Organ voluntary