

The Cathedral Church of the Holy Trinity  
commonly called

# CHRIST CHURCH DUBLIN



## CHORAL EVENSONG

**Sunday 9 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**

Jesus, the very thought of Thee  
With sweetness fills my breast;  
But sweeter far Thy face to see,  
And in Thy presence rest.

Edward Bairstow (1874–1946)

"Jesu dulcis memoria" Bernard of Clairvaux (1090-1153)

***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**

Richard Ayleward (1626-1669)

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 37: 1-17**

*Please sit*

Fret not thyself because of the ungodly :  
neither be thou envious against the evil-doers.  
For they shall soon be cut down like the grass :  
and be withered even as the green herb.  
Put thou thy trust in the Lord, and be doing good :  
dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed.  
Delight thou in the Lord :  
and he shall give thee thy heart's desire.  
Commit thy way unto the Lord, and put thy trust in him :  
and he shall bring it to pass.  
He shall make thy righteousness as clear as the light :  
and thy just dealing as the noon-day.  
Hold thee still in the Lord, and abide patiently upon him :  
but grieve not thyself at him whose way doth prosper,  
against the man that doeth after evil counsels.  
Leave off from wrath, and let go displeasure :  
fret not thyself, else shalt thou be moved to do evil.  
Wicked doers shall be rooted out :  
and they that patiently abide the Lord, those shall inherit the land.  
Yet a little while, and the ungodly shall be clean gone :  
thou shalt look after his place, and he shall be away.  
But the meek-spirited shall possess the earth :  
and shall be refreshed in the multitude of peace.  
The ungodly seeketh counsel against the just :  
and gnasheth upon him with his teeth.  
The Lord shall laugh him to scorn :  
for he hath seen that his day is coming.  
The ungodly have drawn out the sword, and have bent their bow :  
to cast down the poor and needy, and to slay such as are of a right conversation.  
Their sword shall go through their own heart :  
and their bow shall be broken.  
A small thing that the righteous hath :  
is better than great riches of the ungodly.  
For the arms of the ungodly shall be broken :  
and the Lord upholdeth the righteous.

*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 6: 16-21**

## **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 – Romans 9: 1-13**

### **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, who never failest to help and govern them whom thou dost bring up in thy steadfast fear and love; Keep us, we beseech thee, under the protection of thy good providence, and make us to have a perpetual fear and love of thy holy Name; 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**

For lo, I raise up that bitter and hasty nation, which march thro' the breadth of the earth, to possess the dwelling places that are not theirs. They are terrible and dreadful, their judgement and their dignity proceed from themselves. Their horses also are swifter than leopards, and are more fierce than the evening wolves, and their horsemen spread themselves, yea their horsemen come from far. They fly as an eagle that hasteth to devour. They come all of them for violence; their faces are set as the east wind, and they gather captives as the sand. Yea, he scoffeth at kings and princes are a derision unto him. For he heapeth up dust and taketh it. Then shall he sweep by as a wind that shall pass over, and be guilty, even he whose might is his God. Art not Thou from everlasting, O Lord my God, mine Holy One? We shall not die. O Lord, thou has ordained him for judgement and thou, O Rock, hast established him for correction. I will stand upon my watch and set me upon the tower and look forth to see what he will say to me and what I shall answer concerning my complaint. And the Lord answered me, and said: The vision is yet for the appointed time, and it hasteth toward the end and shall not lie. Tho' it tarry, wait for it, because it will surely come. For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. But the Lord is in his holy temple: let all the earth keep silence before him.

Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924)

Habbakuk 1, 2

## **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*



The day thou gavest, Lord, is ended,  
The darkness falls at thy behest;  
To thee our morning hymns ascended,  
Thy praise shall sanctify our rest.

We thank thee that thy Church unsleeping,  
While earth rolls onward into light,  
Through all the world her watch is keeping,  
And rests not now by day or night.

As o'er each continent and island  
The dawn leads on another day,  
The voice of prayer is never silent,  
Nor dies the strain of praise away.

The sun that bids us rest is waking  
Our brethren 'neath the western sky,  
And hour by hour fresh lips are making  
Thy wondrous doings heard on high.

So be it, Lord; thy throne shall never,  
Like earth's proud empires, pass away;  
Thy kingdom stands, and grows for ever,  
Till all thy creatures own thy sway.

Tune: St. Clement

Rev. Clement Cotterill Scholefield (1839-1904)

John Ellerton (1826-1893)

## **The Blessing**

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

*Please sit for the Organ voluntary*