

The Cathedral Church of the Holy Trinity
commonly called

CHRIST CHURCH DUBLIN



CHORAL EVENSONG

Sunday 16 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

I will wash my hands in innocency, O Lord :
and so will I go to thine altar.
That I may shew the voice of thanksgiving :
and tell of all thy wondrous works.

Edward C Bairstow (1874-1946)

Psalm 26: 6,7

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

Matthew Martin (b.1976)

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 39

Please sit

I said, I will take heed to my ways :
that I offend not in my tongue.
I will keep my mouth as it were with a bridle :
while the ungodly is in my sight.
I held my tongue, and spake nothing :
I kept silence, yea, even from good words; but it was pain and grief to me.
My heart was hot within me, and while I was thus musing the fire kindled :
and at the last I spake with my tongue;
Lord, let me know mine end, and the number of my days :
that I may be certified how long I have to live.
Behold, thou hast made my days as it were a span long :
and mine age is even as nothing in respect of thee;
and verily every man living is altogether vanity.
For man walketh in a vain shadow, and disquieteth himself in vain :
he heapeth up riches, and cannot tell who shall gather them.
And now, Lord, what is my hope :
truly my hope is even in thee.
Deliver me from all mine offences :
and make me not a rebuke unto the foolish.
I became dumb, and opened not my mouth :
for it was thy doing.
Take thy plague away from me :
I am even consumed by the means of thy heavy hand.
When thou with rebukes dost chasten man for sin,
thou makest his beauty to consume away,
like as it were a moth fretting a garment :
every man therefore is but vanity.
Hear my prayer, O Lord, and with thine ears consider my calling :
hold not thy peace at my tears.
For I am a stranger with thee :
and a sojourner, as all my fathers were.
O spare me a little, that I may recover my strength :
before I go hence, and be no more seen.

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 7: 1-16

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 St Paul's Service

The Second Lesson – Romans 9: 14-26

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, we beseech thee mercifully to hear us; and grant that we, to whom thou hast given an hearty desire to pray, may by thy mighty aid be defended and comforted in all dangers and adversities; 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

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.
Where charity and love abide, there is God.
Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor.
The love of Christ has gathered us together in one.
Exsultemus et in ipso iucundemur.
Let us be glad and rejoice in the same.
Timeamus et amemus Deum vivum.
Let us fear and love the living God.
Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero.
And love each other with honest hearts.

David Briggs (b.1962)

From the Latin liturgy of Maundy Thursday

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 Strength and Stay upholding all creation,
Who ever dost thyself unmoved abide,
Yet day by day the light in due gradation
From hour to hour through all its changes guide;
Grant to life's day a calm unclouded ending,
An eve untouched by shadows of decay;
The brightness of a holy deathbed blending
With dawning glories of th'eternal day.
Hear us, O Father, gracious and forgiving,
Through Jesus Christ thy co-eternal Word,
Who, with the Holy Ghost, by all things living
Now and to endless ages art adored. Amen.

Tune: Strength and Stay

St. Ambrose (340-397)

John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876)

trans. John Ellerton (1826-1893) and Fenton Hort (1828-1892)

The Blessing

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

Please sit for the Organ voluntary

Toccata in Bb minor Louis Vierne (1870-1937)

