

The Cathedral Church of the Holy Trinity
commonly called

**CHRIST CHURCH
DUBLIN**



Sunday 8 February 2026

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.

*To learn more about the cathedral, and its services and events,
please see the website at www.christchurchcathedral.ie
or pick up a leaflet at the welcome desk*

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*To use the induction loop system provided
please turn your Hearing Aid to the T position.*

Introit

Let my prayer come up into thy presence as the incense: and let the lifting up of my hands be as the evening sacrifice.

John Blow

Psalm 84

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 God's 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 thy 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

Philip Moore, Set III (b. 1943)

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 31

Please sit

In thee, O Lord, have I put my trust :

let me never be put to confusion, deliver me in thy righteousness.

Bow down thine ear to me :

make haste to deliver me.

And be thou my strong rock, and house of defence :

that thou mayest save me.

For thou art my strong rock, and my castle :

be thou also my guide, and lead me for thy Name's sake.

Draw me out of the net that they have laid privily for me :

for thou art my strength.

Into thy hands I commend my spirit :

for thou hast redeemed me, O Lord, thou God of truth.

I have hated them that hold of superstitious vanities :

and my trust hath been in the Lord.

I will be glad and rejoice in thy mercy :

for thou hast considered my trouble, and hast known my soul in adversities.

Thou hast not shut me up into the hand of the enemy :

but hast set my feet in a large room.

Have mercy upon me, O Lord, for I am in trouble :

and mine eye is consumed for very heaviness; yea, my soul and my body.

For my life is waxen old with heaviness :

and my years with mourning.

My strength faileth me, because of mine iniquity :

and my bones are consumed.

I became a reproof among all mine enemies, but especially among my neighbours :

and they of mine acquaintance were afraid of me; and they that did see me without conveyed themselves from me.

I am clean forgotten, as a dead man out of mind :

I am become like a broken vessel.

For I have heard the blasphemy of the multitude :

and fear is on every side, while they conspire together against me, and take their counsel to take away my life.

But my hope hath been in thee, O Lord :

I have said, Thou art my God.

My time is in thy hand; deliver me from the hand of mine enemies :

and from them that persecute me.

Shew thy servant the light of thy countenance :

and save me for thy mercy's sake.

Let me not be confounded, O Lord, for I have called upon thee :

let the ungodly be put to confusion, and be put to silence in the grave.

Let the lying lips be put to silence :

which cruelly, disdainfully, and despitefully, speak against the righteous.

O how plentiful is thy goodness, which thou hast laid up for them that fear thee :

and that thou hast prepared for them that put their trust in thee, even before the sons of men!

Thou shalt hide them privily by thine own presence from the provoking of all men :

thou shalt keep them secretly in thy tabernacle from the strife of tongues.

Thanks be to the Lord :

for he hath shewed me marvellous great kindness in a strong city.

And when I made haste, I said :

I am cast out of the sight of thine eyes.

Nevertheless, thou heardest the voice of my prayer :

when I cried unto thee.

O love the Lord, all ye his saints :

for the Lord preserveth them that are faithful, and plenteously rewardeth the proud doer.

Be strong, and he shall establish your heart :

all ye that put your trust in the Lord.

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 – Amos 9: 5-15

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

The Second Lesson – Ephesians 6: 1-20

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.

David Briggs (b. 1962) The Truro Service

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
Choir Lord have mercy upon us.
Christ have mercy upon us.
Lord have mercy upon us.

Please kneel or sit

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 God, who seest that we put not our trust in any thing that we do; Mercifully grant that by thy power we may be defended against all adversity; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The 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 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

O Lord, Support us all the day long,
Until the shadows lengthen and the evening comes,
and the busy world is hushed,
and the fever of life is over
and our work is done.
Then, Lord, in your mercy
grant us a safe lodging,
a holy rest, and peace at the last,
through Christ Jesus, our Lord.

David Briggs (b. 1962)

St. Henry Newman (1801-1890)

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

John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876)

St. Ambrose (340-397)

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*

Romance from Symphonie IV Louis Vierne (1870-1937)