

Wherever you are on your faith journey...

Saint Mark's welcomes you.

October 10, 2021

5:00 p.m.

Choral Evensong for the Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

The Office of Evensong has been said or sung in this form throughout the Anglican Communion since the 1530s. This reflective service uses order of worship found in the 1662 Prayer Book (with very slight adaptation for use in this Cathedral). The psalms, lessons, hymns, and anthem are varied according to the lectionary. At Choral Evensong the choir offers its worship on behalf of those present.

The service begins with the Lucernarium, the solemn ceremony of light.

Please stand as the procession enters

Officiant: Light and peace in Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Opening Sentence

Jesus said, "You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one lights a lamp to put it under a bucket, but on a lamp-stand where it gives light for everyone in the house. And you, like the lamp, must shed light among your fellow men, so that they may see the good you do, and give glory to your Father in heaven." *Matthew 5:14-16*

or

Let my prayer be set forth in thy sight as the incense, and let the lifting up of my hands be an evening sacrifice. *Psalms 141:2*

or

If I say, "Surely the darkness will cover me, and the light around me turn to night," darkness is not dark to thee, O Lord; the night is as bright as the day; darkness and light to thee are both alike.

Psalms 139:10, 11

Let us pray.

Almighty God, we give you thanks for surrounding us, as daylight fades, with the brightness of the vesper light; and we implore you of your great mercy that, as you enfold us with the radiance of this light, so you would shine into our hearts the brightness of your Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The candles on the altar are lit during the singing of Hymn 25: O gracious Light

Almighty, everlasting God, let our prayer in your sight be as incense, the lifting up of our hands as the evening sacrifice. Give us grace to behold you, present in your Word and Sacraments, and to recognize you in the lives of those around us. Stir up in us the flame of that love which burned in the heart of your Son as he bore his passion, and let it burn in us to eternal life and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Invitation to Confession

Dearly beloved brethren, the Scripture moveth us, in sundry places, to acknowledge and confess our manifold sins and wickedness; and that we should not dissemble nor cloak them before the face of Almighty God our heavenly Father; but confess them with an humble, lowly, penitent, and obedient heart; to the end that we may obtain forgiveness of the same, by his infinite goodness and mercy. And although we ought, at all times, humbly to acknowledge our sins before God; yet ought we chiefly so to do, when we assemble and meet together to render thanks for the great benefits that we have received at his hands, to set forth his most worthy praise, to hear his 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, saying after me;

The congregation kneels

The Confession (*said by all*)

Almighty and most merciful Father; 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 mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake; That we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, To the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.

The Absolution (*The Absolution or Remission of sins to be pronounced by the Minister alone, standing; the people still kneeling.*)

Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who desireth not the death of a sinner, but rather that he may turn from his wickedness, and live; and hath given power, and commandment, to his Ministers, to declare and pronounce to his people, being penitent, the Absolution and Remission of their sins: He pardoneth and absolveth all them that truly repent, and unfeignedly believe his holy Gospel. Wherefore let us beseech him to grant us true repentance, and his Holy Spirit, that those things may please him, 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 his eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Then the people stand.

Preces (*sung by the choir*)

William Smith

O Lord, open thou our lips.
And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise
O God, make speed to save us.
O Lord, make haste to help us.
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.
Praise ye the Lord.

The people sit for the Psalm.

Psalm 111 (*sung by the choir*)

I will give thanks unto the Lord with my whole heart: secretly among the faithful and in the congregation.

The works of the Lord are great: sought out of all them that have pleasure therein.

His work is worthy to be praised and had in honor: and his righteousness endureth for ever.

The merciful goodness of the Lord hath so done his marvelous works: that they ought to be had in remembrance.

He hath given meat unto them that fear him: he shall ever be mindful of his covenant.

He hath shewed his people the power of his works: that he may give them the heritage of the heathen.

The works of his hands are verity and judgment: all his commandments are true.

They stand fast for ever and ever: and are done in truth and equity.

He sent redemption unto his people: he hath commanded his covenant for ever, holy and reverend is his Name.

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom: a good understanding have all they that do thereafter, the praise of it endureth for ever.

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.

Then a Lesson of the Old Testament, as is appointed. And after that Magnificat (or the Song of the Blessed Virgin Mary) as followeth.

The First Lesson

Jeremiah 36:1-10

Magnificat (*sung by the choir*)

Short Service

Thomas Weelkes

My soul doth magnify the Lord: and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.

For he hath regarded: the lowliness of his handmaiden.

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.

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.

Then a Lesson of the New Testament, as it is appointed. And after that Nunc dimittis (or the Song of Simeon) as followeth.

The Second Lesson

Acts 14:8-18

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.
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 Minister and the people say the Apostles' Creed, standing.

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 Ghost,
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 Ghost:
The holy Catholick Church;
The Communion of Saints:
The Forgiveness of sins:
The Resurrection of the body,
And the Life everlasting. Amen.**

And after that, these Prayers following, all devoutly kneeling,

Prayers and Suffrages (*sung by the choir*)

William Smith

*The Lord be with you
And with thy spirit.
Let us pray.*

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

The Lord's Prayer

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.

O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.

And grant us thy salvation.

O Lord, save the State.

And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee

Endue thy ministers with righteousness.

And make thy chosen people joyful.

O Lord, save thy people.

And bless thine inheritance.

Give peace in our time, O Lord.

Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.

O God, make clean our hearts within us.

And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

Then follow three Collects; the first of the day; the second for Peace; the third for Aid against all Perils

The Three Collects

The congregation sits while the choir sings the anthem.

The Anthem: Hear the voice and prayer

Thomas Tallis

Hear the voice and prayer of thy servants, that they make before thee this day.

That thine eyes may be open toward this house night and day.

Of which thou hast said, "my name shall be there".

And when thou hear'st have mercy on them.

Then the people sit or kneel, and the Minister shall offer

The Prayers

Then the Minister offers the following prayer

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplications unto thee; and dost promise, that when two or three are gathered together in thy Name thou wilt grant their requests; Fulfil now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants, as may be most expedient for them; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

The people stand as the choir sings a hymn.

Hymn

462: The Lord will come and not be slow

York

The Minister concludes with one of the sentences of Scripture which followeth.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. **Amen.** *2 Corinthians 13.14*

or

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Ghost. **Amen.** *Romans 15:13*

or

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. **Amen.** *Ephesians 3:20, 21*

Postlude: Fantasy

William Byrd