


**St. Paul's Cathedral**

EPISCOPAL + ANGLICAN

*the City*

## **Evensong**

March 6, 2011 at five o'clock in the evening  
The Last Sunday after the Epiphany  
Sung by The Cathedral Choristers  
Officiant: The Rev. Canon Allisyn Thomas  
Lector: Bill Hardin



The Very Rev. Scott E. Richardson, *Dean*  
The Rev. Canon Allisyn Thomas, *Sub-Dean*  
Brooks Mason, *Canon Verger*  
Martin Green, *Canon for Music, Organist and Choirmaster*  
Braden McKinley, *Organ Scholar*

*Whoever you are, wherever you find yourself on the journey of faith, we welcome you!*

*Kindly silence phones and other electronic devices.*

## **ORGAN VOLUNTARY**

### **INTROIT**

*O nata lux*

Thomas Tallis (c. 1505-1585)

*O nata lux de lumine, Jesu redemptor saeculi, dignare clemens supplicum laudes precesque sumere. Qui carne quondam contegi dignatus es pro perditis, nos membra confer effici tui beati corporis.*

O Light Incarnate, Light of Light, Jesus, Redeemer of the world, take thy supplicants praise, and in thy might and mercy hear the prayers they make. Thou who didst design for lost mankind, to veil in flesh thy deity. As members of thy body, Lord, bind us to thy humanity.

[text: Office Hymn at Lauds]

*Please stand at the tolling of the bell as choir and clergy enter in procession.*

## **OPENING SENTENCE**

### **PRECES AND RESPONSES**

William Smith of Durham (1603–1645)

Officiant O Lord, open thou our lips.

Choir And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

Officiant O God, make speed to save us.

Choir O Lord, make haste to help us.

Officiant Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Ghost;

Choir as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen.

Officiant Praise ye the Lord.

Choir The Lord's name be praised.

## OFFICE HYMN 129

1 Christ up - on the moun - tain peak stands a - lone in  
2 Trem - bling at his feet we saw Mo - ses and E -  
3 Swift the cloud of glo - ry came. God pro - claim - ing  
4 This is God's be - lov - ed Son! Law and pro - phets

glo - ry blaz - ing; let us, if we dare to speak,  
li - jah speak - ing. All the pro - phets and the Law  
in its thun - der Je - sus as his Son by name!  
fade be - fore him; first and last and on - ly One,

with the saints and an - gels praise him. Al - le - lu - ia!  
shout through them their joy - ful greet - ing. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Na - tions cry a - loud in won - der! Al - le - lu - ia!  
let cre - a - tion now a - dore him! Al - le - lu - ia!

Words: Brian A. Wren (b. 1936); Music: Mowsley, Cyril Vincent Taylor (1907-1991)  
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§ Please be seated.

- 1 WHEN Israel came out of Egypt, \*  
and the house of Jacob from among the strange people,
- 2 Judah was his sanctuary, \*  
and Israel his dominion.
- 3 The sea saw that, and fled; \*  
Jordan was driven back.
- 4 The mountains skipped like rams, \*  
and the little hills like young sheep.
- 5 What aileth thee, O thou sea, that thou fleddest? \*  
and thou Jordan, that thou wast driven back?
- 6 Ye mountains, that ye skipped like rams? \*  
and ye little hills, like young sheep?
- 7 Tremble, thou earth, at the presence of the Lord: \*  
at the presence of the God of Jacob;
- 8 Who turned the hard rock into a standing water,  
and the flint-stone into a springing well.

*Gloria Patri*

**FIRST READING**

Deuteronomy 6:1-9

*The first reading is taken from the Old Testament which declares that the history of Israel, and of the whole world, is guided by God.*

§ *Please stand.*

**MAGNIFICAT**     *in B-flat*

Sir Charles Villiers Stanford (1852–1924)

*The Magnificat is Mary's song of thanksgiving (Luke 1:46-55) as she responds to the declaration that the child she is to bear will fulfill the promises of the Old Testament.*

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 showed 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 forever.

*Gloria Patri.*

§ *Please be seated.*

**SECOND READING**

John 12:24-32

*The second reading is taken from the New Testament which tells of the life and teaching of Jesus and the witness of the early church. It also shows the meaning of Christ for our life today.*

§ *Please stand.*

*The Nunc Dimittis is the song of Simeon (Luke 2:29-32) who, before he dies, sees the Infant Jesus and holds him in his arms.*

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.

*Gloria Patri.*

## **THE APOSTLES' CREED**

*The Creed grew from statements of belief made by the first Christians at their baptism. The church continues to confess its faith in the Holy Trinity—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost.*

*The Creed is monotoned or spoken by all.*

**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 catholic Church,  
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

**Amen.**

## **SALUTATION**

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

## **THE LESSER LITANY** *(choir)*

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

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER** *(Sung by the choir, or by all on a monotone.)*

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

## **SUFFRAGES** *(choir)*

Officiant O Lord, show thy mercy upon us.  
Choir And grant us thy salvation.  
Officiant O Lord, save the State.  
Choir And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.  
Officiant Endue thy ministers with righteousness.  
Choir And make thy chosen people joyful.  
Officiant O Lord, save thy people.  
Choir And bless thine inheritance.  
Officiant Give peace in our time, O Lord.  
Choir Because there is none other that fighteth for us,  
but only thou, O God.  
Officiant O God, make clean our hearts within us.  
Choir And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

## **THE COLLECTS**

*The following collects, or others appointed, are sung by the Officiant.*

### **THE COLLECT FOR THE LAST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY**

O GOD, who before the passion of thy only-begotten Son didst reveal his glory upon the holy mount: Grant unto us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **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 our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee, we, being defended from the fear of all enemies, may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

### **THE COLLECT FOR AID AGAINST 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 Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

*During the anthem, an offering will be collected to support the Cathedral's work of sharing God's love with the world.*

## AT THE OFFERING, ANTHEM

*Give unto the Lord*  
Sir Edward Elgar (1857–1934)

Give unto the LORD, O ye mighty, give unto the LORD glory and strength. Give unto the LORD the glory due unto his name; worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness. The voice of the LORD is upon the waters: the God of glory thundereth: it is the LORD that ruleth the sea; The voice of the LORD is mighty in operation; the voice of the LORD is full of majesty. The voice of the LORD breaketh the cedars of Lebanon. Yea, the voice of the LORD divideth the flames of fire. The voice of the LORD shaketh the wilderness; yea, the voice of the LORD shaketh the wilderness, and strippeth the forests bare. In his temple doth every one speak of his glory. Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness. The LORD sitteth above the water-flood; and the LORD remaineth a King for ever. The LORD shall give strength unto his people; the LORD shall give His people the blessing of peace.

[Text :Psalm 29, Music: Op. 74, 1914]

## THE CONCLUDING PRAYERS

*Please stand or kneel for the Prayers, which end with the following Grace:*

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.**

## HYMN 423

1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,  
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,  
 3 To all life thou giv - est, to both great and small;  
 4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry, thou rul - est in light,

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,  
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;  
 in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;  
 thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,  
 thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove  
 we blos - som and flour - ish, like leaves on the tree,  
 all laud we would ren - der: O help us to see

al - might - y, vic - tor - ious, thy great Name we praise.  
 thy clouds, which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.  
 then with - er and per - ish; but nought chan - geth thee.  
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee.

Words: Walter Chalmers Smith (1824-1908), alt.  
 Music: *St. Denio*, Welsh hymn, from *Caniadau y Cyssegr*, 1839; adapt. John Roberts (1822-1877);  
 harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906, alt.

## THE DISMISSAL

Cantor Let us bless the Lord.

Choir Thanks be to God.

## ORGAN VOLUNTARY

*Please remain standing as the choir and clergy leave in procession.*

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We welcome you to remain for the combination organ and choral concert which will start shortly. Tonight's special artists include *Musica Vitale*, Elana Vizuet, Director, and Hollace Jones, Organist.



# Concerning the Service of Evensong

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The form of this service is little altered from that of the 1662 Book of Common Prayer, but the content has a much longer history. The Psalms were the hymns of the Jewish temple; the Canticles—the *Magnificat* and *Nunc Dimittis*—are from the New Testament; other prayers and hymns come from the past centuries of the Christian church. All these texts have been refined throughout the ages to express the profound mysteries of God.

For some it is music, not words alone, that carries them into the presence of God; for others it is silent meditation. For most people, however, it takes all three—words, music, and silent meditation—to lead them into the true spirit of worship.

This service of Evensong is a unique part of our Anglican heritage with its offering of a liturgical, architectural, and musical space into which we may bring our daily anxieties and preoccupations, and hold them together with a recollection of the God whose saving acts we celebrate. The censuring of altar, cross, ministers, and people during the Song of Mary (the *Magnificat*) testifies to the God who is present in Mary's body as continuous with the God of the Exodus, whose signs of presence were the pillar of fire by night and the pillar of smoke by day.

One may feel that there is little opportunity for the congregation to take an active part in the worship, but the wisdom of the ages tells us that most find that through their own silent attention, while ministers and choir speak and sing in their name, they make the words and music their own. They are then able, with an uncluttered mind, to offer to God the best of who they are and what they hope to become.

It is then that this service of Evensong, which has been called the jewel in the crown of Anglicanism, can be experienced for what it is: a worship experience that allows us with all our senses to express our hopes and thanksgivings to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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