

Choral Evensong

Friday, November 17, 2023

Voluntary

We stand as the choir and clergy enter and remain standing as the choir sings the Introit.

Introit

Lord, For Thy Tender Mercy's Sake

Attributed: Richard Farrant

Lord, for thy tender mercy's sake, lay not our sins to our charge, but forgive that is past, and give us grace to amend our sinful lives: to decline from sin and incline to virtue, that we may walk in a perfect heart before thee no and evermore. Amen.

The officiant says

Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

The cantor and choir sing

O Lord, open thou our lips.

Setting: John Sanders

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 Lord's name be praised.

Hymn O gladsome Light, O grace

O Gladsome Light, O Grace H36

1 O glad - some Light, O grace of God the Fa - ther's face,
2 Now, ere day fad - eth quite, we see the eve - ning light,
3 To thee of right be - longs all praise of ho - ly songs,

the e - ter - nal splen - dor wear - ing; ce - les - tial, ho - ly, blest,
our wont - ed hymn out - pour - ing; Fa - ther of might un - known,
O Son of God, Life - giv - er; thee, there - fore, O Most High,

The musical score consists of two systems of music. Each system has a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The first system contains three lines of lyrics. The second system contains two lines of lyrics. The music is written in a simple, hymn-like style with block chords and single notes.

our Sa - vior Je - sus Christ, joy - ful in thine ap - pear - ing.
 thee, his in - car - nate Son, and Ho - ly Spirit a - dor - ing.
 the world doth glo - ri - fy, and shall ex - alt for ev - er.

Words: Greek, 3rd cent.; tr. Robert Seymour Bridges (1844-1930); para. of *O Gracious Light*. Music: *Le Cantique de Siméon*, melody Louis Bourgeois (1510?-1561?); harm. Claude Goudimel (1514-1572).

We sit as the choir sings the psalm.

Psalm 91

Anglican chant: Edward C. Bairstow

- 1 He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High,*
abides under the shadow of the Almighty.
- 2 He shall say to the Lord, "You are my refuge and my stronghold, *
my God in whom I put my trust."
- 3 He shall deliver you from the snare of the hunter *
and from the deadly pestilence.
- 4 He shall cover you with his pinions,
and you shall find refuge under his wings; *
his faithfulness shall be a shield and buckler.
- 5 You shall not be afraid of any terror by night, *
nor of the arrow that flies by day;
- 6 Of the plague that stalks in the darkness, *
nor of the sickness that lays waste at mid-day.
- 7 A thousand shall fall at your side
and ten thousand at your right hand, *
but it shall not come near you.
- 8 Your eyes have only to behold *
to see the reward of the wicked.
- 9 Because you have made the Lord your refuge, *
and the Most High your habitation,
- 10 There shall no evil happen to you, *
neither shall any plague come near your dwelling.
- 11 For he shall give his angels charge over you, *
to keep you in all your ways.
- 12 They shall bear you in their hands, *
lest you dash your foot against a stone.
- 13 You shall tread upon the lion and adder; *
you shall trample the young lion and the serpent under your feet.
- 14 Because he is bound to me in love, therefore will I deliver him; *
I will protect him, because he knows my Name.
- 15 He shall call upon me, and I will answer him; *
I am with him in trouble;
I will rescue him and bring him to honor.

16 With long life will I satisfy him, *
and show him my salvation.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son,*
and to the Holy Spirit:
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

The First Reading

Revelation 19:11-16

Then I saw heaven opened, and there was a white horse! Its rider is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he judges and makes war. His eyes are like a flame of fire, and on his head are many diadems; and he has a name inscribed that no one knows but himself. He is clothed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is called The Word of God. And the armies of heaven, wearing fine linen, white and pure, were following him on white horses. From his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and he will rule them with a rod of iron; he will tread the wine press of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty. On his robe and on his thigh he has a name inscribed, 'King of kings and Lord of lords'.

Here ends the reading.

We stand as the choir sings the Magnificat.

Magnificat

Setting: Charles V. Stanford

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. 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.

We sit.

The Second Reading

Matthew 16:13-20

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist but others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

Here ends the reading.

We stand as the choir sings the Nunc dimittis.

Nunc dimittis

Setting: Stanford

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.

We remain standing and say together.

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

The Prayers

Setting: Sanders

The cantor and choir sing

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.

We chant together.

Our Father, which 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. Amen.

The cantor and choir sing

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.

The Collects

O Lord Jesus Christ, who by thy death didst take away the sting of death: Grant unto us thy servants so to follow in faith where thou hast led the way, that we may at length fall asleep peacefully in thee, and awake up after thy likeness; for thy tender mercies' sake. *Amen.*

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 our enemies, may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour. *Amen.*

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.*

We sit as the choir sings the Anthem.

Anthem

Jesu, the Very Thought of Thee

Edward C. Bairstow

*Jesu, the very thought of thee with sweetness fills my breast;
But sweeter far thy face to see, and in thy presence rest.*

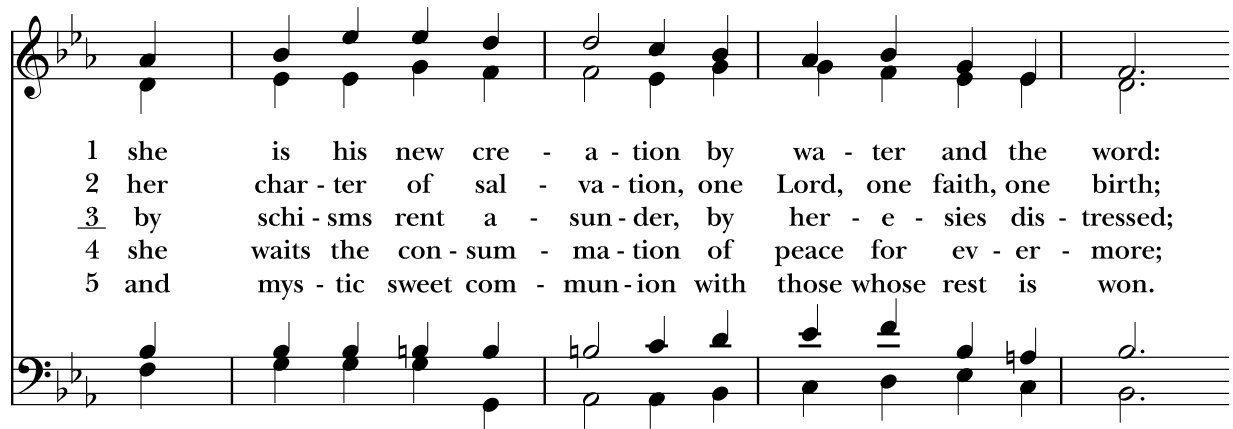
We stand and say together.

The General Thanksgiving

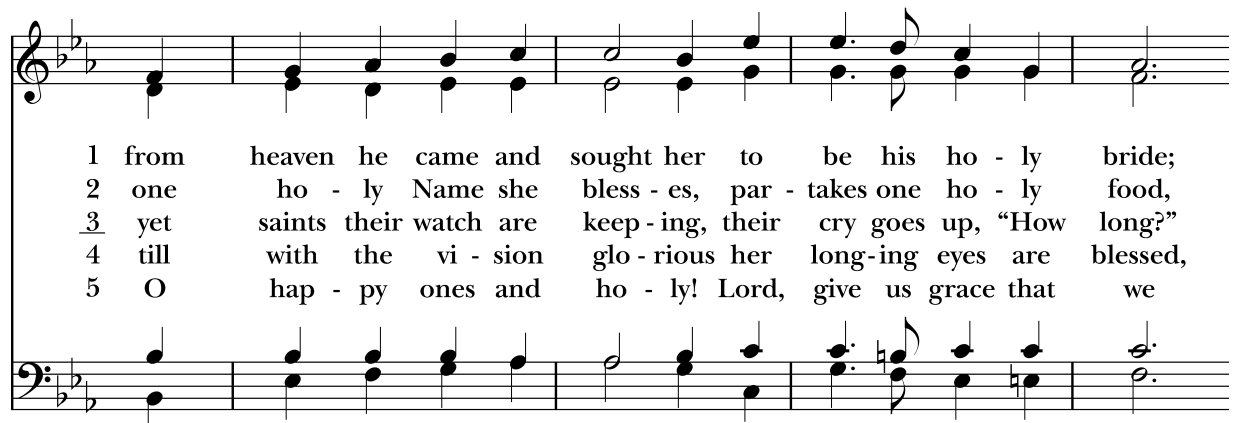
Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we thine unworthy servants do give thee most humble and hearty thanks for all thy goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all men. We bless thee for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for thine inestimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we beseech thee, give us that due sense of all thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful; and that we show forth thy praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to thy service, and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.



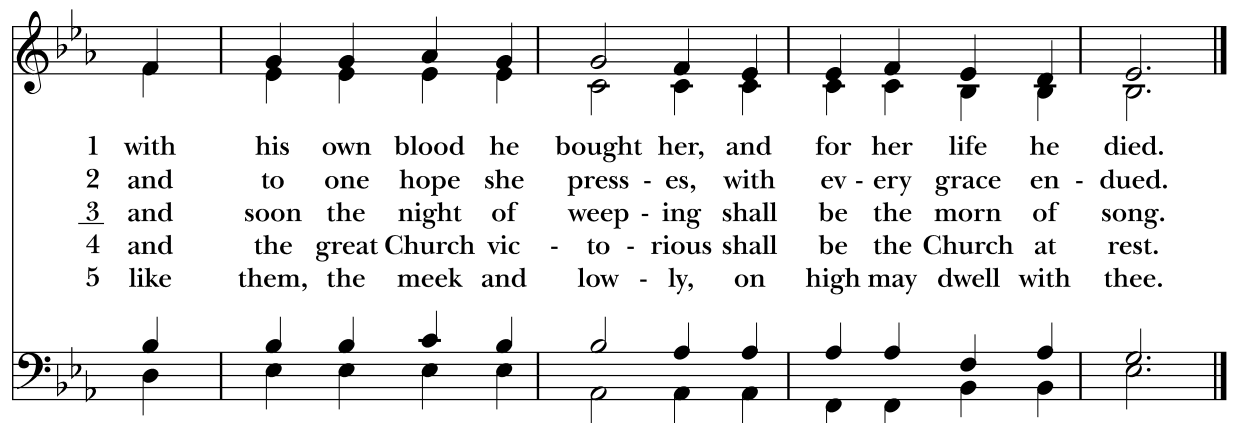
1 The Church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ her Lord;
 2 E - lect from ev - ery na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
 3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der men see her sore op - pressed,
 4 Mid toil and tri - bu - la - tion, and tu - mult of her war
 5 Yet she on earth hath un - ion with God, the Three in One,



1 she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word:
 2 her char - ter of sal - va - tion, one Lord, one faith, one birth;
 3 by schi - sms rent a - sun - der, by her - e - sies dis - tressed;
 4 she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for ev - er - more;
 5 and mys - tic sweet com - mun - ion with those whose rest is won.



1 from heaven he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;
 2 one ho - ly Name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,
 3 yet saints their watch are keep - ing, their cry goes up, "How long?"
 4 till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blessed,
 5 O hap - py ones and ho - ly! Lord, give us grace that we



1 with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
 2 and to one hope she press - es, with ev - ery grace en - dued.
 3 and soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.
 4 and the great Church vic - to - rious shall be the Church at rest.
 5 like them, the meek and low - ly, on high may dwell with thee.

The officiant says

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.**

Anthem

O Lord, the Maker of All Things William Mundy
O Lord, the maker of all things, we pray thee now in this evening us to defend through thy mercy from all deceit of our enemy. Let neither us deluded be, Good Lord, with dream or fantasy; Our hearts waking in thee thou keep that we in sin fall not on sleep. O Father, through thy blessed Son, Grant us this our petition, To whom, with the Holy Ghost always, In heaven and earth be laud and praise.

We remain standing as the choir and clergy leave, and are then seated for the Voluntary.

Voluntary

The Raleigh Convocation Choir

Erin Conn, soprano - St. Philip's, Durham
Linda McKinney, soprano - St. Paul's, Cary
Mariah Tarry, soprano - Church of the Nativity, Raleigh
Karen Wagoner, soprano - St. Michael's, Raleigh
The Rev. Dr. Cathy Deats, alto - St. Paul's, Cary
Lyn Francisco, alto - Chapel of the Cross, Chapel Hill
Barbara Prillaman, alto - St. Paul's, Cary
Jill Shires, alto - Church of the Nativity, Raleigh
Emery Anderson, tenor- St. Paul's, Cary
David Lackey, tenor - Soapstone UMC, Raleigh, and VCC
Jack Neely, tenor & cantor - St. Michael's, Raleigh
Tom Trueblood - Church of the Advocate, Chapel Hill
David Durkop, bass - Blacknall Presbyterian, Durham
Lewis Moore, bass - St. Philip's, Durham
Jon Douglas, bass - St. Paul's, Cary

Russell McKinney, director of music - St. Paul's, Cary
Dr. John Cummins, organist