



Choral Evensong for the Fourth Sunday of Easter

We welcome the Choir of St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church, Saint Paul.
The choir is directed by Richard Gray, and the organist is Dean Billmeyer.

The Office of Evensong has been said or sung in this form throughout the Anglican Communion since the 1530s. This reflective service uses the order of worship found in the 1662 Prayer Book in common with Anglican Cathedrals across the world (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 congregation is invited to join in the prayers and the singing of the hymns.

Please stand as the procession enters

The Minister begins with a sentence of scripture

Grace be unto you, and peace, from God the Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ. *Philippians 1:2*

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.

Office Hymn

46: The duteous day now closeth

The people sit for the Psalm.

Psalm 103 (sung by the choir)

Praise the Lord O my soul: and all that is within me praise his holy name.

Praise the Lord O my soul: and forget not all his benefits;

Who forgiveth all thy sin: and healeth all thine infirmities;

Who saveth thy life from destruction: and crowneth thee with mercy and loving kindness;

Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things: making thee young and lusty as an eagle.

The Lord executeth righteousness and judgment: for all them that are oppressed with wrong.
 He shewed his ways unto Moses: his works unto the children of Israel.
 The Lord is full of compassion and mercy: long-suffering and of great goodness.
 He will not always be chiding; neither keepeth he his anger for ever.
 He hath not dealt with us after our sins; nor rewarded us according to our wickednesses.
 For look how high the heaven is in comparison of the earth: so great is his mercy also toward them that fear him.
 Look how wide also the east is from the west: so far hath he set our sins from us.
 Yea like as a father pitieth his own children: even so is the Lord merciful unto them that fear him.
 For he knoweth whereof we are made: he remembereth that we are but dust.
 The days of man are but as grass: for he flourisheth as a flower of the field.
 For as soon as the wind goeth over it it is gone: and the place thereof shall know it no more.
 But the merciful goodness of the Lord endureth for ever and ever, upon them that fear him: and his righteousness upon children's children;
 Even upon such as keep his covenant: and think upon his commandments to do them.
 The Lord hath prepared his seat in heaven: and his kingdom ruleth over all.
 O praise the Lord ye angels of his, ye that excel in strength: ye that fulfill his commandment, and hearken unto the voice of his words.
 O praise the Lord all ye his hosts: ye servants of his that do his pleasure.
 O speak good of the Lord all ye works of his, in all places of his dominion: praise thou the Lord O my soul.

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 First Lesson

Exodus 28:1-4, 30-38

Magnificat (*sung by the choir*)

Service in E Flat

Charles Wood

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.

The Second Lesson

1 John 2:18-29

Nunc Dimittis (*sung by the choir*)

Service in E Flat

Charles Wood

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 stand to say

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.

Please kneel or sit

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.

Before the ending of the day, Creator of the world, we pray
That with thy wonted favor thou wouldst be our Guard and Keeper now.

From all ill dreams defend our eyes, from nightly fears and fantasies;
Tread under foot our ghostly foe, that no pollution we may know.

O Father, that we ask be done, through Jesus Christ, thine only Son;
Who, with the Holy Ghost and thee, doth live and reign eternally. Amen.

Please kneel

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.**

Please stand to sing

Hymn 377: All people that on earth do dwell

Please remain standing as the Minister concludes the service

The Grace

Postlude: Allabreve in D BWV589

J.S. Bach

Thank you for joining us for Choral Evensong.

The service next Sunday will be sung by the sopranos of the Cathedral Choir

Canticles: Service in A – Peter Hurford

Anthem: Day by Day – Martin How

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