

Choral Evensong

The Third Sunday after the Epiphany

January 23, 2022 • 4:00 PM

WASHINGTON NATIONAL CATHEDRAL

THE TRADITION OF CHORAL EVENSONG

Welcome to Washington National Cathedral. It is an ancient tradition for the people of God to offer praise and prayer as the day draws to a close. Choral Evensong is a service of sung evening prayer. The text of the service is drawn almost entirely from the Bible. The main purpose is to proclaim the wonderful works of God in human history, and in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Sung psalms and canticles are interwoven with readings from the Old and New Testaments and the recitation of the Apostles' Creed and Lord's Prayer. Other prayers and hymns are drawn from the many centuries of the Christian Church. The congregation is invited to listen reflectively and prayerfully as the choir offers prayer and praise on their behalf. Many find this frees them to offer to God their own thoughts and prayers.

The people's responses are in bold.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Prelude and Fughetta

Healey Willan (1880–1968)

The people stand as able as the procession enters.

HYMN • 566

From Thee All Skill and Science Flow

Sung by all.

The Church's Desolation

1. From thee all skill and sci-ence flow, all pi-ty, care, and love,
 2. And has-ten, Lord, that per-fect day when pain and death shall cease,
 all calm and cour-age, faith and hope: O pour them from a-bove!
 and thy just rule shall fill the earth with health and light and peace;
 Im-part them, Lord, to each and all, as each and all shall need,
 when ev-er-blue the sky shall gleam, and ev-er-green the sod,
 to rise, like in-cense, each to thee, in no-ble thought and deed.
 and our rude work de-face no more the hand-i-work of God.

THE OPENING SENTENCES FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE

PRECES

Stephen Caracciolo (b. 1962)

Cantor O Lord, open thou our lips;
Choir And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.
Cantor O God, make speed to save us;
Choir O Lord, make haste to help us.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
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 candles are lighted as the choir sings.

PHOS HILARON

Ronald Arnatt (1930–2018)

The Phos hilaron is an ancient lamp-lighting hymn. Meaning "gladdening light" in Greek, it is among the earliest-known hymn texts recorded outside of the Bible that is still in use today.

O gracious Light,
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun,
and our eyes behold the vesper light,
we sing thy praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Thou art worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,
O Son of God, O Giver of life,
and to be glorified through all the worlds.

The people are seated.

PSALM • 103:1-12

Sung by the choir.

chant: John Barnard (b. 1948)

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless his holy Name.
Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and forget not all his benefits.
He forgives all your sins
and heals all your infirmities;
He redeems your life from the grave
and crowns you with mercy and loving-kindness;
He satisfies you with good things,
and your youth is renewed like an eagle's.
The Lord executes righteousness
and judgment for all who are oppressed.
He made his ways known to Moses
and his works to the children of Israel.
The Lord is full of compassion and mercy,
slow to anger and of great kindness.
He will not always accuse us,
nor will he keep his anger for ever.
He has not dealt with us according to our sins,
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.

For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.
As far as the east is from the west,
so far has he removed our sins from us.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

THE FIRST LESSON

Genesis 13:2-18

Abram was very rich in livestock, in silver, and in gold. He journeyed on by stages from the Negeb as far as Bethel, to the place where his tent had been at the beginning, between Bethel and Ai, to the place where he had made an altar at the first; and there Abram called on the name of the Lord. Now Lot, who went with Abram, also had flocks and herds and tents, so that the land could not support both of them living together; for their possessions were so great that they could not live together, and there was strife between the herders of Abram's livestock and the herders of Lot's livestock. At that time the Canaanites and the Perizzites lived in the land. Then Abram said to Lot, "Let there be no strife between you and me, and between your herders and my herders; for we are kindred. Is not the whole land before you? Separate yourself from me. If you take the left hand, then I will go to the right; or if you take the right hand, then I will go to the left." Lot looked about him, and saw that the plain of the Jordan was well watered everywhere like the garden of the Lord, like the land of Egypt, in the direction of Zoar; this was before the Lord had destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah. So Lot chose for himself all the plain of the Jordan, and Lot journeyed eastward; thus they separated from each other. Abram settled in the land of Canaan, while Lot settled among the cities of the Plain and moved his tent as far as Sodom. Now the people of Sodom were wicked, great sinners against the Lord. The Lord said to Abram, after Lot had separated from him, "Raise your eyes now, and look from the place where you are, northward and southward and eastward and westward; for all the land that you see I will give to you and to your offspring forever. I will make your offspring like the dust of the earth; so that if one can count the dust of the earth, your offspring also can be counted. Rise up, walk through the length and the breadth of the land, for I will give it to you." So Abram moved his tent, and came and settled by the oaks of Mamre, which are at Hebron; and there he built an altar to the Lord.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The people remain seated as the choir sings.

MAGNIFICAT

Evening Service in C; Charles Villiers Stanford (1852–1924)

The Magnificat is the Blessed Virgin Mary's song of thanksgiving in response to the fact that she will bear the Son of God, fulfilling 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 for ever.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

(Luke 1:46-55)

THE SECOND LESSON

Mark 7:31-37

Jesus returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

The people remain seated as the choir sings.

NUNC DIMITTIS

Evening Service in C; C. V. Stanford

The Nunc dimittis is the song of the aged Simeon, who had been promised by the Holy Spirit that he would not die until he had seen the Messiah. Upon taking the infant Jesus into his arms, Simeon utters these words of thanksgiving.

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

(Luke 2:29-32)

The people stand as able.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

Said by all, facing the high altar.

The Apostles' Creed grew from statements of belief made by early Christians at their baptism. The Church continues to confess this same faith in the Holy Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living 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

S. Caracciolo

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.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Said by all.

**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.**

THE SUFFRAGES

S. Caracciolo

Cantor O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;
Choir And grant us thy salvation.
Cantor O Lord, save the State;
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 COLLECTS

The officiant sings a series of prayers, appointed for the day, each followed by a choral Amen.

Give us grace, O Lord, to answer readily the call of our Savior Jesus Christ and proclaim to all people the Good News of his salvation, that we and all the whole world may perceive the glory of his marvelous works; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Lord God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ triumphed over the powers of death and prepared for us our place in the new Jerusalem: Grant that we, who have this day given thanks for his resurrection, may praise thee in that City of which he is the light; and where he liveth and reigneth for ever and ever. Amen.

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give thine angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for thy love's sake. Amen.

The collects conclude with:

Cantor Let us bless the Lord.

Choir Thanks be to God.

The people are seated.

THE BLESSING OF ALTAR LINENS

The clergy move to the high altar.

Officiant All things come from you, O Lord;

People **And from your own gifts do we give to you.**

Officiant Prosper the work of our hands;

People **Prosper our handiwork.**

Officiant Show your servants your works;

People **And your splendor to their children.**

Officiant Let us pray.

Almighty God, we thank you that you have put it into the hearts of your people to make offerings for your service, and have been pleased to accept their gifts. Be with us now and bless us as we set apart these altar linens to your praise and glory and in honor of Anne W. Richardson; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

Officiant This is the offering which you shall receive from the people gold, silver, and bronze, blue and purple and scarlet cloth, and finely woven linen.

Officiant O Lord my God, how excellent is your greatness:

People **You are clothed with majesty and splendor.**

Officiant Let us pray.

O glorious God, all your works proclaim your perfect beauty: Accept our offering of these linens and grant that they may adorn this sanctuary and show forth your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

OFFERING

For the safety of our worshippers and staff, we will not pass the traditional plate during today's service. Instead, all are invited to make a gift to support the Cathedral's ministry of sharing God's love with the world by texting the dollar amount you wish to give to (202) 856-9005 or visiting cathedral.org/support. These contact-free alternatives are highly encouraged to make giving as simple and safe as possible.

ANTHEM

Save Us, O Lord

Edward Bairstow (1874–1946)

Save us, O Lord, waking; guard us sleeping; that awake we may watch with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace.
Amen.

The people stand as able. Additional prayers and petitions may be said at this point, concluding with The General Thanksgiving.

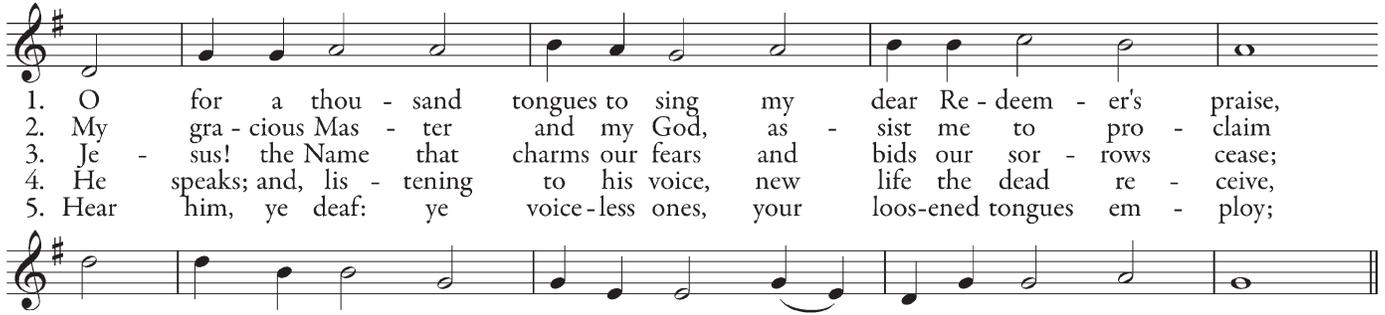
THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

Said by all.

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom you have made.
We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable 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 pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to your service,
and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

THE BLESSING

The officiant blesses the people and the people respond, Amen.

*O for a Thousand Tongues**Sung by all.**Azmon*


1. O for a thou - sand tongues to sing my dear Re - deem - er's praise,
 2. My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, as - sist me to pro - claim
 3. Je - sus! the Name that charms our fears and bids our sor - rows cease;
 4. He speaks; and, lis - tening to his voice, new life the dead re - ceive,
 5. Hear him, ye deaf: ye voice - less ones, your loos-ened tongues em - ploy;

1. the glo - ries of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace!
 2. and spread through all the earth a - broad the hon - ors of thy Name.
 3. 'tis mu - sic in the sin - ner's ears, 'tis in life and health and peace.
 4. the mourn - ful bro - ken hearts re - joice, the hum - ble poor be - lieve.
 5. ye blind, be - hold, your Sa - vior comes; and leap, ye lame, for joy!

6. Glory to God and praise and love
 be now and ever given
 by saints below and saints above,
 the Church in earth and heaven.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Exultemus

Percy Whitlock (1903–1946)

Thank you for worshiping with Washington National Cathedral, your National Cathedral.

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PARTICIPANTS Officiants: The Very Reverend Randolph Marshall Hollerith, Dean, The Reverend Canon Rosemarie Logan Duncan, Canon for Worship; Cantor: The Reverend Patrick L. Keyser, Priest Associate; Musicians: The Boys Cathedral Choir, Thomas M. Sheehan, Organist and Associate Director of Music, George H. Fergus, Associate Director of Music and Chorister Program Director.

FLOWERS The flowers throughout the Cathedral are given to the glory of God. The flowers throughout the Cathedral are given to the glory of God. The High Altar; in honor of Eileen Yago; Holy Spirit Chapel Altar: in memory of the Reverend Samuel Shafer Odom, Virginia Theological Seminary Class of 1953; Children's Chapel Altar: to honor the memory of Jane Schleiter Davis; War Memorial Chapel Altar: in memory of Phillip A. Rollings, Captain USN; Resurrection Chapel Altar; in memory of The Right Reverend Alfred Harding on the anniversary of his consecration as bishop, Saint Paul's Day 1909.

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