



Choral Evensong

The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 11, 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

Elegy

George Thalben-Ball (1896–1987)

The people stand as able as the procession enters.

HYMN • 593

Lord, Make Us Servants of Your Peace

Sung by all.

Dickinson College

1. Lord, make us ser - vants of your peace: where there is hate, may we sow love;
 2. Where all is doubt, may we sow faith; where all is gloom, may we sow hope;
 3. Je - sus, our Lord, may we not seek to be con - soled, but to con - sole,
 4. May we not look for love's re - turn, but seek to love un - self - ish - ly,
 5. Dy - ing, we live, and are re - born through death's dark night to end - less day;

1. where there is hurt, may we for - give; where there is strife, may we make one.
 2. where all is night, may we sow light; where all is tears, may we sow joy.
 3. nor look to un - der-stand-ing hearts, but look for hearts to un - der - stand.
 4. for in our giv - ing we re - ceive, and in for - giv - ing are for - given.
 5. Lord, make us ser - vants of your peace, to wake at last in hea - ven's light.

THE OPENING SENTENCES FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE

PRECES

Richard Shephard (1949–2021)

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 Spirit.
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.

The candles are lighted as the choir sings.

PHOS HILARON

Stephen Caracciolo (b. 1962)

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 • 8

Sung by the choir.

chant: Richard Wayne Dirksen (1921–2003)

O Lord our Governor,
how exalted is your Name in all the world!
Out of the mouths of infants and children
your majesty is praised above the heavens.
You have set up a stronghold against your adversaries,
to quell the enemy and the avenger.
When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,
What is man that you should be mindful of him?
the son of man that you should seek him out?
You have made him but little lower than the angels;
you adorn him with glory and honor;
You give him mastery over the works of your hands;
you put all things under his feet:
All sheep and oxen,
even the wild beasts of the field,
The birds of the air, the fish of the sea,
and whatsoever walks in the paths of the sea.
O Lord our Governor,
how exalted is your Name in all the world!

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.

How dear to me is your dwelling, O Lord of hosts!
 My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the Lord;
 my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
 The sparrow has found her a house
 and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young;
 by the side of your altars, O Lord of hosts,
 my King and my God.
 Happy are they who dwell in your house!
 they will always be praising you.
 Happy are the people whose strength is in you!
 whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.
 Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs,
 for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.
 They will climb from height to height,
 and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.
 Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer;
 hearken, O God of Jacob.
 Behold our defender, O God;
 and look upon the face of your Anointed.
 For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in my own room,
 and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God
 than to dwell in the tents of the wicked.
 For the Lord God is both sun and shield;
 he will give grace and glory;
 No good thing will the Lord withhold
 from those who walk with integrity.
 O Lord of hosts,
 happy are they who put their trust in you!
 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

Job 38:1, 18-41

The Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind: "Have you comprehended the expanse of the earth? Declare, if you know all this. Where is the way to the dwelling of light, and where is the place of darkness, that you may take it to its territory and that you may discern the paths to its home? Surely you know, for you were born then, and the number of your days is great! Have you entered the storehouses of the snow, or have you seen the storehouses of the hail, which I have reserved for the time of trouble, for the day of battle and war? What is the way to the place where the light is distributed, or where the east wind is scattered upon the earth? Who has cut a channel for the torrents of rain, and a way for the thunderbolt, to bring rain on a land where no one lives, on the desert, which is empty of human life, to satisfy the waste and desolate land, and to make the ground put forth grass? Has the rain a father, or who has begotten the drops of dew? From whose womb did the ice come forth, and who has given birth to the hoarfrost of heaven? The waters become hard like stone, and the face of the deep is frozen. Can you bind the chains of the Pleiades, or loose the cords of Orion? Can you lead forth the Mazzaroth in their season, or can you guide the Bear with its children? Do you know the ordinances of the heavens? Can you establish their rule on the earth? Can you lift up your voice to the clouds, so that a flood of waters may cover you? Can you send forth lightnings, so that they may go and say to you, 'Here we are'? Who has put wisdom in the inward parts, or given understanding to the mind? Who has the wisdom to number the clouds? Or who can tilt the waterskins of the heavens, when the dust runs into a mass and the clods cling together? Can you hunt the prey for the lion, or satisfy the appetite of the young lions, when they crouch in their dens, or lie in wait in their covert? Who provides for the raven its prey, when its young ones cry to God, and wander about for lack of food?"

Here ends the lesson.

The people remain seated as the choir sings.

MAGNIFICAT

Magnificat and Nunc dimittis; William Walton (1902–1983)

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

Matthew 5:21-26

Jesus said, "You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, 'You shall not murder'; and 'whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.' But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, 'You fool,' you will be liable to the hell of fire. So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny."

Here ends the lesson.

The people remain seated as the choir sings.

NUNC DIMITTIS

Magnificat and Nunc dimittis; W. Walton

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

R. Shephard

Officiant The Lord be with you.
Choir And with thy spirit.
Officiant 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

R. Shephard

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

O God, forasmuch as without thee we are not able to please thee, mercifully grant that thy Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with thee and the same Spirit liveth and reigneth, one God, now and for 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.

O God and Father of all, whom the whole heavens adore: Let the whole earth also worship thee, all nations obey thee, all tongues confess and bless thee, and men and women every where love thee and serve thee in peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The collects conclude with:

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.
Choir Thanks be to God.

The people are seated.

OFFERING

An offering is received to support the Cathedral's ministry of sharing God's love. All are invited to make a gift as the plate is passed, at cathedral.org/support, or by texting the dollar amount you wish to give to 202-856-9005.

ANTHEM

All Wisdom Cometh from the Lord

Sung by the choir.

Philip Moore (b. 1943)

All wisdom cometh from the Lord, and is with him for ever.
Who can number the sand of the sea, and the drops of rain, and the days of eternity?
Who can find out the height of heaven, and the breadth of the earth, and the deep, and wisdom?
Wisdom hath been created before all things, and the understanding of prudence from everlasting.
The word of God most high is the fountain of wisdom; and her ways are everlasting commandments.
To whom hath the root of wisdom been revealed? or who hath known her wise counsels?

There is one wise and greatly to be feared, the Lord sitting upon his throne.
 He created her, and saw her, and numbered her, and poured her out upon all his works.
 She is with all flesh according to his gifts, and he hath given her to them that love him.
 The fear of the Lord is honor, and glory, and gladness, and a crown of rejoicing.
 The fear of the Lord maketh a merry heart, and giveth joy, and gladness, and a long life.
 Teach me, O Lord, the way of thy statutes, and I shall keep it unto the end.
 Give me understanding, and I shall keep thy law; yea, I shall keep it with my whole heart.
 Make me to go in the path of thy commandments; for therein is my desire.
 O stablish thy word in thy servant, that I may fear thee.
 Behold, my delight is in thy commandments; O quicken me in thy righteousness.

(Sirach 1:1-6, 8-12; Psalm 119:33-35, 38, 40)

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.

HYMN • 674

Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive

Sung by all.

Detroit



1. "For - give our sins as we for - give" you taught us, Lord, to pray;
2. How can your par - don reach and bless the un - for - giv - ing heart
3. In blaz - ing light your cross re - veals the truth we dim - ly knew,
4. Lord, cleanse the depths with - in our souls, and bid re - sent - ment cease;



but you a - lone can grant us grace to live the words we say.
 that broods on wrongs and will not let old bit - ter - ness de - part?
 how small the debts men owe to us, how great our debt to you.
 then, rec - on - ciled to God and man, our lives will spread your peace.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Finale Jubilante, HWC 177, No. 5

Healey Willan (1880-1968)

Thank you for joining us in worship.

The work of this Cathedral is made possible entirely through the support of individuals like you. The gifts of people from across the country and the world are behind every worship service, concert, public program, and the daily work of maintaining this historic landmark and house of prayer for all people.

All are invited to make a gift to support the Cathedral's ministry of sharing God's love as the plate is passed, at cathedral.org/support, or by texting the dollar amount you wish to give to 202-856-9005.

Thank you in advance for your generosity. Please know that your participation with us today has been a blessing.

PARTICIPANTS Officiant: The Reverend Patrick L. Keyser, Priest Associate; Musicians: The Girls Cathedral Choir, Canon Michael McCarthy, Canon for Music and Director of Institutional Planning, Thomas M. Sheehan, Organist and Associate Director of Music.

FLOWERS The flowers throughout the Cathedral are given to the glory of God. In memory of Charles Worthington Fowler; in honor of Michael W. Dettmer; in memory of Stephen Mitchell Hoyt; in memory of Jo Dirksen; in celebration of the marriage of Brittany Louise Hazelwood and Jeffrey Steven Dahlberg.

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