

Choral Evensong

The Last Sunday after Pentecost: Christ the King

November 20, 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

Air

Gerre Hancock (1934–2012)

The people stand as able as the procession enters.



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 Gary Davison (b. 1961)

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.

I will exalt you, O God my King, and bless your Name for ever and ever.

Every day will I bless you

and praise your Name for ever and ever.

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; there is no end to his greatness.

One generation shall praise your works to another and shall declare your power.

I will ponder the glorious splendor of your majesty and all your marvelous works.

They shall speak of the might of your wondrous acts, and I will tell of your greatness.

They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness; they shall sing of your righteous deeds.

The Lord is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and of great kindness.

The Lord is loving to everyone and his compassion is over all his works.

All your works praise you, O Lord, and your faithful servants bless you.

They make known the glory of your kingdom and speak of your power;

That the peoples may know of your power and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; your dominion endures throughout all ages.

The Lord is faithful in all his words and merciful in all his deeds.

The Lord upholds all those who fall; he lifts up those who are bowed down.

The eyes of all wait upon you, O Lord, and you give them their food in due season.

You open wide your hand

and satisfy the needs of every living creature.

The Lord is righteous in all his ways and loving in all his works.

The Lord is near to those who call upon him, to all who call upon him faithfully.

He fulfills the desire of those who fear him; he hears their cry and helps them.

The Lord preserves all those who love him, but he destroys all the wicked.

My mouth shall speak the praise of the Lord; let all flesh bless his holy Name for ever and ever.

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 Zechariah 9:9-16

Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem! Lo, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall command peace to the nations; his dominion shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth. As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double. For I have bent Judah as my bow; I have made Ephraim its arrow. I will arouse your sons, O Zion, against your sons, O Greece, and wield you like a warrior's sword. Then the Lord will appear over them, and his arrow go forth like lightning; the Lord God will sound the trumpet and march forth in the whirlwinds of the south. The Lord of hosts will protect them, and they shall devour and tread down the slingers; they shall drink their blood like wine, and be full like a bowl, drenched like the corners of the altar. On that day the Lord their God will save them for they are the flock of his people; for like the jewels of a crown they shall shine on his land.

Here ends the lesson.

The people remain seated as the choir sings.

MAGNIFICAT

St. Thomas Service; Trevor Weston (b. 1967)

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 21:1-13

When Jesus and the disciples had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately." This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying, "Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey." The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!" When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, "Who is this?" The crowds were saying, "This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee." Then Jesus entered the temple and drove out all who were selling and buying in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who sold doves. He said to them, "It is written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer'; but you are making it a den of robbers."

Here ends the lesson.

The people remain seated as the choir sings.

NUNC DIMITTIS St. Thomas Service; T. Weston

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

Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in thy well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, 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.

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:

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

Inherit the Kingdom

Sung by the choir.

Lee Hoiby (1926–2011)

When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory:

And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats:

And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left.

Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:

For I was an hungered, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me.

Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungered, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink?

When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee?

Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee?

And the King shall answer and say unto them, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.

(Matthew 25:31-40)

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.

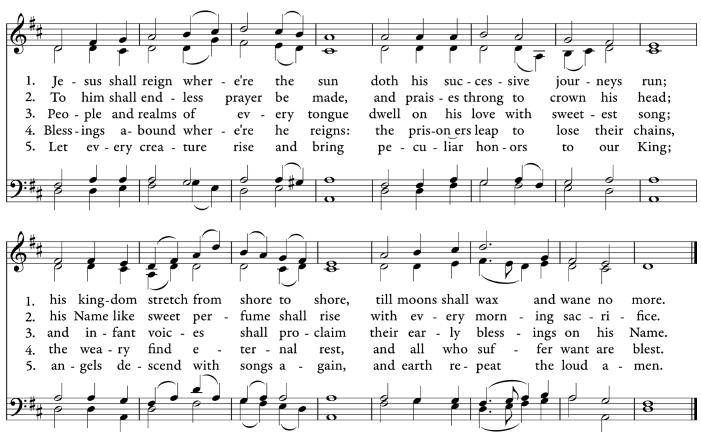
THE BLESSING

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

Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun

Sung by all.

Duke Street



ORGAN VOLUNTARY

King David's Dance

Stephen Paulus (1949–2014)

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, Rebecca Ehren, Organ Scholar.

FLOWERS The flowers throughout the Cathedral are given to the glory of God. High Altar: in memory of Harry Lee Rust; in loving memory of August M. Stromberg and Harriett MacDonald Stromberg; St. Mary's Chapel altar: in thanksgiving for the lives of the Wildman New England ancestors; Holy Spirit Chapel altar: in memory and honor of the Davis and Capers families; Children's Chapel altar: in thanksgiving for the life of Philip Hubert Frohman; in memory of Mrs. Charles Bradford Murray; War Memorial Chapel altar: in memory of Martha Ingles Schrader; Prince Tomb, St. John's Chapel: in thanksgiving for Norman Prince; Dulin Bay: in memory of Eugenia Bell Dulin; Folger Bay: in memory of J. Clifford Folger; Bethlehem Chapel altar: in loving memory of David Edwards Varner; in loving memory of Polly Donnelly Hutton; Prince Tomb, Crypt: in thanksgiving for Frederick and Abigail Norman Prince.

Those wishing to make flower gifts for Christmas are invited to submit their gifts before December 1 to the Altar Guild or online at cathedral.org/donate/memorial-honor-gifts.

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