



Choral Evensong

The Day of Pentecost: Whitsunday

May 28, 2023 • 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

Offertoire sur "Veni Creator Spiritus"

F. Xavier Gelabert i Muntaner (b. 1976)

The people stand as able as the procession enters.

HYMN • 510

Come, Holy Spirit, Heavenly Dove

Sung by all.

Saint Agnes

1. Come, Ho - ly Spi - rit, heaven - ly Dove, with all thy quick - ening powers;
2. See how we tri - fle here be - low, fond of these earth - ly toys:
3. In vain we tune our for - mal songs, in vain we strive to rise:
4. Come, Ho - ly Spi - rit, heaven - ly Dove, with all thy quick - ening powers;
kin - dle a flame of sa - cred love in these cold hearts of ours.
our souls, how heav - i - ly they go, to reach e - ter - nal joys.
ho - san - nas lan - guish on our tongues, and our de - vo - tion dies.
come, shed a - broad a Sa - vior's love, and that shall kin - dle ours.

THE OPENING SENTENCES FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE

PRECES

Gabriel Jackson (b. 1962)

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

Douglas Major (b. 1953)

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 • 145

Sung by the choir.

chant: D. Major

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

Isaiah 11:1-9

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

Here ends the lesson.

The people remain seated as the choir sings.

MAGNIFICAT

Evening Service in C major; Bryan Kelly (b. 1934)

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

John 14:21-29

Jesus said to Philip, "They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them." Judas (not Iscariot) said to him, "Lord, how is it that you will reveal yourself to us, and not to the world?" Jesus answered him, "Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me. I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. You heard me say to you, 'I am going away, and I am coming to you.' If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe."

Here ends the lesson.

The people remain seated as the choir sings.

NUNC DIMITTIS

Evening Service in C major; B. Kelly

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

G. Jackson

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

G. Jackson

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 God, who on this day didst open the way of eternal life to every race and nation by the promised gift of thy Holy Spirit: Shed abroad this gift throughout the world by the preaching of the Gospel, that it may reach to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the same 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:

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/give, by scanning the code on the back cover of this leaflet, or by texting the dollar amount you wish to give to 202-856-9005.

ANTHEM

Like the Beams That from the Sun

Sung by the choir.

Leo Sowerby (1895–1968)

Like the beams that from the sun
Pierce the blackness of the night,
Come to us, O Promised One,
Spirit, Light.

Pure as saints that have attained,
Clad in brightness for attire,
Cleanse our souls by vileness stained,
Spirit, Fire.

Stronger than uplifted arm
In the tumult of the fight,
Shield our timid souls from harm,
Spirit, Might.

Soothing as the calm that falls
When wind and billows cease,
Comfort us when fear appalls,
Spirit, Peace.

Come, O Gracious Spirit, come,
We would have thee for our guest;
Make our souls thy chosen home,
Spirit, Blest.

(Anonymous hymn, trans. John Brownlie, 1857–1925)

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.

*Praise the Spirit in Creation**Sung by all.**Julion*

1. Praise the Spi - rit in cre - a - tion, breath of God, life's or - i - gin: Spi rit, mov - ing on the
2. Praise the Spi - rit, close com-pan-ion of our in - most thoughts and ways; who, in show - ing us God's
3. Praise the Spi - rit, who en - lightened priests and pro - phets with the word; his the truth be - hind the
4. Tell of how the a - scend - ed Je - sus armed a peo - ple for his own; how a hun - dred men and
5. Pray we then, O Lord the Spi - rit, on our lives de - scend in might; let your flame break out with



1. wat - ers quick - ening worlds to life with - in, source of breath to all things
2. won - ders, is him - self the power to gaze; and God's will, to those who
3. wis - doms which as yet know not our Lord; by whose love and power, in
4. wo - men turned the known world up - side down, to its dark and fur - thest
5. in us, fire our hearts and clear our sight, till, white - hot in your pos -



1. breath - ing, life in whom all lives be - gin.
2. lis - ten, by a still small voice con veys.
3. Je - sus God him - self was seen and heard.
4. cor - ners by the wind of hea - ven blown.
5. ses - sion, we, too, set the world a - light.

- 6 Praise, O praise the Holy Spirit,
Praise the Father, praise the Word,
Source, and Truth, and Inspiration,
Trinity in deep accord:
Through your voice which speaks within us
We, your creatures, call you Lord.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Fantasy on "Veni Creator Spiritus", Op. 1149, No. 3

Carson Cooman (b. 1982)

PARTICIPANTS Officiant: The Reverend Canon Rosemarie Logan Duncan, Canon for Worship; Musicians: The 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. The High Altar: to the glory of God and in loving memory of Beatrice E. Wilson Baker; in memory of the Reverend and Mrs. Charles W. Pflueger and Miss Dora Volkmar; St. Mary's Chapel Altar: in memory of and thanksgiving for Anne Peeke; in loving memory of Pamela M. Szczsponik; Holy Spirit Chapel Altar: in memory of Stephen Moore Lott, Margaret Elizabeth McKechnie Lott, and Patricia Hall Lott; Children's Chapel Altar: in loving memory of Ruth and Caroline Clahane; War Memorial Chapel Altar: to the glory of God and in loving memory of William Donald Rolar and Elsie Jeannette Rolar; Dulin Bay: in memory of J. Clifford Folger; Folger Bay: in memory of J. Clifford Folger; Bethlehem Chapel Altar: in memory of Edith Sprenger and Norman Sprenger, Willard Ching and Charles Bell; Norman Prince Tomb in St. John's Chapel: in honor of Norman Prince.

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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. Gifts may also be made online by scanning the QR code at the left, or by texting the dollar amount you wish to give to 202-856-9005.

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

