



Choral Evensong

The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

July 7, 2024 • 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

Pastoral Improvisation

Felton Rapley (1907–1976)

The people stand as able as the procession enters.

HYMN • 29

O Trinity of Blessed Light

Sung by all.

Bromley

1. O Trin - i - ty of bless - ed light, O U - ni - ty of prince - ly might,
 2. To thee our morn - ing song of praise, to thee our eve - ning prayer we raise;
 3. To God the Fa - ther, heaven - ly Light, to Christ re - vealed in earth - ly night,

the fier - y sun now goes his way; shed thou with - in our hearts thy ray.
 O grant us with thy saints on high to praise thee through e - ter - ni - ty.
 to God the Ho - ly Ghost we raise our e - qual and un - ceas - ing praise.

THE OPENING SENTENCES FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE

PRECES

Richard Ayleward (1626–1669)

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 • III

Sung by the choir.

chant: Richard Woodward (ca. 1743–1777)

Hallelujah!
I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart,
in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.
Great are the deeds of the Lord!
they are studied by all who delight in them.
His work is full of majesty and splendor,
and his righteousness endures for ever.
He makes his marvelous works to be remembered;
the Lord is gracious and full of compassion.
He gives food to those who fear him;
he is ever mindful of his covenant.
He has shown his people the power of his works
in giving them the lands of the nations.
The works of his hands are faithfulness and justice;
all his commandments are sure.
They stand fast for ever and ever,
because they are done in truth and equity.
He sent redemption to his people;
he commanded his covenant for ever;
holy and awesome is his Name.
The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom;
those who act accordingly have a good understanding;
his praise endures for 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.

Hallelujah!
 Happy are they who fear the Lord
 and have great delight in his commandments!
 Their descendants will be mighty in the land;
 the generation of the upright will be blessed.
 Wealth and riches will be in their house,
 and their righteousness will last for ever.
 Light shines in the darkness for the upright;
 the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.
 It is good for them to be generous in lending
 and to manage their affairs with justice.
 For they will never be shaken;
 the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.
 They will not be afraid of any evil rumors;
 their heart is right;
 they put their trust in the Lord.
 Their heart is established and will not shrink,
 until they see their desire upon their enemies.
 They have given freely to the poor,
 and their righteousness stands fast for ever;
 they will hold up their head with honor.
 The wicked will see it and be angry;
 they will gnash their teeth and pine away;
 the desires of the wicked will perish.
 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.

Hallelujah!
 Give praise, you servants of the Lord;
 praise the Name of the Lord.
 Let the Name of the Lord be blessed,
 from this time forth for evermore.
 From the rising of the sun to its going down
 let the Name of the Lord be praised.
 The Lord is high above all nations,
 and his glory above the heavens.
 Who is like the Lord our God, who sits enthroned on high,
 but stoops to behold the heavens and the earth?
 He takes up the weak out of the dust
 and lifts up the poor from the ashes.
 He sets them with the princes,
 with the princes of his people.
 He makes the woman of a childless house
 to be a joyful mother of children.
 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 Lord said to Moses, "Go up this mountain of the Abarim range, and see the land that I have given to the Israelites. When you have seen it, you also shall be gathered to your people, as your brother Aaron was, because you rebelled against my word in the wilderness of Zin when the congregation quarreled with me. You did not show my holiness before their eyes at the waters." (These are the waters of Meribah of Kadesh in the wilderness of Zin.) Moses spoke to the Lord, saying, "Let the Lord, the God of the spirits of all flesh, appoint someone over the congregation who shall go out before them and come in before them, who shall lead them out and bring them in, so that the congregation of the Lord may not be like sheep without a shepherd." So the Lord said to Moses, "Take Joshua son of Nun, a man in whom is the spirit, and lay your hand upon him; have him stand before Eleazar the priest and all the congregation, and commission him in their sight. You shall give him some of your authority, so that all the congregation of the Israelites may obey. But he shall stand before Eleazar the priest, who shall inquire for him by the decision of the Urim before the Lord; at his word they shall go out, and at his word they shall come in, both he and all the Israelites with him, the whole congregation." So Moses did as the Lord commanded him. He took Joshua and had him stand before Eleazar the priest and the whole congregation; he laid his hands on him and commissioned him—as the Lord had directed through Moses.

Here ends the reading.

The people remain seated as the choir sings.

MAGNIFICAT

"Collegium Regale" Evening Service; Herbert Howells (1892–1983)

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)

After John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.” As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, “Follow me and I will make you fish for people.” And immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

Here ends the reading.

The people remain seated as the choir sings.

NUNC DIMITTIS

“*Collegium Regale*” Evening Service; H. Howells

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. Ayleward

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. Ayleward

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.

O God, who hast taught us to keep all thy commandments by loving thee and our neighbor: Grant us the grace of thy Holy Spirit, that we may be devoted to thee with our whole heart, and united to one another with pure affection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and 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, by scanning the QR code on the back of this leaflet, or online at cathedral.org/give.

ANTHEM

Verleih uns Frieden

Sung by the choir.

Felix Mendelssohn (1809–1847)

Sung in German.

Give peace in our time, O Lord, because there is none other who can fight for us, but only you, O Lord.

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 • 549

Jesus Calls Us; O'er the Tumult

Sung by all.

St. Andrew

1. Je - sus calls us; o'er the tu - mult of our life's wild, rest-less sea,
 2. as, of old, Saint An-drew heard it by the Gal - i - le - an lake,
 3. Je - sus calls us from the wor - ship of the vain world's gold-en store;
 4. In our joys and in our sor - rows, days of toil and hours of ease,
 5. Je - sus calls us! By thy mer - cies, Sav - ior, may we hear thy call,

1. day by day his clear voice sound - eth, say - ing,
 2. turned from home and toil and kin - dred, leav - ing
 3. from each i - dol that would keep us, say - ing,
 4. still he calls, in cares and plea - sures, "Chris - tian,
 5. give our hearts to thine o - be - dience, serve and

1. "Chris - tian, fol - low me;" say - ing, "Chris - tian, fol - low me;"
 2. all for his dear sake, leav - ing all for his dear sake.
 3. "Chris - tian, love me more," say - ing, "Chris - tian, love me more."
 4. love me more than these." "Chris - tian, love me more than these."
 5. love thee best of all, serve and love thee best of all.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

"Fugue" from Organ Sonata No. 2

F. Mendelssohn

PARTICIPANTS Officiant: The Reverend Dr. Olivia P. L. Hilton; Musicians: The Cathedral Choir, Thomas M. Sheehan, Organist and Associate Director of Music, Julie DeBoer, Chorister Program Director and Associate Director of Music.

FLOWERS The flowers throughout the Cathedral are given to the glory of God. The High Altar: in memory of Josef Remböck and Josefa Remböck; St. Mary's Chapel Altar: in loving memory of and in thanksgiving for Leila Pomeroy Crosman; Holy Spirit Chapel Altar: in memory of Thomas O. Woodward; Children's Chapel Altar: in honor of Anne Rhoades Dettmer; War Memorial Chapel Altar: in loving memory of Daisy Johnson Leedy; Bethlehem Chapel Altar: in memory of Elsa Palmer Deshler; Children's Chapel Font: in honor of children whose ancestors served in the American Revolution.

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ORGAN RENOVATION PROJECT The Cathedral is under active construction as part of the Organ Renovation Project, and St. John's Chapel is currently closed and inaccessible. Learn more about the Organ Renovation at www.cathedral.org/organ.

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

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