

Choral Evensong

The Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

October 27, 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.

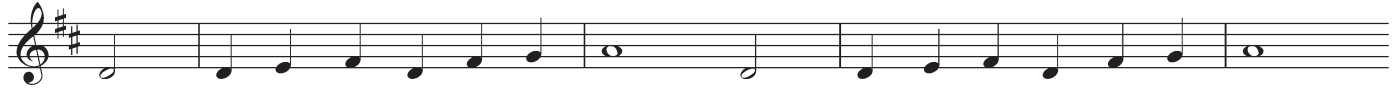
The people's responses are in bold.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Voluntary in G major, Z. 720

Henry Purcell (1659–1695)

The people stand as able as the procession enters.

*All Creatures of Our God and King**Sung by all.**Lasst uns erfreuen*

1. All crea-tures of our God and King, lift up your voic - es, let us sing:
2. Great rush - ing winds and breez - es soft, you clouds that ride the heav'ns a - loft,
3. Swift flow - ing wa - ter, pure and clear, make mu - sic for your Lord to hear,
4. Dear mo - ther earth, you day by day un - fold your bless - ings on our way,
5. All you with mer - cy in your heart, for - giv - ing o - thers, take your part,
6. And e - ven you, most gen - tle death, wait - ing to hush our fi - nal breath,
7. Let all things their cre - a - tor bless, and wor - ship him in hum - ble - ness,



1. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Bright burn - ing sun with gold - en beams,
2. O___ praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! Fair ris - ing morn, with praise re - joice,
3. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Fire, so in - tense and fierce - ly bright,
4. O___ praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! All flow'rs and fruits that in you grow,
5. O___ sing now: Al - le - lu - ia! All you that pain and sor - row bear,
6. O___ praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! You lead back home the child of God,
7. O___ praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! Praise God the Fa - ther, praise the Son,



1. pale sil - ver moon that gen - tly gleams,
2. stars night - ly shin - ing, find a voice,
3. you give to us both warmth and light,
4. let them his glo - ry al - so show:
5. praise God, and cast on him your care:
6. for Christ our Lord that way has trod:
7. and praise the Spi - rit, Three in One:

Refrain

O praise him, O



praise him, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

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.

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.

Before you speak, learn; and before you fall ill, take care of your health. Before judgement comes, examine yourself; and at the time of scrutiny you will find forgiveness. Before falling ill, humble yourself; and when you have sinned, repent. Let nothing hinder you from paying a vow promptly, and do not wait until death to be released from it. Before making a vow, prepare yourself; do not be like one who puts the Lord to the test. Think of his wrath on the day of death, and of the moment of vengeance when he turns away his face. In the time of plenty think of the time of hunger; in days of wealth think of poverty and need. From morning to evening conditions change; all things move swiftly before the Lord. One who is wise is cautious in everything; when sin is all around, one guards against wrongdoing. Every intelligent person knows wisdom, and praises the one who finds her. Those who are skilled in words become wise themselves, and pour forth apt proverbs. Do not follow your base desires, but restrain your appetites. If you allow your soul to take pleasure in base desire, it will make you the laughingstock of your enemies. Do not revel in great luxury, or you may become impoverished by its expense. Do not become a beggar by feasting with borrowed money, when you have nothing in your purse.

Here ends the reading.

The people remain seated as the choir sings.

MAGNIFICAT

Evening Service in G major, Op. 81; Charles V. 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)

Jesus said to the disciples, "If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

Here ends the reading.

The people remain seated as the choir sings.

NUNC DIMITTIS

Evening Service in G major, Op. 81; 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

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, give unto us the increase of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain that which thou dost promise, make us to love that which thou dost command; through Jesus Christ our Lord, 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:

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

I Love All Beauteous Things

Sung by the choir.

Judith Weir (b. 1954)

I love all beauteous things,
I seek and adore them;
God hath no better praise,
And man in his hasty days
Is honored for them.

I too will something make
And joy in the making;
Altho' to-morrow it seem
Like the empty words of a dream
Remembered on waking.

(Robert Bridges, 1844–1930)

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.

*Blessed Jesus, at Thy Word**Sung by all.**Liebster Jesu*

1. Bless-ed Je - sus, at thy word we are gath - ered all to hear thee; let our hearts and
 2. All our know - ledge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est dark - ness shroud - ed, till thy Spi - rit
 3. Gra - cious Lord, thy - self im - part! Light of Light, from God pro - ceed - ing, o - pen thou our

souls be stirred now to seek and love and fear thee; by thy teach - ings
 breaks our night with the beams of truth un - cloud - ed; thou a - lone to
 ears and heart, help us by thy Spi - rit's plead - ing. Hear the cry thy

pure and ho - ly, drawn from earth to love thee sole - ly.
 God canst win us; thou must work all good with - in us.
 Church up - rais - es; hear, and bless our prayers and prais - es.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

"Toccatà" from Suite, Op. 5

Maurice Durufé (1902–1986)

PARTICIPANTS Officiant: The Reverend Canon Rosemarie Logan Duncan, Canon for Worship; Musicians: The Girls Cathedral Choir, Thomas M. Sheehan, Organist and Interim 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 Dr. and Mrs. Marcus Benjamin; St. Mary's Chapel Altar: in memory of Mary Virginia Gatewood Peck; Children's Chapel Altar: in thanksgiving for the life of Mrs. Calvin K. Schwing.

*Those wishing to make flower gifts for Thanksgiving Day
are invited to submit their gifts by October 31 to the Altar Guild.*

PERMISSIONS Texts of the Old Testament and Gospel taken from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, Copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA. Used by permission. All rights reserved. *Phos hilaron*, psalm, canticles, suffrages, prayers, creed, collects, and thanksgiving taken from the Book of Common Prayer, 1979. Public domain. *All Creatures of Our God and King*. Text: St. Francis of Assisi (1182–1226); tr. William H. Draper (1855–1933), alt. Music: *Lasst uns erfreuen*. From *Auserlesene Catholische Gesitliche Kirchengeseng*, 1623; adapt. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958). Public domain. *Blessed Jesus, at Thy Word*. Text: Tobias Clausnitzer (1619–1684); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827–1878), alt. Music: *Liebster Jesu*. Johann Rudolph Ahle (1625–1673). Public domain. All Cathedral worship services are livestreamed via video for our online congregation. By participating in this service you acknowledge that you may be visible on live broadcast or archived video. If you are uncomfortable about the possibility of appearing on video, please see an usher to be reseated in a more private area.

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.

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. • By scanning the QR code at the left. • Online at cathedral.org/give.

Thank you for your generosity.