



CHORAL EVENSONG

*in Thanksgiving for*

# Cathedral Volunteers

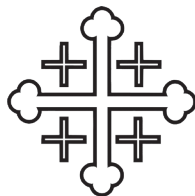
---

May 21, 2025

5pm







Washington National Cathedral would not be able to fulfill its mission without the more than 800 Cathedral volunteers we celebrate through this service of Choral Evensong. Serving across all areas of Cathedral ministries and programs, Cathedral volunteers reflect the faith, joy, and welcome at the heart of all that we do. We are strengthened by your passion for the work that we undertake together and humbled by your enduring commitment to offering your time and talents to this sacred place.

For all these gifts, and for the gift of your friendship, thank you.

#### A PRAYER FOR THOSE WHO VOLUNTEER IN CHURCHES

Everlasting God, strengthen and sustain  
all those who volunteer in our churches;  
That with patience and understanding  
they may love and care for your people;  
And grant that together they may follow Jesus Christ,  
offering to you their gifts and talents;  
Through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
One God, for ever and ever.  
Amen.



# CHORAL EVENSONG

*in*

## Thanksgiving for Cathedral Volunteers

May 21, 2025 • 5:00 PM

---

*The people's responses are in bold.*

### ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Praeludium in D major, Bwv WV 139

Dieterich Buxtehude (ca. 1637–1707)

*The people stand as able as the procession enters.*

### HYMN • 594

*God of Grace and God of Glory*

*Sung by all.*

*Cwm Rhondda*

1. God of grace and God of glo - ry, on thy peo - ple pour thy power; crown thine an - cient  
2. Lo! the hosts of e - vil round us scorn thy Christ, as - sail his ways! From the fears that  
3. Cure thy chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness, bend our pride to thy con - trol; shame our wan - ton,  
4. Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils we de - plore; let the gift of

Church - 's sto - ry; bring her bud to glo - rious flower. Grant us wis - dom,  
long have bound us free our hearts to faith and praise: grant us wis - dom,  
self - ish glad - ness, rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom,  
thy sal - va - tion be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom,

grant us cour - age, for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.  
grant us cour - age, for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.  
grant us cour - age, lest we miss thy king - dom's goal, lest we miss thy king - dom's goal.  
grant us cour - age, serv - ing thee whom we a - dore, serv - ing thee whom we a - dore.

## THE OPENING SENTENCES FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE

On this day the Lord has acted; we will rejoice and be glad in it. *Psalm 118:24*

Give thanks to the Lord, and call upon his Name; make known his deeds among the peoples. *Psalm 105:1*

## PRECES

Gary Davison (b. 1961)

*Cantor* O Lord, open thou our lips;  
*Choir* And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.  
*Cantor* O God, make speed to save us;  
*Choir* O Lord, make haste to help us.  
*Cantor* 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.  
*Cantor* Praise ye the Lord.  
*Choir* The Lord's Name be praised.

*The candles are lighted as the choir sings.*

## PHOS HILARON

G. Davison

*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.*

Let your compassion come to me, that I may live,  
for your law is my delight.  
Let the arrogant be put to shame, for they wrong me with lies;  
but I will meditate on your commandments.  
Let those who fear you turn to me,  
and also those who know your decrees.  
Let my heart be sound in your statutes,  
that I may not be put to shame.  
My soul has longed for your salvation;  
I have put my hope in your word.  
My eyes have failed from watching for your promise,  
and I say, “When will you comfort me?”  
I have become like a leather flask in the smoke,  
but I have not forgotten your statutes.  
How much longer must I wait?  
when will you give judgment against those who persecute me?  
The proud have dug pits for me;  
they do not keep your law.  
All your commandments are true;  
help me, for they persecute me with lies.  
They had almost made an end of me on earth,  
but I have not forsaken your commandments.  
In your loving-kindness, revive me,  
that I may keep the decrees of your mouth.  
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

Numbers 11:16-17, 24-29

The Lord said to Moses, “Gather for me seventy of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them; bring them to the tent of meeting, and have them take their place there with you. I will come down and talk with you there; and I will take some of the spirit that is on you and put it on them; and they shall bear the burden of the people along with you so that you will not bear it all by yourself.” So Moses went out and told the people the words of the Lord; and he gathered seventy elders of the people, and placed them all around the tent. Then the Lord came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders; and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again. Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. And a young man ran and told Moses, “Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.” And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, “My lord Moses, stop them!” But Moses said to him, “Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the Lord’s people were prophets, and that the Lord would put his spirit on them!”

Here ends the reading.

*The people remain seated as the choir sings.*

## MAGNIFICAT

Evening Service; 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

Ephesians 4:11-16

The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

Here ends the reading.

*The people remain seated as the choir sings.*

## NUNC DIMITTIS

Evening Service; 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.*

*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. Davison

*Cantor* The Lord be with you.  
*Choir* And with thy spirit.  
*Cantor* 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. Davison

*Cantor* O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;  
*Choir* And grant us thy salvation.  
*Cantor* O Lord, save the State;  
*Choir* And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.  
*Cantor* Endue thy ministers with righteousness;  
*Choir* And make thy chosen people joyful.  
*Cantor* O Lord, save thy people;  
*Choir* And bless thine inheritance.  
*Cantor* Give peace in our time, O Lord;  
*Choir* Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.  
*Cantor* 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 Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know thy Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leadeth to eternal life; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

O God, who art the life of all who live, the light of the faithful, the strength of those who labor, and the repose of the dead: We thank thee for the timely blessings of the day, and humbly beseech thy merciful protection all the night. Bring us, we pray thee, in safety to the morning hours; through him who died for us and rose again, thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ. 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 everywhere love thee and serve thee in peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*The collects conclude with:*

*Cantor* 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](http://cathedral.org/give).*

## ANTHEM

*An Easter Sequence*

*Sung by the choir.*

Kenneth Leighton (1922–1988)

Alleluia, Alleluia. Rejoice to God our helper: Sing aloud to the God of Jacob.

Alleluia, Alleluia. On the day of my resurrection, saith the Lord, I will go before you into Galilee. After eight days, the door being shut, Jesus stood in the midst of his disciples and said 'Peace be to you.' Alleluia.

An angel of the Lord descended from heaven and said to the women: 'He whom ye seek is risen, as he said.' Alleluia.

The Lord is my shepherd: therefore can I lack nothing. He shall feed me in a green pasture: and lead me forth beside the waters of comfort. He shall convert my soul: and bring me forth in the paths of righteousness for his Name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me, thy rod and thy staff comfort me. But thy loving kindness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Alleluia, Alleluia. I am the good shepherd, I know my sheep, and my sheep know me. Alleluia.

God is ascended in jubilee, and the Lord in the sound of the trumpet. Alleluia. Rejoice to God our helper, Sing aloud to the God of Jacob.

*(Liber usualis, 1964)*

*The people stand as able.*

## THE CONCLUDING PRAYER

O Lord, without whom our labor is lost: We beseech you to prosper all works in your Church undertaken according to your holy will. Grant to your workers a pure intention, a patient faith, sufficient success on earth, and the blessedness of serving you in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## 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 dean blesses the people, and the people respond, Amen.*

## HYMN • 493

*O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing*

*Sung by all.*

*Azmon*



1. O for a thou - sand tongues to sing, my dear Re - deem - er's praise,  
2. My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, as - sist me to pro - claim  
3. Je - sus! the Name that charms our fears, and bids our sor - rows cease;  
4. He speaks; and, lis - tening to his voice, new life the dead re - ceive,  
5. Hear him, ye deaf: ye voice-less ones, your loos-ened tongues em - ploy;



1. the glo - ries of my God and King, the tri umphs of his grace!  
2. and spread through all the earth a - broad the hon - ors of thy Name.  
3. 'tis mu - sic in the sin - ner's ears, 'tis life and health and peace.  
4. the mourn - ful bro - ken hearts re - joice, the hum - ble poor be - lieve.  
5. ye blind, be - hold, your Sa - vior comes; and leap, ye lame, for joy!

6. Glory to God and praise and love  
be now and ever giv en  
by saints below and saints above,  
the Church in earth and heav en.

## ORGAN VOLUNTARY

*Paeon*

K. Leighton



# SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

## OFFICIANT

The Very Reverend Randolph Marshall Hollerith  
*Dean*

## CANTOR

The Reverend Canon Rosemarie Logan Duncan  
*Canon for Worship*

## ASSISTING CLERGY

The Reverend Canon Jan Naylor Cope  
*Provost*

The Reverend Canon Leonard L. Hamlin, Sr.  
*Canon Missioner and Minister of Equity and Inclusion*

The Reverend Patrick L. Keyser  
*Associate Priest for Worship*

The Reverend Spencer W. Brown  
*Priest Associate*

## READERS

Daniel Weatherholt  
Carmini Luther

## MUSICIANS

The Girls Cathedral Choir

Thomas M. Sheehan  
*Organist and Interim Director of Music*

Julie DeBoer  
*Chorister Program Director and Associate Director of Music*

Edward Hewes  
*Associate Organist*

A. Scott Wood  
*Director of Instrumental Music and Chair, Music Department  
National Cathedral School & St. Albans School*

*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](https://cathedral.org/give).  
By texting the dollar amount you wish to give to 202-856-9005.

*Thank you for your generosity.*

## 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.

**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. *God of Grace and God of Glory*. Text: Harry Emerson Fosdick (1878–1969). Music: *Cwm Rhondda*. John Hughes (1873–1932). Public domain. *O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing*. Text: Charles Wesley (1707–1788). Music: *Azmon*. C. G. Gläser (1781–1829), adapt. Lowell Mason (1792–1872). 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.

