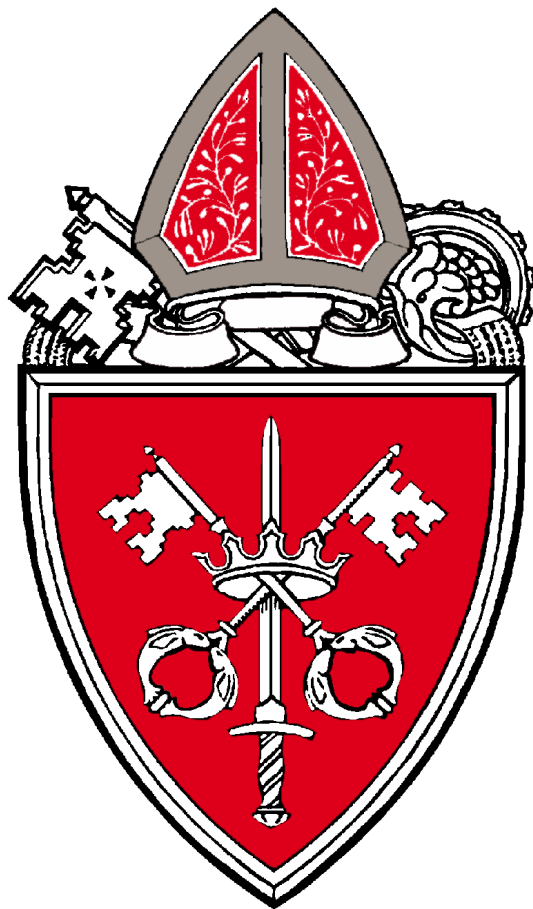


CHORAL EVENSONG

with

Admission & Valediction of Cathedral Acolytes



THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST:
TRINITY SUNDAY

May 31, 2026

4:00 PM

WASHINGTON NATIONAL CATHEDRAL

THE ACOLYTES OF THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF SAINT PETER & SAINT PAUL

The word acolyte is derived from the Greek word *akolouthos*, meaning “attendant” or “follower.” The spiritual heritage of the acolyte ministry is rooted in the Old Testament, where the young prophet Samuel assists Eli, the Levite priest. The first historical written record dates to third century Rome in a letter from Pope Cornelius to the bishop of Antioch. In the letter, the pope lists the clergy of Rome, including 42 acolytes.

These early acolytes had functions very similar to those of the modern day: they prepared the altar for worship, led processions, accompanied the Gospel Book with candles, and generally assisted priests during the Holy Eucharist. As today, these early acolytes gave strong witness to their faith and were dedicated leaders of their worship community.

Acolytes have been an important part of the worship life at Washington National Cathedral since the Cathedral first began holding services in 1912. That tradition carries on today.

2025–2026

Henry Barnett, *Head Acolyte*
Gabriel Donoghue, *Head Acolyte*
Amber Lin, *Head Acolyte*
George Gibson
Benjy Kuersteiner
Lily Laroski
Ainsley Lashway
Kevin Shin
Rylea Whitfield
Olivia Wu

2026–2027

Amber Lin, *Head Acolyte*
Kevin Shin, *Assistant Head Acolyte*
Olivia Wu, *Assistant Head Acolyte*
Rory Faucett
George Gibson
Benjy Kuersteiner
Lily Laroski
Ainsley Lashway
Leo Mosoti
Rylea Whitfield



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May 31, 2026 • 4:00 PM

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

O Lux Beata Trinitas

Amy Summers (b. 1996)

The people stand as able as the procession enters.

HYMN • 365

Come, Thou Almighty King

Sung by all.

Moscow

1. Come, thou al-might - y King, help us thy Name to sing, help us to praise. Fa - ther whose
 2. Come, thou in - car - nate Word, by heaven and earth a - dored; our prayer at - tend: come, and thy
 3. Come, ho - ly Com - fort - er, thy sa - cred wit - ness bear in this glad hour: thou, who al -
 4. To Thee, great One in Three, the high - est prais - es be, hence ev - er - more; thy sov - e - reign

love un-known all things cre - at - ed own, build in our hearts thy throne, An-cient of Days.
 peo - ple bless; come, give thy word suc - cess; stab - lish thy right - eous - ness, Sa - vior and friend.
 might - y art, now rule in ev - ery heart, and ne'er from us de - part, Spi - rit of power.
 ma - jes - ty may we in glo - ry see, and to e - ter - ni - ty love and a - dore.

THE OPENING SENTENCES FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was, and is, and is to come. *Revelation 4:8*

It is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. *2 Corinthians 4:6*

PRECES

Stephen Caracciolo (b. 1962)

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.
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.
Cantor Praise ye the Lord.
Choir The Lord's Name be praised.

The candles are lighted as the choir sings.

PHOS HILARON

S. Caracciolo

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 • 112

Sung by the choir.

chant: Edgar Priest (1878–1935)

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.

THE FIRST LESSON

1 Samuel 3:1-10

The boy Samuel was ministering to the Lord under Eli. The word of the Lord was rare in those days; visions were not widespread. At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the Lord, where the ark of God was. Then the Lord called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and he said, "Here I am!" and ran to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down. The Lord called again, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. The Lord called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the Lord was calling the boy. Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place. Now the Lord came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

Here ends the reading.

The people remain seated as the choir sings.

MAGNIFICAT

Evening Service in E major; Sydney Watson (1903–1991)

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 next day John saw Jesus coming towards him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel." And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God."

Here ends the reading.

The people remain seated as the choir sings.

NUNC DIMITTIS

Evening Service in E major; S. Watson

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

S. Caracciolo

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

S. Caracciolo

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.

Almighty and everlasting God, who hast given unto us thy servants grace, by the confession of a true faith, to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity, and in the power of the Divine Majesty to worship the Unity: We beseech thee that thou wouldest keep us steadfast in this faith and worship, and bring us at last to see thee in thy one and eternal glory, O Father; who with the Son and the Holy Spirit livest and reignest, 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.

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.

THE ADMISSION OF ACOLYTES

Rory Faucett and Leo Mosoti are presented, examined, and admitted to be acolytes in the Cathedral Church of Saint Peter and Saint Paul.

The people greet the new acolytes with applause.

THE COMMISSIONING OF ASSISTANT HEAD ACOLYTES

Kevin Shin and Olivia Wu are commissioned as assistant head acolytes.

The people greet the new assistant head acolytes with applause.

THE VALEDICTION OF ACOLYTES

Henry Barnett and Gabriel Donoghue are recognized for their service as acolytes.

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Officiant Let us pray.

Gracious God we thank you for the work and witness of your servants Henry and Gabriel. They have enriched the ministry of this Cathedral through their service. They have brought gladness to friends, family, and visitors. They have offered leadership to this community of worship by word and example. Bless and preserve them as they leave this familiar place of service and seek new ways to serve you. Guide them in the continued use of your gifts of servant leadership. Keep them ever mindful of your love. Give them sustenance for spiritual maturing, friends to cheer their way, and a clear vision of the ministry to which you now call them. By your Holy Spirit, be present in their spiritual pilgrimage all the days of their lives that they may travel with you: the Way, the Truth, and the Life. In your holy Name we pray.

People Amen.

The people greet the retiring acolytes with applause.

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 Saw the Lord

Sung by the choir.

John Stainer (1840–1901)

I saw the Lord, sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and his train filled the temple.
Above it stood the seraphims: each one had six wings; with twain he covered his face, and with twain he covered his feet, and with twain he did fly.
And one cried unto another, Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory.
And the posts of the door moved at the voice of him that cried, and the house was filled with smoke.
O Trinity! O Unity!
Be present as we worship thee,
And with the songs that angels sing
Unite the hymns of praise we bring.
Amen.

(first stanza from Isaiah 6:1-4; second stanza from Ave, colenda Trinitas, anonymous Latin, trans. John David Chambers, 1803–1893)

The people stand as able.

THE ACOLYTE PRAYER

Said by all acolytes.

Almighty God, who has called us your servants to the sacred office of acolyte in your Church, that clothed in white we may minister before you, we pray your great mercy to guide, strengthen, and sanctify us by your Holy Spirit, that, always doing your will, we may both by our service in your house and by our daily life, please you and glorify your Name; 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 • 368

Holy Father, Great Creator

Sung by all.

Regent Square

1. Ho - ly Fa - ther, great Cre - a - tor, source of mer - cy, love, and peace,
2. Ho - ly Je - sus, Lord of glo - ry, whom an - gel - ic hosts pro - claim,
3. Ho - ly Spi - rit, Sanc - ti - fi - er, come with unc - tion from a - bove,
4. God the Lord, through ev - ery na - tion let thy won - drous mer - cies shine.

look up - on the Me - di - a - tor, clothe us with his right - eous - ness;
while we hear thy won - drous sto - ry, meet and wor - ship in thy Name,
touch our hearts with sa - cred fire, fill them with the Sa - vior's love.
In the song of thy sal - va - tion ev - ery tongue and race com - bine.

heaven - ly Fa - ther, heaven - ly Fa - ther, through the Sa - vior hear and bless.
dear Re - deem - er, dear Re - deem - er, in our hearts thy peace pro - claim.
Source of com - fort, Source of com - fort, cheer us with the Sa - vior's love.
Great Je - ho - vah, Great Je - ho - vah, form our hearts and make them thine.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Improvisation

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

OFFICIANT

The Very Reverend Randolph Marshall Hollerith
Dean

CANTOR

The Reverend Canon Rosemarie Logan Duncan
Canon Precentor

ASSISTING MINISTERS

The Reverend Canon Dana Colley Corsello
Canon Vicar

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

The Reverend Eva Kopp Cavaleri
Senior Chaplain, National Cathedral School

The Reverend Brooks F. Hundley
Senior Chaplain, St. Albans School

The Reverend Melissa K. Hollerith
Upper School Chaplain, St. Albans School

The Venerable Steve Seely
Archdeacon, Episcopal Diocese of Washington

READERS

Canon Elinor Scully
Head, National Cathedral School

Canon Jason Robinson
Headmaster, St. Albans School

MUSICIANS

The Cathedral Choir

Edward Hewes
Associate Director of Music and Cathedral Organist

Ariana Corbin
Organ Scholar

VERGERS

G. Scott Sanders
Head Cathedral Verger

Simone Bramble
Cathedral Verger & Acolyte Master

Joyce Michelini
Mildred Reyes

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.

FLOWERS The flowers throughout the Cathedral are given to the glory of God and in thanksgiving for the Cathedral sextons.

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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.

LIVESTREAMED SERVICES

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.

ASSISTIVE LISTENING DEVICES

Sound amplification is available for worship services held in the nave. Please ask an usher for the appropriate device.

