



CHORAL EVENSONG

Sunday, February 28, 2021

Four o'clock in the afternoon

Among the many possible ways of Christian worship, the service of evensong, also known as evening prayer, is remarkable both for the centuries-old liturgical tradition it represents and for the atmosphere of contemplative devotion that enables it to remain deeply meaningful for worshippers today. The liturgy traces its origins to the daily rites of the medieval church and has been said or sung regularly in its current form since the sixteenth century. All the words have been shaped and refined by long use and by renewed attempts to express the mysteries of God.

For some people it is music, not words, that carries them into the presence of God: and for others it is silence. Most of us need all three – words, music and silence – to lead us into the spirit of worship. So this service provides a liturgical, architectural and musical space in which one may gather the preoccupations and anxieties of life and hold them together with a recollection of the God whose saving acts we celebrate.

Many find that through participation by silent attention while ministers and choir speak and sing in their name, they make the words and music their own. Once you have quietly offered those preoccupations which may be cluttering your mind, you are free to go on to offer to God all that you are. It is then that this service is experienced for what it is – an act of worship, in the Spirit, expressing our thanksgiving and hopes to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Voluntary

Slow Air

Herbert Howells

The Preces

Martin Neary

*Cantor &
Choir*

O Lord, open thou our lips;
And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.
O God, make speed to save us;
O Lord, make haste to help us.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever
shall be: world without end. Amen.
Praise ye the Lord.
The Lord's name be praised.

Psalm 63:1-8

Tone VIII 3

O God thou art my God, early will I seek thee. My soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh also longeth after thee, in a barren and dry land where no water is. Thus have I looked for thee in holiness, that I might behold thy power and glory. For thy loving-kindness is better than the life itself, my lips shall praise thee. As long as I live will I magnify thee on this manner and lift up my hands in thy name. My soul shall be satisfied, even as it were with marrow and fatness, when my mouth praiseth thee with joyful lips. Have I not remembered thee in my bed, and thought upon thee when I was waking? Because thou hast been my helper, therefore under the shadow of thy wings will I rejoice. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Lesson Jeremiah 1:1-10

Canticle Magnificat in G

Charles V. Stanford
Patricia Cullum, soprano

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 shewed 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 forever. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Lesson I Corinthians 3:11-23

Canticle Nunc dimittis in G

Charles V. Stanford
Ben Troxler, bass

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 Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

The Apostles' Creed *(Said by all)*

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick 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 Responses

Martin Neary

*Cantor &
Choir* The Lord be with you.
And with thy spirit.
Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

The Lord's Prayer

O Lord, show thy mercy upon us,
and grant us thy salvation.

O Lord, save the state,
and mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Endue thy ministers with righteousness,
and make thy chosen people joyful.

O Lord, save thy people,
and bless thine inheritance.

Give peace in our time, O Lord,
because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.

O God, make clean our hearts within us,
and take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

Collects

O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed: Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee we, being defended from the fear of all enemies, may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior. 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.

Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen

Anthem

Rejoice in the Lord Alway

Anonymous

Rejoice in the Lord alway, and again I say rejoice. Let your softness be known unto all men; the Lord is e'en at hand. Be careful for nothing, but in all prayer and supplication let your petitions be manifest unto God with giving of thanks. And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesu. Amen. (*Philippians 4:4-7*)

Prayers of Intercession

After each petition, all pray together in silence. After the silence:

Liturgist: Lord, in your mercy,

People: **Hear our prayer.**

All sing

Hymn 688

God, That Madest Earth and Heaven

Ar Hyd Y Nos

Blessing

Let us pray.

Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication unto thee, and hast promised through thy well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name thou wilt be in the midst of them: fulfill now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

Grace

Voluntary

Final from *Symphonie IV*

C.M. Widor

Chamber Choir of West End United Methodist Church

Soprano

Patricia Cullum
Emma Jackson

Alto

Molly Bolewski

Tenor

Kyle Collier

Bass

Patrick Dunnevant
Ben Troxler

Andrew Risinger, organist/conductor
Patrick Dunnevant, cantor • Rev. Brandon Baxter, liturgist



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