



GUILDFORD
CATHEDRAL



CATHEDRAL
MUSIC TRUST

CHORAL EVENSONG

The Cathedral choir with the Semper Fidelis Singers of Gordon's
School

Friday 8 November 2024
5.30 pm



WELCOME

CHORAL EVENSONG

Choral Evensong from the *Book of Common Prayer* is steeped in the Scriptures. The sung responses are short prayers taken from the psalms, and there are five other passages from the Bible. Two are read for us and three - the Psalmody, the *Magnificat* (Mary's Song) and the *Nunc Dimittis* (Simeon's Song) - are sung by the choir. The ministry of the musicians gives us space for reflection, adds inspirational texture to the words, and raises our hearts to join in the worship of heaven. We all join together in saying the Creed, in praying for one another with the words of the Grace at the conclusion of the Prayers, and in singing the hymns. At times posture is indicated in the order of service. Please do whatever is most comfortable for you.

GUILDFORD CATHEDRAL CHOIR

The Cathedral Choir sang for the first time at the service of consecration in May 1961. Since that date, under the direction of five organists and masters of the choristers, it has established an impressive international reputation. This reputation for excellence has been founded on the tremendous commitment, energy and enthusiasm of parents, choristers and adult singers alike. In 2002 the establishment of the Girl Choristers augmented the Cathedral's music foundation.

GORDON'S SCHOOL SEMPER FIDELIS SINGERS

The Semper Fidelis Singers is the senior choir at Gordon's School. Over the past few years, it has grown from being an all-girls' group into a fully mixed SATB choir, currently with 48 members, that rehearses twice a week. The choir now performs termly Evensongs in the school chapel as well as at other important school events, such as the Spring Concert, Carol Services and Summer Arts Festival. Outside engagements have included the Church of St. Sulpice and the Luxembourg Gardens in Paris as well as a performance in front of HRH Prince Edward at the McLaren Headquarters in Woking. The choir is now rehearsed by renowned Choral Director, Dr. Amy Bebbington.

The Schools' Evensong project is supported generously by the Cathedral Music Trust.

PRECES AND RESPONSES *Thomas Ebdon (1738-1811)*

CANTICLES Evening Service in C minor *George Dyson (1883-1964)*

Please stand as the procession enters to organ music.

OPENING VERSICLES AND RESPONSES

○ Lord, open thou our lips
and our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

○ God, make speed to save us.

○ 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.

WELCOME Canon Roy Woodhams

PSALMS 41, 42, 43

Psalm 41 *Beatus qui intelligit*

Blessed is he that considereth the poor and needy :
the Lord shall deliver him in the time of trouble.

The Lord preserve him, and keep him alive, that he may be blessed upon
earth :

and deliver not thou him into the will of his enemies.

The Lord comfort him, when he lieth sick upon his bed :
make thou all his bed in his sickness.
I said, Lord, be merciful unto me :
heal my soul, for I have sinned against thee.
Mine enemies speak evil of me :
When shall he die, and his name perish?
And if he come to see me, he speaketh vanity:
and his heart conceiveth falsehood within himself, and when he
cometh forth he telleth it.
All mine enemies whisper together against me:
even against me do they imagine this evil.
Let the sentence of guiltiness proceed against him :
and now that he lieth, let him rise up no more.
Yea, even mine own familiar friend, whom I trusted :
who did also eat of my bread, hath laid great wait for me.
But be thou merciful unto me, O Lord :
raise thou me up again, and I shall reward them.
By this I know thou favourest me :
that mine enemy doth not triumph against me.
And when I am in my health, thou upholdest me :
and shalt set me before thy face for ever.
Blessed be the Lord God of Israel :
world without end. Amen.

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.

Chant: Katherine Dienes-Williams (b. 1970)

Psalm 42 *Quemadmodum*

Like as the hart desireth the water-brooks :

so longeth my soul after thee, O God.

My soul is athirst for God, yea, even for the living God :

when shall I come to appear before the presence of God?

My tears have been my meat day and night :

while they daily say unto me, Where is now thy God?

Now when I think thereupon, I pour out my heart by myself :

for I went with the multitude, and brought them forth into the house of God;

In the voice of praise and thanksgiving :

among such as keep holy-day.

Why art thou so full of heaviness, O my soul :

and why art thou so disquieted within me?

Put thy trust in God :

for I will yet give him thanks for the help of his countenance.

My God, my soul is vexed within me :

therefore will I remember thee concerning the land of Jordan, and the little hill of Hermon.

One deep calleth another, because of the noise of the water-pipes :

all thy waves and storms are gone over me.

The Lord hath granted his loving-kindness in the day-time :

and in the night-season did I sing of him, and made my prayer unto the God of my life.

I will say unto the God of my strength, Why hast thou forgotten me :

why go I thus heavily, while the enemy oppresseth me?

My bones are smitten asunder as with a sword :

while mine enemies that trouble me cast me in the teeth;

Namely, while they say daily unto me :

Where is now thy God?

Why art thou so vexed, O my soul :

and why art thou so disquieted within me?

O put thy trust in God :

for I will yet thank him, which is the help of my countenance, and my God.

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.

Chant: Katherine Dienes-Williams (b. 1970)

Psalm 43 *Judica me, Deus*

Give sentence with me, O God, and defend my cause against the ungodly people :

O deliver me from the deceitful and wicked man.

For thou art the God of my strength, why hast thou put me from thee:
and why go I so heavily, while the enemy oppresseth me?

O send out thy light and thy truth, that they may lead me :
and bring me unto thy holy hill, and to thy dwelling.

And that I may go unto the altar of God, even unto the God of my joy
and gladness :

and upon the harp will I give thanks unto thee, O God, my God.

Why art thou so heavy, O my soul :

and why art thou so disquieted within me?

O put thy trust in God :

for I will yet give him thanks, which is the help of my countenance,
and my God.

Stand

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.

Chant: Katherine Dienes-Williams (b. 1970)

Sit

OLD TESTAMENT Isaiah 3. 1-15

For now the Sovereign, the Lord of hosts, is taking away from Jerusalem and from Judah support and staff - all support of bread, and all support of water - warrior and soldier, judge and prophet, diviner and elder, captain of fifty and dignitary, counsellor and skilful magician and expert enchanter. And I will make boys their princes, and babes shall rule over them. The people will be oppressed, everyone by another and everyone by a neighbour; the youth will be insolent to the elder, and the base to the honourable. Someone will even seize a relative, a member of the clan, saying, 'You have a cloak; you shall be our leader, and this heap of ruins shall be under your rule.' But the other will cry out on that day, saying, 'I will not be a healer; in my house there is neither bread nor cloak; you shall not make me leader of the people.' For Jerusalem has stumbled and Judah has fallen, because their speech and their deeds are against the Lord, defying his glorious presence. The look on their faces bears witness against them; they proclaim their sin like Sodom, they do not hide it. Woe to them! For they have brought evil on themselves. Tell the innocent how fortunate they are, for they shall eat the fruit of their labours. Woe to the guilty! How unfortunate they are, for what their hands have done shall be done to them. My people - children are their oppressors, and women rule over them. O my people, your leaders mislead you, and confuse the course of your paths. The Lord rises to argue his case; he stands to judge the peoples. The Lord enters into judgement with the elders and princes of his people: It is you who have devoured the vineyard; the spoil of the poor is in your houses. What do you mean by crushing my people, by grinding the face of the poor? says the Lord God of hosts.

Stand **MAGNIFICAT**

My soul doth magnify the Lord:
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.
For he hath regarded:
the lowliness of his hand-maiden.

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, for ever.

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.

Text: Luke 1.46-55

Sit **NEW TESTAMENT** Matthew 4. 1-11

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.' But he answered, 'It is written, "One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God."'

Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, 'If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, "He will command his angels concerning you", and "On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone."' Jesus said to him, 'Again it is written, "Do not put the Lord your God to the test."' Again, the devil took him to a

very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour; and he said to him, 'All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.' Jesus said to him, 'Away with you, Satan! for it is written, "Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him." ' Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

Stand **NUNC DIMITTIS**

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.

Text: Luke 2. 29-32

APOSTLES' CREED

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 Ghost,

born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, dead, and buried.

He descended into hell;

the third day he rose again from the dead;

he ascended into heaven,

and sitteth on 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 Ghost;
the holy catholick Church;
the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

THE LESSER LITANY, LORD'S PRAYER AND PRECES

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

*Sit or
kneel*

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive them that trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. Amen.
O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.
And grant us thy salvation.

O Lord, save the King.

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.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Almighty and eternal God,
you have kindled the flame of love
in the hearts of the saints:
grant to us the same faith and power of love,
that, as we rejoice in their triumphs,
we may be sustained by their example and fellowship;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

THE COLLECT FOR PEACE

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 both, our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments,
and also that, by thee,
we being defended from the fear of our enemies
may pass our time in rest and quietness;
through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour.
Amen.

THE COLLECT FOR PROTECTION

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 Saviour, Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Sit **ANTHEM**

View Me, Lord, a work of Thine;
Shall I then lie drowned in night?
Might Thy grace in me but shine,
I should seem made all of light.

Cleanse me Lord that I may kneel
At thine altar pure and white
They that once thy mercies feel
Gaze no more on earth's delight.

Worldly joys like shadows fade,
When the heavenly light appears;
But the covenants Thou hast made,
Endless, know nor days, nor years.

In Thy word, Lord, is my trust,
To Thy mercies fast I fly;
Though I am but clay and dust,
Yet Thy grace can lift me high.

Music: Richard Lloyd (1933-2021)

Text: Thomas Campion (1567-1620)

THE PRAYERS

The prayers conclude with

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be with us all evermore. Amen.**

BLESSING

The peace of God,
which passes all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds
in the knowledge and love of God,
and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

On a Rouen Church melody *Peter Hurford (1930-2019)*

All remain standing as the choir and clergy process out.

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