Choral Evensong

The First Sunday in Lent

March 1, 2020

4:30 PM

Choral Evensong in this cathedral is a tiny fragment of something else: it is part of the worship which is offered to God by Christian people every hour of the day and night, in every part of the world.

When you come to Evensong here, it is as if you were dropping in on a conversation already in progress—a conversation between God and his people which began long before you were born and which will continue long after your death. So, do not be surprised or disturbed if there are some things which you do not understand straight away. For a brief moment, you step into the continual stream of worship which is being offered today and which will be offered to the end of time. You are one with those who worship here on earth and in heaven.

—adapted from the Evensong bulletin of Saint Paul’s Cathedral, London.
Welcome to this celebration of Choral Evensong. Please be aware that incense will be used. Out of respect for the liturgy we are about to celebrate, please turn off all cell phones and audible devices. Please, no photography during the liturgy.

A basket is available to make a goodwill offering as you leave; your generosity supports the mission and ministries of this Cathedral. You may also make a donation using the Venmo mobile app (@SaintMarksCathedralSeattle, or scan the code at right).

At this service, the choir and assembly are seated in a configuration reminiscent of the chancel of a medieval English cathedral, with the two halves of the choir facing each other across the center aisle. The Evensong Choir of Saint Mark’s sat in this arrangement for all the evensong services during their residencies at Ely and Saint Paul’s, London, in the summer of 2018. This arrangement of the worship space is made possible by the many donors whose generous gifts have underwritten the cathedral chairs in the nave, as acknowledged on the plaques.

As part of our effort to serve those who cannot attend worship, this service will be livestreamed on the internet. We are grateful for your presence and participation in this community.

OFFICIANT
The Very Reverend Steven L. Thomason

VERGER
Sharon Ferguson

THURIFER
Russ Campbell

ACOLYTE
Ray Miller

LECTORS
Susan McClung
Peter McClung

USHERS
Katie Russell
Julie Lutz

MUSICIANS
The Evensong Choir,
Michael Kleinschmidt & Rebekah Gilmore, conducting
John Stuntebeck, Organist

PRELUDE
Kyrie “Cunctipotens Genitor Deus” from the Faenza Codex
Anonymous (14th century Italian)

A bell bids all to stand as they are able for the procession of choir and ministers.

PROCESSION

THE INVITATORY & PSALTER

PRECES
sung by the Officiant and Choir

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.

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.
All are invited to sing this hymn in a continuous round, the north side starting, the south side following one measure later.

1. O gracious Light, Lord Jesus Christ, in you the Father's glory shone.
2. Now set comes, but light shines forth, the lamps are lit to pierce the night.
3. Wor thy are you of endless praise, O Son of God, Life-giving Lord;

Im mortal, holy, blest is he, and blest are you, his holy Son.
Praise Father, Son, and Spirit: God who dwells in the eternal light.
wherefore you are through all the earth and in the highest heav'n adored.

Please be seated.

Anglican Chant by Kellow John Pye (1812–1901)

Bless the Lord, O my soul,*
and all that is within me, bless his holy Name.

2 Bless the Lord, O my soul,*
and forget not all his benefits.

3 He forgives all your sins*
and heals all your infirmities;

4 He redeems your life from the grave*
and crowns you with mercy and loving-kindness;

5 He satisfies you with good things,*
and your youth is renewed like an eagle's.

6 The Lord executes righteousness*
and judgment for all who are oppressed.

7 He made his ways known to Moses*
and his works to the children of Israel.

8 The Lord is full of compassion and mercy,*
slow to anger and of great kindness.

9 He will not always accuse us,*
nor will he keep his anger for ever.

10 He has not dealt with us according to our sins,*
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.

11 For as the heavens are high above the earth,*
so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.

12 As far as the east is from the west,*
so far has he removed our sins from us.

13 As a father cares for his children,*
so does the Lord care for those who fear him.

14 For he himself knows whereof we are made;*
he remembers that we are but dust.

15 Our days are like the grass;*
we flourish like a flower of the field;

16 When the wind goes over it, it is gone,*
and its place shall know it no more.

17 But the merciful goodness of the Lord endures for ever on those who fear him,*
and his righteousness on children's children;

18 On those who keep his covenant*
and remember his commandments and do them.

19 The Lord has set his throne in heaven,*
and his kingship has dominion over all.

20 Bless the Lord, you angels of his,*
you mighty ones who do his bidding,*
and hearken to the voice of his word.

21 Bless the Lord, all you his hosts,*
you ministers of his who do his will.

22 Bless the Lord, all you works of his,*
in all places of his dominion;*
bless the Lord, O my soul.

Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;*
as it was in the beginning, is now,
and will be forever. Amen.
THE LESSONS

Please remain seated.

READING  Daniel 9:3–10

Then I turned to the Lord God, to seek an answer by prayer and supplication with fasting and sackcloth and ashes. I prayed to the Lord my God and made confession, saying,

“Ah, Lord, great and awesome God, keeping covenant and steadfast love with those who love you and keep your commandments, we have sinned and done wrong, acted wickedly and rebelled, turning aside from your commandments and ordinances. We have not listened to your servants the prophets, who spoke in your name to our kings, our princes, and our ancestors, and to all the people of the land.

“Righteousness is on your side, O Lord, but open shame, as at this day, falls on us, the people of Judah, the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and all Israel, those who are near and those who are far away, in all the lands to which you have driven them, because of the treachery that they have committed against you. Open shame, O Lord, falls on us, our kings, our officials, and our ancestors, because we have sinned against you. To the Lord our God belong mercy and forgiveness, for we have rebelled against him, and have not obeyed the voice of the Lord our God by following his laws, which he set before us by his servants the prophets.”

◆

Please stand as you are able.

CANTICLE  Luke 1:46–55 [The Song of Mary]  sung by the Choir

Magnificat

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 Ghost: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.
Then Jesus cried aloud: “Whoever believes in me believes not in me but in him who sent me. And whoever sees me sees him who sent me. I have come as light into the world, so that everyone who believes in me should not remain in the darkness. I do not judge anyone who hears my words and does not keep them, for I came not to judge the world, but to save the world. The one who rejects me and does not receive my word has a judge; on the last day the word that I have spoken will serve as judge, for I have not spoken on my own, but the Father who sent me has himself given me a commandment about what to say and what to speak. And I know that his commandment is eternal life. What I speak, therefore, I speak just as the Father has told me.”

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.

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 PRAYERS

SALUTATION & LESSER LITANY  sung by the Officiant and Choir

**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  chanted by all on a monotone, standing or kneeling as able

**Officiant**  Our Father,
**All**    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.

SUFFRAGES

**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.

COLLECT FOR THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan:
Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you
know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through
Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

**Choir**  Amen.
A COLLECT FOR PEACE

Most holy God, the source of all good desires, all right judgments, and all just works: Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, so that our minds may be fixed on the doing of your will, and that we, being delivered from the fear of all enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through the mercies of Christ Jesus our Savior.

Choir Amen.

A COLLECT FOR MISSION

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give your 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 your love’s sake.

Choir Amen.

Please be seated for the anthem.

ANTHEM

Also hat Gott die Welt geliebt, svw 380

Also hat Gott die Welt geliebt,   God so loved the world
dass er seinen eingebornen Sohn gab,   that he gave his only-begotten son,
auf dass alle die an ihn gläuben,    that everyone who believes in him
nicht verloren werden,    shall not perish,
sondern das ewige Leben haben.    but have everlasting life.

Please stand as you are able.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The Officiant offers prayers for the Church and the world.

THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

Officiant Almighty God, Father of all mercies,

All we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
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;
and 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,
and 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 OFFICE HYMN  O very God of very God  • sung by all, standing as able  WORDS: John Mason Neale (1818–1866)
TUNE: Bangor, attr. William Tans’ur, (c. 1699-1783)

1. O very God of very God, and very Light of Light,
2. Our hopes are weak, our fears are strong, thick darkness blinds our eyes;
3. And even now, though dull and gray, the east is brightening fast,
4. O guide us till our path is done, and we have reached the shore
5. We wait in faith, and turn our face to where the daylight springs,

1. whose feet this earth’s dark valley trod that so it might be bright:
2. cold is the night; thy people long that thou, their Sun, wouldst rise.
3. and kindling to the perfect day that never shall be past.
4. where thou, our everlasting Sun, art shining evermore!
5. till thou shalt come our gloom to chase, with healing in thy wings.

DISMISSAL

Officiant  Let us bless the Lord.

Assembly  Thanks be to God.

THE GRACE

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

All  Amen.

Please remain standing as you are able for the procession.

AT THE PROCESION  Voluntary  John Bull (1563–1628)

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