Choral Vespers

January 15, 2015
Five-fifteen in the evening

GATHERING

Organ Prelude

*Choral Introit
This Is the Day
Gerre Hancock
(1934–2012)

Cantor: This is the day the Lord hath made:
Choir: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.
Cantor: The Lord preserve thy going out and thy coming in:
Choir: From this time forth forever more.
Cantor: Enter our hearts, O King of Glory, by thy Holy Spirit, That with angels and archangels and with all thy saints we may praise Thee, our risen and ascended Lord, who liveth and reigneth with the Father and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end.
Choir: Amen

*Processional Hymn 138
The King of Love My Shepherd Is
ST. COLUMBA

*Opening Sentence
Leader: Light and peace in Jesus Christ our Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

*Collect for Light
Almighty God, we give you thanks for surrounding us, as daylight fades, with the brightness of your vesper light; and we implore you of your great mercy, that as you enfold us with the radiance of this light, so you would shine into our hearts the brightness of our Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Old Testament Lesson—Isaiah 41:17–29 (OT page 629–30)
Leader: This is the word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.
Psalm

Deus, tu convertens vivificabis nos, et plebs tua laetabitur in te.

Ostende nobis, Domine, misericordiam tuam, et salutare tuum da nobis.

Wilt thou not turn again, and quicken us: that thy people may rejoice in thee?

Shew us thy mercy, O Lord, and grant us thy salvation.

—Psalm 85:6–7

New Testament Lesson—Ephesians 2:11–22 (NT page 181)

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Anthem

Jesu, the Very Thought of Thee

Edward C. Bairstow (1874–1946)

Jesu the very thought of thee,
With sweetness fills my breast;
But sweeter far thy face to see,
And in thy presence rest.

—attributed to St. Bernard of Clairvaux (12th century)

*Gospel Lesson—Mark 2:1–12 (NT page 34)

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Responses (congregation seated)

Thomas Morley (c. 1557–c. 1602)

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.
Cantor: O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;
Choir: And grant us thy salvation.
Cantor: Keep the nations under thy care;
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. Amen.

Prayers

(The congregation responds to each petition: “Hear our prayer.”)

The Lord’s Prayer

SENDING FORTH

*Recessional Hymn 686

O Gladsome Light

LE CANTIQUE DE SIMÉON

*Benediction

*Choral Blessing

God Grant With Grace

Thomas Tallis (1505–1585)

God grant with grace, he us embrace,
In gentle part, bless he our heart,
With loving face, thine be his place,
His mercies all on us to fall;
That we thy way may know all day,
while we do sail this world so frail.
Thy health’s reward is nigh declared,
As plain as eye, all Gentiles spy.

—from Psalm 67

Postlude

*Please stand as you are able.