



Duke
UNIVERSITY
CHAPEL

BRIDGING FAITH & LEARNING

CHORAL EVENSONG

Ascension of Our Lord

Thursday, May 18, 2023, 7:00 p.m.



Jorge Cocco, *The Ascension of Christ*, 20th century.

THIS SEMESTER AT CHORAL EVENSONG

Tonight's service celebrates the Feast of the Ascension. It is the final Choral Evensong of the academic calendar and of our series cataloging the various musical and liturgical changes to the evensong service throughout the centuries. Tonight's service features composers from both England and America from the latter half of the twentieth century.

The English composer Herbert Murrill (1909–1952) had a relatively modest output of music during his life; however, his settings of the Magnificat and Nunc dimittis are cherished among the Anglican Cathedral repertoire. The Magnificat begins in a declamatory unison, then transitions to an assortment of charming harmonies which effectively color the text. Murrill makes effective use of the organ in his settings, offering moments of fanfare, meditation, and awe.

Gabriel Jackson (b. 1962) is one of Britain's most celebrated composers today. Born in Bermuda, Jackson spent three years as a chorister at Canterbury Cathedral and then studied composition with Richard Blackford and John Lambert at the Royal College of Music. The largely syllabic four-part setting is reminiscent of a more archaic style; however, Jackson makes use of expressive harmony which includes a beautifully striking key change for the Lord's Prayer.

If Gerald Finzi (1901–1956) is most known for his pastoral and gentle writing but his festival anthem *God is gone up* serves as a counter to his usual style. The anthem begins and ends in unapologetically raucous fashion as the choir beautifully paints the text by the Calvinist Edward Taylor. The organ frames the text with a brilliant fanfare of chorus reeds. The musical texture briefly changes with the text "Methinks I see heaven's sparkling courtiers fly," as treble voices mimic the angelic chorus of heaven into which the risen Lord has ascended. The piece ends much the way it began as the choir repeatedly and boldly affirms the intention to "Sing praises out," while the organ interjects with thunderous interpolations—a joyful close to a wonderful semester of music-making and our liturgical journey through the English cathedral tradition.

The cover art comes from Argentinian artist Jorge Cocco Santángelo (b. 1936), who created a new artistic style he dubbed "sacro-cubism," which portrays sacred and religious events using techniques from the post-cubist art movement.

Organ Voluntary

Prelude and Variations on an Evening Hymn

Johannes Litzau
(1822–1893)

Introit

Coelos ascendit hodie, Op. 38, No. 2

Charles Villiers Stanford
(1852–1924)

Coelos ascendit hodie
Jesus Christus Rex Gloriam:
Sedet ad Patris dexteram,
Gubernat coelum et terram.
Iam finem habent omnia
Patris Davidis carmina.
Iam Dominus cum Domino
Sedet in Dei solio:
In hoc triumpho maximo
Benedicamus Domino.
Laudatur Sancta Trinitas,
Deo dicamus gratias,
Alleluia. Amen.

*Today into the heavens has ascended
Jesus Christ, the King of Glory, Alleluia!
He sits at the Father's right hand,
and rules heaven and earth, Alleluia!
Now have been fulfilled all of
Father David's songs,
Now God is with God, Alleluia!
He sits upon the royal throne of God,
in this his greatest triumph, Alleluia!
Let us bless the Lord:
Let the Holy Trinity be praised,
let us give thanks to the Lord,
Alleluia! Amen.*

—*Medieval hymn*

Please rise as able as the choir and clergy enter.

Processional Hymn | See hymn printed at the end of worship guide.

O Lord Most High

GONFALON ROYAL

Greeting and Call to Worship

Minister: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

The choir sings the opening Responses.

O Lord, open thou our lips.
And our mouth shall show 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.

—*Gabriel Jackson*

The choir sings the Phos Hilaron.

Light of Gladness

John Harper

Light of gladness, Lord of glory,
Jesus Christ our king most holy,
Shine among us in your mercy:
Earth and heaven join their hymn.

Let us sing at sun's descending
As we see the lights of evening
Father, Son, and Spirit praising
With the holy seraphim.

Son of God, through all the ages
Worthy of our holiest praises,
Yours the life that never ceases,
Light which never shall grow dim.

—*Christopher Idle*

All sit. *The choir sings the Psalm.*

Psalm 47 | *Omnes gentes, plaudite manibus.*

Chant: J. Davy
(1763–1824)

O clap your hands together all ye people:
O sing unto God with the voice of melody.
For the Lord is high and to be feared:
he is the great King upon all the earth.
He shall subdue the people under us:
and the nations under our feet.
He shall choose out an heritage for us:
even the worship of Jacob whom he loved.
God is gone up with a merry noise:
and the Lord with the sound of the trump.
O sing praises sing praises unto our God:
O sing praises, sing praises unto our King.
For God is the King of all the earth:
sing ye praises with understanding.
God reigneth over the heathen:
God sitteth upon his holy seat.
The princes of the people are joined unto the people of the God of Abraham:
for God which is very high exalted doth defend the earth as it were with a shield.

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.

All remain seated for the First Lesson, Acts 1:1–11.

All rise as able for the 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.

—*Luke 1:46–55; Evening Service in E Major, Herbert Murrill (1909–1952)*

All sit for the Second Lesson, Ephesians 1:15–23.

All rise as able for the 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.

—*Luke 2:29–32; Evening Service in E Major, H. Murrill*

All sit.

Homily

All rise as able and join in saying the 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 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 Ghost,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The choir sings the Responses.

The Lord be with you.
And with thy spirit.
Let us pray.

All sit or kneel.

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. Amen.

O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;
And grant us thy salvation.
O Lord, keep this nation under thy care;
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 thine Holy Spirit from us.

The following Collects are sung.

O Almighty God, whose blessed Son our Savior Jesus Christ ascended far above all heavens that he might fill all things: Mercifully give us faith to perceive that, according to his promise, he abideth with his Church on earth, even unto the end of the ages; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed: give unto thy servants thy 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 savior. 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.

—G. Jackson

Please remain seated for the Anthem.

God Is Gone Up

Gerald Finzi
(1901–1956)

God is gone up with a triumphant shout.
The Lord with sounding Trumpets' melodies:
Sing praise, sing praises out unto our King
Sing praise seraphicwise!
Lift up your Heads, ye lasting Doors, they sing,
And let the King of Glory enter in.

Methinks I see Heaven's sparkling courtiers fly,
In flakes of Glory down him to attend,
And hear Heart-cramping notes of Melody
Surround his Chariot as it did ascend.
Mixing their Music, making ev'ry string
More to enravish as they this tune sing.

—Edward Taylor (from "Sacramental Meditations")

Remain seated for the Prayers. The prayers conclude with the Prayer of St. John Chrysostom, said by all.

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.

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

Please rise as able for the Recessional Hymn.

Recessional Hymn | See the hymn printed at the end of worship guide.

See the Conqu'ror Mounts in Triumph

IN BABILONE

Organ Voluntary

Trumpet Tune

David N. Johnson
(1922–1987)

OPENING HYMN | O Lord Most High, Eternal King



1. O Lord Most High, e - ter - nal King, by thee re -
2. A - scend - ing to the Fa - ther's throne thou claim'st the
3. Be thou our joy, O might - y Lord, as thou wilt
4. O ris - en Christ, a - scend - ed Lord, all praise to



deemed thy praise we sing. The bonds of death are
king - dom as thine own; and an - gels won - der
be our great re - ward; let all our glo - ry
thee let earth ac - cord, who art, while end - less



burst by thee, and grace has won the vic - to - ry.
when they see how changed is our hu - man - i - ty.
be in thee both now and through e - ter - ni - ty.
a - ges run, with Fa - ther and with Spir - it, One.



Al - - - le - lu - ia!

Text: Medieval Latin; sts. 1-3 tr. F. Bland Tucker, 1895-1984; st. 4 tr. Benjamin Webb, 1819-1885
Music: Percy Carter Buck, 1871-1947

GONFALON ROYAL
LM

CLOSING HYMN | See the Conqu'ror Mounts in Triumph



1. See the Con-qu'ror mounts in tri-umph; see the King in
2. He who on the cross did suf-fer, he who from the
3. Thou hast raised our hu-man na-ture on the clouds to



roy-al state, rid-ing on the clouds, his char-iot, to his
grave a-rose, he has van-quished sin and Sa-tan; he by
God's right hand: there we sit in heav'n-ly pla-ces, there with



heav'n-ly pal-ace gate! Hark! the choirs of an-gel voic-es
death has spoiled his foes. While he lifts his hands in bless-ing,
thee in glo-ry stand. Je-sus reigns, a-dored by an-gels;



joy-ful al-le-lu-ias sing, and the por-tals
he is part-ed from his friends; while their ea-ger
Man with God is on the throne; might-y Lord, in



high are lift-ed to re-ceive their heav'n-ly King.
eyes be-hold him, he up-on the clouds a-scends.
thine as-cen-sion, we by faith be-hold our own.

Text: Christopher Wordsworth, 1807–1885, alt.

Music: *Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boernlities en Contradansu*, 1710

IN BABILONE

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TODAY IN WORSHIP

Presiding Minister and Preacher

Joe Ananias *Interim Director, Anglican Episcopal House of Studies, Duke Divinity School*

Crucifer and Lector

Hope Anderson *Divinity '25*

Thurifer

Andrew Raines *Divinity '25*

Musicians

Duke Chapel Evensong Singers *Choir*

Daniel Jacky *Organ Scholar, Duke University Chapel*

Philip Cave *Conductor-in-Residence, Duke University Chapel*

Congratulations to Organ Scholar Daniel Jacky | Our organ scholar this year, Daniel Jacky, was accepted into the master’s program at the Institute of Sacred Music at Yale University. Daniel will be leaving Duke at the end of June, and our prayers and best wishes go with him.

New Organ Scholar Begins in August | Katherine Johnson, currently a senior at Oberlin College and Conservatory, will be the next organ scholar in the American Guild of Organists Organ Scholar Program at Duke Chapel. As an organ scholar, Johnson will play the organ during services in the Chapel and at Duke Divinity School, assist with weekly choir rehearsals, and receive regular lessons and coaching in organ playing, accompanying, conducting, composing, and vocal techniques. She begins the ten-month position on August 15.

Young Artist Program This June | As part of the Chapel’s commitment to education in sacred music and the arts, Duke Chapel is again hosting the Chorworks Young Artists Program from June 19–25. Providing an opportunity for emerging young artists to study and perform early music, the week-long program comprises seminars, coaching, and performances. This year’s focus is “Baroque Before Bach” and features seventeenth and eighteenth-century music by Schütz, Schein, Scheidt, and members of the Bach Family. Students will be coached by expert faculty, including Molly Quinn and Philip Cave. The faculty and students will give two public concerts: on Friday, June 23, at 7:30 p.m. in Goodson Chapel, and on Saturday, June 24, at 7:30 p.m. in Duke Chapel. The Chorworks ensemble will also sing in the Chapel’s Sunday morning worship on June 25 at 11:00 a.m. For further information, please contact philip.cave@duke.edu.