



Duke UNIVERSITY CHAPEL

BRIDGING FAITH & LEARNING

CHORAL EVENSONG

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, September 24, 2023, 4:00 p.m.



Wenceslas Hollar, *Lincoln Cathedral from the West*, seventeenth century.
William Byrd was organist and master of the choristers at Lincoln Cathedral from 1563–1572.

Welcome to Choral Evensong at Duke Chapel. You are welcome here, whether you are a new or returning student, a member of the community, or a visitor. Most of today's service is sung by the choir and clergy. The congregation is invited to participate through prayer and meditation and by singing the hymns. We thank you for joining us and hope that this offering of worship will be a blessing to you.

CHORAL EVENSONG AT DUKE CHAPEL

Choral Evensong combines music, scripture, and prayer and is celebrated in cathedrals, churches, and chapels around the world, drawing people from diverse backgrounds and faith traditions. Its roots stretch back to early Temple worship, and its timeless beauty and contemplative nature make it a cherished tradition for regular worshipers, and for those seeking solace or reflection in their busy lives. Evensong has inspired composers to write some of their most beautiful music.

At Duke Chapel, Evensong is sung on the second and fourth Sundays of the month during the academic year. The service lasts approximately forty-five minutes. Music of the great English composer of sacred music, Herbert Howells, will feature prominently on the second Sundays this year. On the fourth Sundays of the month, the service will feature music with a particular focus on a place or tradition.

You are warmly invited to sit where you will, including the chancel, and to join us in prayer and in singing the hymns as you wish. We hope that these services will provide a restorative and uplifting experience. The services are live-streamed and archived on Duke Chapel's YouTube page.

* * *

Today's service commemorates the 400th anniversary of the death of William Byrd. Last month, we heard examples of his Latin sacred music; today, we hear a selection of English choral works and keyboard music. Byrd, along with his teacher Thomas Tallis, is one of the composers who laid the foundations of Anglican church music. As a devout Catholic living in post-Reformation England, Byrd's musical life was marked by a tension between his personal faith and his professional obligations to the church and court.

Byrd's settings of English texts demonstrate the depth of his musical maturity and creativity. *Sing Joyfully unto God*, *Praise our Lord all ye heathen*, and *O God, the Proud are risen* show the influence of Byrd's instrumental writing, featuring intricate points of imitation. The *Nunc Dimittis* from The Great Service, with its constantly varied scoring, is a particularly remarkable example of Byrd's imitative counterpoint. In *Prevent us O Lord*, Byrd moves seamlessly between polyphony and more homophonic textures, allowing the colorful harmonies to shape the prayerful spirit of the text.

The two *Miserere* settings played for the opening voluntary, likely from Byrd's student years, are an exercise in strict counterpoint and voice leading, while the Fantasia demonstrates Byrd's more idiomatic keyboard writing. Both voluntaries are taken from the *Fitzwilliam Virginal Book*, one of the most significant collections of late-Renaissance keyboard music, containing nearly three hundred works composed before 1612.

Organ Voluntary

Miserere a 3, FVB 176

William Byrd
(c. 1540–1623)

Miserere a 4, FVB 177

Introit

Sing Joyfully unto God

W. Byrd

Sing joyfully unto God our strength; sing loud unto the God of Jacob!
Take the song, bring forth the timbrel, the pleasant harp, and the viol.
Blow the trumpet in the new moon, even in the time appointed, and at our feast day.
For this is a statute for Israel, and a law of the God of Jacob.

—*Psalm 81:1–4*

*Processional Hymn | UMH 686

O Gladsome Light

LE CANTIQUE DE SIMÉON

*Opening Responses | Sung by the choir.

W. Byrd

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.

*All rise as able

Psalmody

Praise Our Lord All Ye Gentiles

W. Byrd

Praise our Lord all ye Gentiles, praise him all ye people,
Because his mercy is confirmed upon us, and his truth remaineth for ever. Amen.

—*Psalm 117*

The First Lesson | OT pages 811–812 in pew Bible.

Jonah 3:10–4:11

Minister: The word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

*Canticle

Nunc Dimittis (from *The Great Service*)

W. Byrd

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*

The Second Lesson | NT pages 185–186 in pew Bible.

Phillippians 1:21–30

Minister: The word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

*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 Responses | Sung by the choir.

W. Byrd

The Lord be with you.
And with thy spirit.

All sit or kneel as the choir continues.

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

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.

Grant us, O Lord, not to mind earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to cleave to those that shall abide; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. 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.

Anthem

O God, The Proud Are Risen

W. Byrd

O God, the proud are risen against me: and the assembly of violent men,
Which have not thee before their eyes, seek after my soul.
But thou, O Lord, art a pitiful God, and a merciful God:
Slow to anger, and great in goodness and truth.

—*Psalm 86:14–15*

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.

Benediction

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

People: Amen.

Choral Benediction

Prevent Us, O Lord

W. Byrd

Prevent us, O Lord, in all our doings with thy most gracious favour,
and further us with thy continual help;
that in all our works begun, continued, and ended in thee,
we may glorify thy holy Name.
And finally by thy mercy, obtain everlasting life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

—*Psalm 79:8; 1 Thessalonians 4:15*

Organ Voluntary

Fantasia, FVB 8

W. Byrd

TODAY IN WORSHIP

Presiding Minister

Andrew Plasker *Intern for Worship and Student Engagement, Duke University Chapel; Divinity '25*

Lector

Jonathan Franz *Divinity '25*

Musicians

Duke Chapel Evensong Singers *Choir*

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

Katherine Johnson *Organ Scholar, Duke University Chapel*

Carillon Recital | Following today’s service, at 5:00 p.m., Chapel Carillonneur Mitchell Eithun will present a recital on the Chapel’s carillon.

Choral Evensong Oct 8 | The next Choral Evensong will be held on Sunday, October 8, at 4:00 p.m., featuring Responses by Matthew Martin and Herbert Howell’s *New College Service*.

For more information about Choral Evensong at Duke Chapel and a complete list of music for the semester, visit chapel.duke.edu/evensong#fall2023.



Box 90974 | 401 Chapel Dr.
Durham, NC 27708
919-681-9488

chapel.duke.edu



CONNECT WITH US
dukechapel@duke.edu

@dukechapel