

CHORAL EVENSONG

Sunday, January 11, 2026

Gabriel Jackson characterizes Ēriks Ešenvalds' Merton College Service as unusual for its Latin, unaccompanied, and homophonic (with the exception of the Gloria Patri) setting of the evening canticles, which echoes "the Tudor Short Service in its simplicity and gentle austerity."

Jacobus Clemens non Papa's *Ego flos campi* sets a Song of Songs text long read in Marian devotion, where imagery of flowers and lilies symbolizes the Virgin's purity and grace. Its unusually rich seven-part texture enhances Clemens's serene polyphony, turning biblical love poetry into music of quiet contemplation. Eleanor Daley's *Set me as a Seal* continues this year's focus on Song of Songs texts, culminating in the Evensong Singers' concert at 4pm on February 22nd, *Singing the Song of Songs*—settings from the 15th–21st centuries.

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Organ Voluntary

Pavane (Seven Pieces, Op. 84)

Francis Jackson (1917–2022)

Introit

Set Me as a Seal

Eleanor Daley

Set me as a seal upon your heart, as a seal upon your arm, for love is strong as death.
Many waters cannot quench love, neither can the floods drown it.

—*Song of Songs* 8:6–7

***Procession & Opening Responses**

Richard Ayleward (c. 1625–1669)

Psalmody

Psalm 61

Thomas Tomkins (1572–1656)

First Lesson | Isaiah 42:1–9

***Canticle**

Magnificat (Merton College Service)

Ēriks Ešenvalds

Magnificat anima mea Dominum; et exsultavit spiritus meus in Deo salutari meo, quia respexit humilitatem ancillae suae; Ecce enim ex hoc beatam me dicent omnes generationes. quia fecit mihi magna, qui potens est, et sanctum nomen eius, Et misericordia eius a progenie in progenies timentibus eum. Fecit potentiam in brachio suo; dispersit superbos mente cordis sui; depositus potentes de sede, et exaltavit humiles; esurientes implevit bonis et divites dimisit inanes. Suscepit Israel puerum suum, recordatus misericordiae suae, sicut locutus est ad patres nostros, Abraham et semini eius in saecula. Gloria Patri, et Filio, et Spiritui Sancto, sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper: et in Saecula saeculorum. Amen.

*All rise as able

Second Lesson | Acts 10:34–43

Canticle

Nunc dimittis (Merton College Service)

Ē. Ešenvalds

Nunc dimittis servum tuum, Domine, secundum verbum tuum in pace: Quia viderunt oculi mei salutare tuum Quod parasti ante faciem omnium populorum: Lumen ad revelationem gentium, et gloriam plebis tuae Israel. Gloria Patri, et Filio, et Spiritui Sancto, sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper: et in Saecula saeculorum. Amen.

***The Apostles' Creed**

Responses

R. Ayleward

Collect of the Day

O Lord, we beseech thee mercifully to receive the prayers of thy people which call upon thee; and grant that they may both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfil the same; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Anthem

Ego flos campi Jacobus Clemens non Papa (c. 1510–1555)

Ego flos campi et lily convallium.
Sicut lily inter spinas
sic amica mea inter filias.
Fons hortorum puteus aquarum viventium
quaenam impetu de Libano.

*I am the rose of Sharon, and the lily of the valleys.
As the lily among thorns,
so is my love among the daughters.
A fountain of gardens, a well of living waters,
and streams from Lebanon.*

—*Song of Songs* 2:1–2, 4:15

***Hymn** | UMH 188

Christ Is the World's Light

CHRISTE SANCTORUM

Organ Voluntary

How Lovely Shines the Morning Star

Paul Manz (1919–2009)

TODAY IN WORSHIP

Officiant	Caleb Harris	Worship and Ministry Coordinator, Duke University Chapel
Lector	Linda Sanyika	Divinity '26
Musicians	Duke Chapel Evensong Singers	Choir
	Philip Cave	Conductor-in-Residence, Duke University Chapel
	David Lim	Organ Scholar, Duke University Chapel

The next service of Choral Evensong will be on Sunday, January 25, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.