



Duke
UNIVERSITY
CHAPEL

CHORAL VESPERS

BRIDGING FAITH & LEARNING

Feast of the Epiphany
7:00 p.m., Thursday, January 6, 2022



WELCOME TO VESPERS

For since Christ is the true sun and the true day, as the worldly sun and worldly day depart, when we pray and ask that light may return to us again, we pray for the advent of Christ, which shall give us the grace of everlasting light. – St. Cyprian of Carthage (210–258)

Welcome to Choral Vespers. This meditative service of music, readings, and prayers has ancient roots, and employs imagery of light and darkness which offers us an opportunity to pause and reflect as “the shades lengthen, the evening comes, and the busy world is hushed.” The liturgy, music, and language found in this service draw from and honor many traditions which practice Vespers, while inviting those present to explore the ways in which people encounter a living God in today’s world. You are very welcome to sit anywhere in the Chapel. If you would like to join the choir in the Chancel stalls, please feel free to do so.

NOTES ON THE MUSIC

Samuel Scheidt was a German organist and composer who studied with Sweelinck in Amsterdam and in 1604 was appointed organist at the Church of St. Maurice in Halle. About 1609 he became organist, and later chapelmaster, to the Margrave of Brandenburg.

Scheidt’s first published works included sacred vocal music, notably *Cantiones sacrae* (1620) for eight voices (including tonight’s introit *Puer natus in Bethlehem*) and four books of *Geistliche Concerten* (1631–40) for two to six voices and continuo. The original text of *Puer natus* (A child is born in Bethlehem) is a medieval Latin Christmas hymn dating from the 13th century, comprising some 14 stanzas, and is thought to be the work of several authors.

Scheidt composed several settings of the Magnificat, and several works which included interpolated material. Today’s Magnificat setting, SSWV 299, alternates the verses of the traditional Latin text with six German Christmas carols, including *Vom Himmel hoch; Das Kindelein in dem Krippelein; Psallite unigenito*, and *Joseph, lieber Joseph mein*.

The Spanish composer Francisco Guerrero composed sacred music in both Latin and Spanish. His sacred works include the *Visperas de Reyes* (Vespers of the Kings) from the *Liber Vesperarum* printed in Rome in 1584. This collection includes Psalm 112, one of five polyphonic psalms that alternate plainsong and polyphony, composed for the Feast of the Epiphany.

Concluding our celebration of Epiphany, we hear a setting of George Wither’s poem, *The Blessed Birth*, in a simple and expressive setting by the English composer, organist, and educator Henry Walford Davies.

Organ Voluntary

Puer natus in Bethlehem, BWV 603

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

Choral Introit

A child is born in Bethlehem, Alleluia,
exult for joy, Jerusalem! Alleluia.

*Per Gabrielem nuntium, Alleluia,
virgo concepit Filium, Alleluia.*

By angel Gabriel announced, Alleluia,
the virgin has conceived the Son. Alleluia.

*Hie ligt er in dem Krippelein, Alleluia,
alleine ist die Herrschaft sein, Alleluia.*

Lo, he who reigns above the skies, Alleluia,
there in a manger lowly, lies. Alleluia.

Come then, and on his natal day, Alleluia,
rejoice before the Lord and pray, Alleluia.

*English trans. by Hamilton M. MacGill, 1876;
Puer natus in Bethlehem, SSWV 18, Samuel Scheidt (1587–1654)*

All rise as able.

Hymn

Angels from the Realms of Glory (UMH 220)

REGENT SQUARE

Opening Sentence

Leader: Light and peace in Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Collect for Light (*unison*)

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 your Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

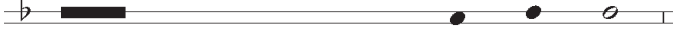
Opening Verses (sung responsively by all)

Cantor or Officiant



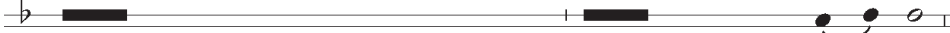
Lord, o - pen our lips.

People

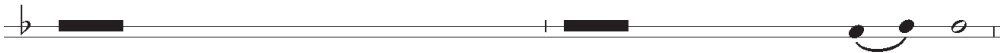


And our mouth shall pro - claim your praise.

Officiant and People



Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spi - rit:



As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. A - men.

All sit.

Psalm Motet: Psalm 112

Laudate, pueri, Dominum; laudate nomen Domini.

Sit nomen Domini benedictum ex hoc nunc et usque in saeculum.

A solis ortu usque ad occasum laudabile nomen Domini.

Excelsus super omnes gentes Dominus, et super caelos gloria ejus.

*Quis sicut Dominus Deus noster, qui in altis habitat,
et humilia respicit in caelo et in terra?*

Suscitans a terra inopem, et de stercore erigens pauperem:

ut collocet eum cum principibus, cum principibus populi sui.

Qui habitare facit sterilem in domo, matrem filiorum laetantem.

Gloria Patri, et Filio, et Spiritui Sancto:

Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper, et in saecula saeculorum. Amen.

Praise the Lord, ye servants: O praise the Name of the Lord.

Blessed be the Name of the Lord: from this time forth for evermore.

The Lord's Name is praised: from the rising up of the sun unto the going down of the same.

The Lord is high above all heathen: and his glory above the heavens.

Who is like unto the Lord our God, that hath his dwelling so high:

and yet humbleth himself to behold the things that are in heaven and earth?

He taketh up the simple out of the dust: and lifteth the poor out of the mire;

That he may set him with the princes: even with the princes of his people.
He maketh the barren woman to keep house: and to be a joyful mother of children.
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.

From *Visperas de Reyes, Francisco Guerrero (1528–1599)*

First Lesson: Isaiah 60:1–6

Leader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The congregation remains seated.

Canticle: Magnificat

1. Magnificat anima mea Dominum.
Et exsultavit spiritus meus in Deo salutari meo.

*My soul doth magnify the Lord:
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.*

2. Quia respexit humilitatem ancillæ suæ:
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.

*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.*

1a. Vom Himmel hoch da komm ich her,
Ich bring' euch gute neue Mär,
Der guten Mär bring ich so viel,
Davon ich sing'n und sagen will.

*From heaven on high I come to you:
I bring you good new tidings!
I bring you so many good tidings
Of which I want to sing and speak.*

2a. Euch ist ein Kindlein heut' gebor'n
Von einer Jungfrau auserkor'n,
Ein Kindelein so zart und fein,
Das soll eu'r Freud und Wonne sein.

*To you this day a tiny child is born of a Virgin:
A child so gentle and fine
Who shall be your joy and delight.*

3. Fecit potentiam in brachio suo,
dispersit superbos mente cordis sui.

*He hath showed strength with his arm:
He hath scattered the proud in the imagination
of their hearts.*

4. Deposuit potentes de sede
et exaltavit humiles.
Esurientes implevit bonis
et divites dimisit inanes

*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.*

5. Suscepit Israel puerum suum,
recordatus misericordiæ suæ.
sicut locutus est ad Patres nostros,
Abraham et semini eius in sæcula.

*He remembering his mercy
hath holpen his servant Israel:
as he promised to our forefathers,
Abraham and his seed, for ever.*

3a. Lob, Ehr sei Gott im höchsten Thron,
Der uns schenkt seinen ein'gen Sohn,
Des freuen sich der Engel Schar
Und singen uns solch neues Jahr.

*Praise and honor be to God on the highest throne,
Who gives to us his only Son,
Which rejoices the host of angels
And sings to us of such a new year.*

4a. Das Kindelein in dem Krippelein,
das liebe schöne Jesulein,
schicket dir der liebste Vater dein,
daß es dein Freud und Wonne sei. Alleluja.

*The little child in the little crib,
The dear, beautiful little Jesus
Your dearest Father sends to you:
that is his joy and delight. Alleluia.*

5a. Psallite Unigenito, Christo,
Dei Filio, Redemptori, Domino,
Puerulo, jacenti in praesepio.

*Sing to the only-begotten Christ,
The Son of God, the Redeemer, the Lord,
The little child laid in the manger.*

Ein kleines Kindelein liegt in dem Krippelein.
Alle lieben Engelein dienen dem Kindelein.

*A small, tiny child lies in the little crib.
All lovely, little angels serve the tiny little child.*

Singt und klingt, Jesu Gottes Kind,
und Marien Söhnelein, unserm lieben Jesulein
im Krippelein beim Öchslein und beim
Eselein.

*Sing and play: Jesu, God's son,
And Mary's little son, our dear little Jesus
In the little crib beside the oxen
And the little donkey.*

6. Gloria Patri, et Filio, et Spiritui Sancto:
Sicut erat in principio, et nunc et semper,
et in sæcula sæculorum. Amen.

*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.*

6a. Joseph, lieber Joseph mein,
hilf mir wiegen mein Kindelein.
Sause, liebes Kindelein. Eia!

*Joseph, my dear Joseph,
Help me rock my little child.
Sleep, dear little child. Joy!*

Sunt impleta quae praedixit Gabriel.
Virgo Deum genuit,
quem divina voluit clementia.

*The prophecies of Gabriel are fulfilled.
The Virgin has given birth to God,
As willed by divine mercy.*

Luke 2:29–32, with interpolated German Christmas Carols, SSWV 299; S. Scheidt

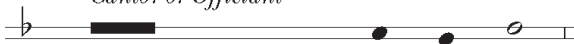
Second Lesson: Matthew 2:1–12

Leader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Responses (*sung responsively by all*)

Cantor or Officiant



V. Show us your mer - cy, O Lord;

People



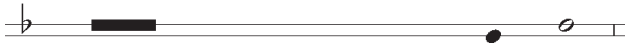
R. And grant us your salva - tion.



V. Clothe your ministers with right - eous - ness;



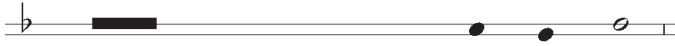
R. Let your people sing with joy.



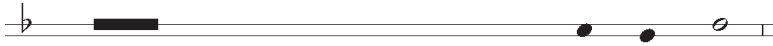
V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;



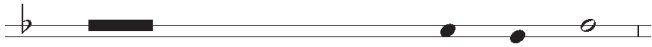
R. For only in you can we live in safe - ty.



V. Lord, keep this nation un - der your care;



R. And guide us in the way of jus - tice and truth.



V. Let your way be known up - on earth;



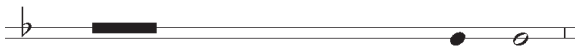
R. Your saving health among all na - tions.



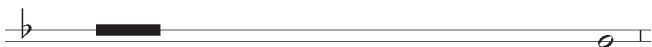
V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgot - ten;



R. Nor the hope of the poor be ta - ken a - way.



V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;



R. And sustain us with your Holy Spi - rit.

Anthem

*Omnes de Saba venient
aurum et thus deferentes
et laudem annuntiantes Domini.*

All they from Saba shall come,
bringing gold and frankincense:
and shewing forth praise to the Lord.

Isaiah 60:6; Omnes de Saba, Jacob Handl (1550–1591)

Prayers

People (*in response to each petition*): **Hear our prayer.**

The Lord's Prayer (*unison*)

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. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

All rise as able.

Hymn

What Child Is This (UMH 219)

GREENSLEEVES

Choral Benediction

That so Thy blessed Birth, O Christ,
Might thro' the world be spread about,
The star appeared in the East,
Whereby the Gentiles found Thee out;
And offered Thee Myrrh, Incense, Gold
The three-fold office to unfold.

Tears that form true repentance drop,
Instead of Myrrh, present will we:
For Incense we will offer up
Our prayers and praises unto Thee,
And bring for gold each pious deed,
Which doth from saving faith proceed.

And as those wise men never went
To visit Herod any more,
So, finding Thee, we will repent
Our courses followed heretofore,
And that we homeward may retire
The way by Thee we will enquire. Amen.

Text: George Wither (1588–1667); The Blessed Birth; Henry Walford Davies (1869–1941)

Closing Voluntary

Von Himmel kam der Engel Schar, BWV 607

J. S. Bach

FRONT COVER IMAGE

The Adoration of the Magi, Albrecht Dürer (c. 1501–1503).

NOTE ON THE CANTICLE

The first three interpolations are settings of the first, second, and fifteenth verses of Martin Luther's text *Von Himmel hoch. Das Kindelein in dem Krippelein* is of unknown origin. The *Psallite* movement is a setting of Michael Praetorius's contrafactum on an anonymous French chanson. The medieval Latin text of *Resonet in laudibus* is combined with the German text that is sung to the same tune in *Joseph, lieber Joseph mein*.

All translations of the liturgical, Latin text are from Ron Jeffers, *Translations and Annotations of Choral Repertoire, vol. I: Sacred Latin Texts* (Corvallis, Ore.: earthsongs, 1988).

Translations of the German chorale verses are from Ron Jeffers, *Translations and Annotations of Choral Repertoire, vol. II: German Texts*, ed. Gordon Paine (Corvallis, Ore.: earthsongs, 2000).

The anonymous text of *Das Kindelein in dem Krippelein* has been translated by the editor.

The translations of *Psallite* and *Joseph, lieber Joseph mein* are compiled from the Jeffers and Paine text and Hugh Keyte and Andrew Parrott, eds., *The New Oxford Book of Carols* (N.Y.: Oxford UP, 1992).

TODAY IN WORSHIP

PRESIDING MINISTER

Bruce Puckett *Assistant Dean, Duke University Chapel*

LECTOR

Arya Krishnan *Trinity '23*

MUSICIANS

Duke Vespers Ensemble *Choir*

Philip Cave *Director*

Christopher Jacobson *Organist*

The readings for this service are from the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible.

CHORAL VESPERS JAN. 9 | Choral Vespers resumes its usual schedule starting next Thursday, January 13th, at 7:00 p.m., continuing weekly through the end of the semester. New singers are always welcome: please email chapelmusic@duke.edu.

CHORAL EVENSONG FOR EPIPHANY JAN. 9 | Join us on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month at 4:00 p.m. for Choral Evensong, led by the Duke Evensong Singers. Rich with music spanning from the Renaissance to the present day, Choral Evensong features sung prayers prayed throughout the world every day.

ORGAN RECITAL SERIES JAN. 29 & JAN. 30 | To celebrate the bicentennial of César Franck’s birth in 1822, Scott Dettra performs all twelve of the composer’s major organ works on the Aeolian organ in two recitals (January 29 at 8:00 p.m. and January 30 at 5:00 p.m.). Admission is free.



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For a complete listing of events please visit chapel.duke.edu/events or sign up to receive weekly e-mails at chapel.duke.edu/email



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