



# Choral Evensong

DUKE UNIVERSITY CHAPEL  
SEPTEMBER 25, 2014 AT 5:15 P.M.



Welcome to Duke Chapel and to this service of Choral Evensong. The service of Choral Evensong seeks to offer a glimpse of heaven. The congregation largely remains silent, while the choir, like the angels of God in traditional Christian imagery, sings God's praise in the heavens. Inwardly, we are lifted into his presence; and so we join in the worship of God. Evensong has been sung daily in churches across the world for nearly 500 years.

In this service all human experience is brought before the God of heaven and earth because he has shown, most clearly in Jesus Christ, that it matters to him. The Psalms, the hymnbook for ancient Israel, explore the heights and the depths of human experience. The scripture readings are the readings appointed for the day. The Magnificat is the response to Jesus' coming from his mother, a young Jewish woman; the Nunc Dimittis is the response of Simeon, an aged man, who before his death yearns to see the Christ child. In the Creed, the Prayers and the Hymns we too, choir and congregation, make our response—of penitence, faith and joy. In this way, the lips of all are opened to 'show forth' in this world the never-ending heavenly praise of God.

The service draws from the tradition of the 1662 Book of Common Prayer, instituted shortly after the restoration of the monarchy in England (1660) and seeking to harmonize Protestant and Catholic understandings of liturgy.

*The congregation is asked to remain silent  
during the prelude as a time of prayer and meditation.*

*\*Please stand as you are able*

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

*(Please stand as you are able for the entrance of choir and clergy.)*

**\*INTRODUCTION AND CONFESSION** *(congregation speaks the text in bold)*

Beloved, we are come together in the presence of almighty God and of the whole company of heaven to offer unto him through our Lord Jesus Christ our worship and praise and thanksgiving; to make confession of our sins; to pray, as well for others as for ourselves, that we may know more truly the greatness of God's love and shew forth in our lives the fruits of his grace; and to ask on behalf of all men such things as their well-being doth require. Wherefore let us kneel in silence, and remember God's presence with us now.  
*(Please kneel or sit)*

Almighty and most merciful Father,  
we have erred, and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep.  
We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts.  
We have offended against thy holy laws.  
We have left undone those things which we ought to have done;  
and we have done those things which we ought not to have done;  
and there is no health in us.

But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders.  
Spare thou them, O God, which confess their faults.  
Restore thou them that are penitent; according to thy promises declared  
unto mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord.

And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, that we may hereafter live  
a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of thy holy name. Amen.

**\*PRAYER FOR ABSOLUTION**

Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who desireth not the death of a sinner, but rather that he may turn from his wickedness and live; and hath given power, and commandment, to his ministers to declare and pronounce to his people, being penitent, the absolution and remission of their sins: he pardoneth and absolveth all them that truly repent and unfeignedly believe his holy gospel. Wherefore let us beseech him to grant us true repentance, and his Holy Spirit, that those things may please him which we do at this present; and that the rest of our life hereafter may be pure and holy; so that at the last we may come to his eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**\*THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in 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.

\*PRECES (*officiant and choir*)

Philip Radcliffe  
(1905–1986)

*Officiant:* O Lord, open thou our lips.  
*Choir:* And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.  
*Officiant:* O God, make speed to save us.  
*Choir:* O Lord, make haste to help us.  
*Officiant:* Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
*Choir:* As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen.  
*Officiant:* Praise ye the Lord.  
*Choir:* The Lord's Name be praised.

PSALM 96 (*please be seated, sung by the choir*)

Alan Gray  
(1855–1935)

O sing unto the Lord a new song;  
Sing unto the Lord, all the whole earth.  
Sing unto the Lord, and praise his Name;  
Be telling of his salvation from day to day.  
Declare his honour unto the heathen,  
And his wonders unto all peoples.  
For the Lord is great, and cannot worthily be praised;  
He is more to be feared than all gods.  
As for all the gods of the heathen, they are but idols;  
But it is the Lord that made the heavens.  
Glory and worship are before him;  
Power and honour are in his sanctuary.  
Ascribe unto the Lord, O ye kindreds of the peoples,  
Ascribe unto the Lord worship and power.  
Ascribe unto the Lord the honour due unto his Name;  
Bring presents, and come into his courts.  
O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;  
Let the whole earth stand in awe of him.  
Tell it out among the heathen, that the Lord is King,  
and that it is he who hath made the round world so fast that it cannot be  
moved; and how that he shall judge the peoples righteously.  
Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;  
Let the sea make a noise, and all that therein is.  
Let the field be joyful, and all that is in it;  
Then shall all the trees of the wood rejoice before the Lord.  
For he cometh, for he cometh to judge the earth;  
And with righteousness to judge the world, and the peoples with his truth.

*(Please stand for the Gloria)*

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.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON—Esther 7:1–10

\*OFFICE HYMN 132

All My Hope Is Firmly Grounded

MICHAEL

CANTICLE (*please be seated, choir only*)  
Magnificat

Charles Villiers Stanford  
(1852–1924)

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

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON—Acts 19:11–20

CANTICLE (*remain seated, choir only*)  
Nunc Dimittis

Stanford

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*

\*APOSTLES' CREED (*in unison, all turning to cross at the end wall of the chancel*)  
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 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 LESSER LITANY (*officiant and choir*)

Radcliffe

*Officiant:* The Lord be with you.

*Choir:* And with thy spirit.

*Officiant:* Let us pray. (*the congregation sits or kneels*)

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father, which art in heaven,

Hallowed be thy Name.

Thy kingdom come.

Thy will be done in 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.

*Officiant:* O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.

*Choir:* And grant us thy salvation.

*Officiant:* O Lord, keep the nations under thy care;

*Choir:* And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

*Officiant:* Endue thy Ministers with righteousness.

*Choir:* And make thy chosen people joyful.

*Officiant:* O Lord, save thy people.

*Choir:* And bless thine inheritance.

*Officiant:* Give peace in our time, O Lord.

*Choir:* Because there is none other that fighteth for us,  
but only thou, O God.

*Officiant:* O God, make clean our hearts within us.

*Choir:* And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

COLLECT FOR THE DAY

Almighty and everlasting God, give unto us the increase of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain that which thou dost promise, make us to love that which thou dost command; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

COLLECT FOR PEACE

O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed; give unto thy servants that 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 Saviour. Amen.

COLLECT FOR EVENING

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 Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

ANTHEM (*choir only*)

Evening Hymn

Henry Balfour Gardiner

(1877–1950)

*Te lucis ante terminum, rerum Creator, poscimus,  
ut solita clementia, sis praesul ad custodiam.*

*Procul recedant somnia, et noctium phantasmata:  
hostemque nostrum comprime, ne pollutantur corpora.*

*Praesta, Pater piissime, patrique compar unice,  
Cum Spiritu Paraclito, regnans per omne saeculum.*

To thee before the close of day, Creator of the world, we pray that, with thy wonted favour, thou wouldst be our guard and keeper now.

From all ill dreams defend our sight, from fears and terrors of the night; withhold from us our ghostly foe, that spot of sin we may not know.

O Father, that we ask be done, through Jesus Christ, thine only Son, who, with the Holy Ghost and thee, doth live and reign eternally. Amen.

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

\*THE GRACE

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.

\*CHORAL AMEN

Thomas Weelkes

(1576–1623)

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

*(The choir and clergy process out. Please be seated for the voluntary.)*

*\*All who are able may stand.*

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MINISTRY OF WORSHIP

|                |                                                                                                |
|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Officiant      | The Rev. Nils Chittenden<br><i>Chaplain for the Duke University Episcopal Center</i>           |
| Lector         | Mr. Chris Redmon,<br><i>Divinity '17</i>                                                       |
| Intercessor    | The Rev. Dr. Carol Gregg<br><i>Pastor to the Congregation at Duke Chapel</i>                   |
| Organist       | Mr. Christopher Jacobson<br><i>Chapel Organist</i>                                             |
| Choir Director | Dr. Brian Schmidt<br><i>Assistant Conductor and Administrative Coordinator of Chapel Music</i> |
| Crucifer       | Ms. Giovanna Meek                                                                              |
| Thurifer       | Mr. Daniel Moore                                                                               |

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*Please join the Duke Choral Vespers Ensemble on other Thursday evenings  
at 5:15 p.m. for a 30-minute service of scripture, prayer, and song.*